Tri-State Water Resource Coalition
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 18, 2016
9 a.m., the MARC
822 W. Mt. Vernon Blvd, Mt. Vernon, MO 65712

MINUTES

Welcome:

President Matt Barnhart called the meeting to order. The following were present:

Brian Bingle – City of Nixa
Cassandra Ludwig –Carthage Water & Electric
Chuck Bryant – Carthage Water and Electric
David Hertzberg – City of Joplin
Dennis Pyle – City of Monett
Dick Scott – Olsson Assoc.
Gail Melgren – Tri-State Water Resource Coalition
Jason Choate - Carthage Water & Electric, Carthage
Jennifer Henggeler – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jeremy English - HDR
Joella Cannon – Senator Roy Blunt
John Schumacher – U.S. Geological Survey
Kyle Slagle – Empire District Electric Company
Lynn Calton – City of Lamar
Matt Barnhart – Missouri American Water Company
Mike Weller – Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Penny Speake – Healy Law Office
Roddy Rogers – City Utilities of Springfield
Scott Marrs – Governmental Services Group
Skip Schaller – City of Monett
Steve Walensky – City of Cassville

Approval of Minutes from March 16, 2016:

Mr. Barnhart asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes from March 16, 2016, and none were received. He asked for a motion to accept the minutes as written.

Lynn Calton moved, seconded by Steve Walensky, that the minutes from March 16, 2016 be approved. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Standing Committee Reports:

President:
Mr. Barnhart welcomed participants to the meeting and asked for introductions.

Executive:

Mr. Barnhart reported that the executive committee had not met since the previous board meeting.

Financial:

Mr. Bingle noted that a monthly financial report for March, 2016, was included in board packets. The April financial report had not yet been submitted by BKD due to staff changes. The ending balance as of March 31, 2016 was $221,584.90 in checking and $280,384.77 in the Prime Advantage account = total assets of $501,969.67.

David Hertzberg moved, seconded by Roddy Rogers, that the financial report for March, 2016, be approved. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Technical:

Roddy Rogers reminded the board there would be no technical committee meeting after the board meeting. He said Tri-State Water has been working with the Corps to evaluate demand projections and supply assumptions. He noted that the Corps and MDNR were present to give reports and update the board on their current process. He announced the next technical committee meeting would take place June 30th, from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Tri-State Water office.

Communications:

Mr. Walensky reported that Tri-State Water will work in tandem with the Corps of Engineers Kansas City District to create a communications plan, starting mid-summer of 2016.

Mr. Walensky noted that informational/communications materials will be updated prior to next legislative session.

Mr. Walensky noted that draft flyers for the fall water conference were included in board packets. He suggested a change of date so that the conference would not overlap the Missouri Rural Water fall conference.

Membership:

Ms. Melgren reported that Branson is considering joining Tri-State's sister organization, the Southwest Missouri Joint Municipal Water Utility Commission.

Legislative/Regulatory:

Ms. Melgren introduced Scott Marrs, Governmental Services Group, who gave an end-of-session report.

Mr. Marrs reported that the Tri-State Water Coalition appropriation request for FY17 did not survive the legislative session.

Mr. Marrs reported passage of HB1713 which included an amendment changing the makeup of Missouri's Clean Water Commission to add 2 additional members. He said the Governor is likely to veto the bill, and a veto override will likely be attempted.

Mr. Marrs reported passage of HB1717 which adapts statutory language to enable contributions back to the State of Missouri's Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund from projects receiving funding. Ms. Melgren noted the house bill summary and senate substitute were included in board packets. This fund is a potential future source of funding for southwest Missouri water resource projects.

Executive Director Report:

Ms. Melgren reported having had a productive trip to Washington DC for the Interstate Council on Water Policy (ICWP) conference, hill visits and agency visits. She noted the agenda for the 2016 Washington Roundtable Meeting of ICWP and a briefing on key water resource priorities were included in board packets.

Ms. Melgren reported having recently become chairperson for the Water Supply Committee for the ICWP.

Ms. Melgren reported having recently presented to the Branson Board of Alderman about joining the SW MO JMWUC.

Ms. Melgren reported having met recently with Joella Cannon, new District Director in the Springfield office of Senator Roy Blunt.

Ms. Melgren said the annual fall water conference planning has begun with these main themes: Water is not priced to reflect its value; Educating the electorate about the value of water and funding for water resources is important; What is the impact of water conservation; Lessons from Flint, Michigan:Water systems are dangerously underfunded; View from the desk of water supply planners in southwest Missouri. As usual, elected officials and students may attend the conference free of charge. Sponsors will be sought to cover that expense. MSU is partnering again this year and the location for the conference will be Darr Agricultural Center in Springfield.

Ms. Melgren suggested the possibility of hosting a special meeting for all members to discuss how regional water supply projects might work contractually, including the element of public/private collaboration. She suggested example contracts from comparable projects might be useful to illustrate future possibilities. Board members agreed this was a good idea.

Ms. Melgren suggested the possibility of a state-wide meeting for all water supply projects with regional scopes. The purpose would be to share information. Mike Weller, MDNR Water Resources Center, said he will check into the possibility of DNR hosting such a meeting in a central location.

Ms. Melgren noted board packets included the first white paper completed by Mueller Consulting for Tri-State Water, called, An Overview of Water Supply Storage Contracting, Relevant Statues and Funding History in Missouri.

New Business:
Mr. Barnhart suggested the board approve commissioning a second white paper from Mueller Consulting. The purpose of the paper would be to create a "roadmap" of potential funders for future projects for southwest Missouri. He noted the scope of work had been distributed electronically prior to the meeting and a copy was included in board packets.

Steve Walensky moved, seconded by Roddy Rogers, that the southwest Missouri water supply funding strategy scope of work from Mueller Consulting be approved. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Report from the Southwest Missouri Joint Municipal Water Utility Commission:

Mr. Rogers noted that the SW MO JMWUC would meet June 8.

Reports from legislative or agency officials:

Corps of Engineers: Kansas City District
Jennifer Henggeler, from the Kansas City District Corps of Engineers, reviewed the current status of Corps studies. She reported COE, DNR, CDM Smith, and Tri-State Water's technical committee have been reviewing demand, supply, and gap analysis; that an H&H review is in process; and, that CDM Smith is looking at impacts to Stockton Lake at various levels of reallocated storage. A written summary of her report was included in board packets.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources Water Resources Center
Mike Weller, from Missouri DNR's Water Resources Center, reported on two areas of current work related to Tri-State Water Coalition. First, they are evaluating models created by CDM Smith related to Tri-State's reallocation request for Stockton Lake. Second, they are creating draft rules for the newly revised Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund. That fund's name was changed slightly and its' scope was expanded to allow contributions back to the fund from projects which are awarded financial assistance from the fund. Those contributions back to the fund will be used to administer the fund and to provide financial assistance for future projects under the Multipurpose Water Resource Act.

Unites States Geological Survey
John Schumacher, from USGS in Rolla, reported USGS continues work on an Ozark Plateaus Aquifer regional groundwater system analysis. This study will quantify current groundwater resources, evaluate how those resources have changed over time, and provide tools to simulate system

response to future stresses. The study will also provide information about changes in system-wide groundwater storage over time.

Presentations:

Scott Marrs, with Governmental Services Group, gave an update on the recently completed legislative session. He reported the appropriation request by Tri-State Water Coalition did not make it through session. He noted passage of HB1713, which added two members to the Clean Water Commission. Mr. Marrs noted that a Governor's veto is likely on the bill, as is a veto over-ride attempt. He reported passage of SB1717, which modifies the term "water resource project", changes the name of the "Multipurpose Water Resource Program Renewable Water Program" to the "Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund", and requires that any plan submitted to DNR for construction of a water resource project must include a schedule to remit contributions back to the fund (to be used for administration of the fund and to provide financial assistance for future projects under the Multipurpose Water Resource Program).

Adjournment:
Steve Walensky moved, seconded by Kyle Slagle, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Skip Schaller, Secretary