Tri-State Water Resource Coalition
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, September 21, 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
Clinton Finn – MO Department of Natural Resources
David Hertzberg – City of Joplin
Dennis Pyle – City of Monett
Dick Scott – Olsson Assoc.
Ed Proctor – Proctor Law
Eric Dove - HDR
Gail Melgren – Tri-State Water Resource Coalition
Jason Choate - Carthage Water & Electric
John Carter – Geo Engineers
John Schumacher – United States Geological Survey
Karen Massey – Environmental Improvement and Energy Resources Authority
Kyle Slagle – Empire District Electric Company
Loretta Bishop – City of Branson
Lynn Calton – City of Lamar
Matt Barnhart – Missouri American Water Company
Mike Ray – City of Branson
Mike Weller – Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Nick Heatherly – City of Joplin
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 May 18, 2016:
Mr. Barnhart noted that the regularly scheduled July board meeting had been cancelled, so the previous board meeting took place May 18. He reported that an informal special meeting to discuss how projects might actually work (possible funding sources and possible contract structure) had taken place on August 16th.

Mr. Barnhart asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes from May 18, 2016, and none were received. He asked for a motion to accept the minutes as written.

Roddy Rogers moved, seconded by Steve Walensky, that the minutes from May 18, 2016 be approved. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Mr. Barnhart asked if there were any corrections or additions to the notes from the August 16th special meeting and none were received.

Standing Committee Reports:

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

Mr. Barnhart asked for volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee. David Hertzberg, Roddy Rogers and Matt Barnhart agreed to serve.

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 July and August, 2016, was included in board packets. The ending balance as of August 31, 2016 was $163,994.78 in checking and $291,785.83 in the Prime Advantage account = total assets of $455,780.61

David Hertzberg moved, seconded by Brian Bingle, that the financial report as of August 31, 2016, be approved. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Technical:
CDM Smith gave a slide presentation update on corridor maps and project considerations (via conference call). Several variables were discussed which would strongly affect the scope of the project. For example, what route(s) should the pipeline travel, how much of the route would pump raw water vs treated water, where might treatment capacity be built and where might communities with treatment capacity already in place upgrade their system to add capacity for the regional system. The goal for this presentation was to discuss these variables with the goal of doing follow-up at the next technical committee meeting on November 16th.

Communications:
Mr. Walensky noted that a revised Southwest Missouri Water Supply Study Fact Sheet was included in board packets.

Mr. Walensky reported that the fall water conference agenda was complete and that it looked like the best conference yet. He encouraged board members to attend the conference and sponsor the event if possible.

Membership:
Ms. Melgren reported that membership has been stable for several years, that the board had directed away from growing membership since income was adequate and most of the larger communities in the 16 county footprint of Tri-State Water Coalition are already represented. However, she said there may be benefits to growing membership in the future as we get closer to a project, especially related to funding.

Legislative/Regulatory:
Mr. Hertzberg reported that the Coalition has defined a two year goal related to state funding. For the '16-'17 session the Coalition will talk to all elected officials in the delegation from southwest Missouri, especially key leadership, describing current project concept and timeline for the reallocation study completion from the Corps of Engineers for Stockton and Table Rock Lakes. We will also set up a funding request for the '17-'18 session, the size of which will depend on the progress which has been made on the reallocation studies. Currently, the Stockton Lake reallocation study is scheduled to be completed in September, 2018.

Scott Marrs, of Governmental Services Group, reported he will be setting up appointments with members of the southwest Missouri delegation in-district for October and November, before session starts.

Mr. Marrs reminded the board of passage of HB1717 which adapted statutory language to enable contributions back to the State of Missouri's Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund from projects receiving funding. This fund is a potential future source of funding for southwest Missouri water resource projects.

Executive Director Report:
Ms. Melgren reported that she and Mr. Rogers had driven to KC recently to visit with Jennifer Henggeler and John Grothaus of the KC Corps of Engineers about the current status of Tri-State Water Coalition's reallocation requests. She said they are evaluating three reallocation amounts - 20, 30, and 50 MGD.

Ms. Melgren reported that key staff in the Corps of Engineers Little Rock District office have left, including Chad Dulaney and Trish Anslow. A temporary project manager has been assigned to the Coalition, and a permanent project manager will be assigned around mid-October. Ms. Melgren has requested a meeting with the new project manager and other LR team members. She reported having met Colonel Bob Dixon, the new District Engineer and Commander of the Corps Little Rock District (as of July 7, 2016) at a recent meeting of the Table Rock Lake Shoreline Management Plan Stakeholder Input Group in Branson.

Ms. Melgren reported that after the departure of Mike Beezhold (to HDR), CDM Smith has assigned a new project manager to Tri-State Water Coalition. Her name is Brenda Mackie.

Ms. Melgren reported that annual fall water conference planning is in full swing.

Ms. Melgren reported that the second white paper from Mueller Consulting, a report on funding options, is due in mid-October.

New Business:
There was no new business.

Report from the Southwest Missouri Joint Municipal Water Utility Commission:
Mr. Rogers noted that the SW MO JMWUC last met June 8th.

Reports from legislative or agency officials:
None.

Presentations:
Ed Proctor, Principal, Proctor Law Firm, discussed legal issues related to regional water supply projects. He has worked with several regional water supply commissions in north Missouri.

Karen Massey, Director of the Environmental Improvement and Energy Resources Authority (EIERA) talked about financial issues related to regional water supply projects. She described conversations that she and Ms. Melgren have had with EPA HQ in Washington DC about possible funding through the drinking water fund and/or the WIFIA fund.

Elizabeth (Liz) Grove, Circuit Rider for Missouri Rural Water Assoc. and former General Manager for Clarence Cannon Wholesale Water Commission, shared her experience building the Clarence Cannon project at Mark Twain Lake in northeast Missouri.

Adjournment:
Lynn Calton moved, seconded by Skip Schaller, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Skip Schaller, Secretary