

Tri-State Water Resource Coalition
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, November 16, 2016
9 a.m., the MARC, 822 W. Mt. Vernon Blvd, Mt. Vernon, MO 65712

MINUTES

Welcome:

Vice President Lynn Calton called the meeting to order, in President Matt Barnhart's absence. The following were present:

Brian Bingle – City of Nixa
Clinton Finn – MO Department of Natural Resources
Mike Weller – MO Department of Natural Resources
David Hertzberg – City of Joplin
Dennis Pyle – City of Monett
Gail Melgren – Tri-State Water Resource Coalition
Jason Choate - Carthage Water & Electric
John Carter – Geo Engineers
John Schumacher – United States Geological Survey
Joe Richards – United States Geological survey
Lynn Calton – City of Lamar
Mike Ray – City of Branson
Mike Weller – Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Nick Heatherly – City of Joplin
Roddy Rogers – City Utilities of Springfield
Scott Marrs – Governmental Services Group
Skip Schaller – City of Monett

Approval of Minutes from September 21, 2016:

Mr. Calton asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes from September 21, 2016, and none were received. Lacking a quorum, the minutes were tabled, to be voted on at the January board meeting.

Standing Committee Reports:

President:

Mr. Calton welcomed participants to the meeting and asked for self introductions.

Mr. Calton called for a report from the Nominating Committee, which was composed of David Hertzberg, Roddy Rogers and Matt Barnhart. Mr. Hertzberg reported the proposed 2017 slate:

Officers:

President – Skip Schaller (Monett)
Past President – Matt Barnhart (Missouri American Water Co./Joplin)
Vice President – Chuck Bryant (Carthage)
Treasurer – Mike Ray (Branson)
Secretary – Gene Stanton (Mt. Vernon)

Ad Hoc Executive Committee Members

Roddy Rogers – Technical Committee Chair, past president (CU of Springfield)
Nick Heatherly – JMUC liaison (Joplin)

Executive:

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

Financial:

Mr. Bingle noted that monthly financial reports for September and October, 2016, were included in board packets. The ending balance as of October, 2016, was \$137,727.38 in checking and \$291,907.43 in the Prime Advantage account = total assets of \$429,634.81

Lacking a quorum, the financials were tabled, to be voted on at the January board meeting.

Technical:

CDM Smith presented large-scale maps with potential corridor paths. They discussed possibilities regarding raw water and treatment capacities. The board discussed priorities for infrastructure and distribution of the possible water from Stockton Lake. It was understood that the Coalition is not obligated to build the scenarios defined for the final Corps of Engineers reallocation request report. Rather, the defined options are guide posts in planning and can be adjusted as the Coalition refines its planning in the future.

The second white paper from Mueller Consulting was received by Tri-State Water on November 15, 2016. The paper was distributed electronically, and a copy was included in board packet. Mr. Mueller will talk with the board about the paper at the January board meeting.

Communications:

Mr. Calton announced that a new chair for the communications committee will be needed to replace Steve Walensky, since Cassville is pausing their membership.

Mr. Calton noted the inclusion in board packets of a financial summary for the recent water conference. He reported that the conference was a great success, with about 120 people in attendance, and the attendee overall rating being 8.75 out of 10.

The board agreed to seek a proposal from Opinion Research Specialists to assess the opinions and perceptions of residents, as well as business and government leaders, residing within the 16 county Tri-State Water footprint, regarding water attitudes and opinions about water usage and water supply. The goal of gathering this information would be to develop effective communication

strategies for Tri-State Water Coalition, especially as relates to the possible approval of water supply storage in Stockton Lake, and development of infrastructure to deliver that water to regional communities.

Membership:

Mr. Calton reported that Cassville, Mo, will pause their membership due to budget constraints.

Ms. Melgren noted that invoices for 2017 membership dues will be delivered soon.

Legislative/Regulatory:

Mr. Hertzberg reminded the board 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. The Coalition will also set up a funding request for the '17-'18 session, the size and final timing 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 by September, 2018.

Mr. Hertzberg noted that the opinion survey would help to inform a legislative plan as part of the larger communications plan.

Ms. Melgren noted that the lobbyist for the Coalition, Scott Marrs, has been working on a year-long contract which ends February, 2017. She suggested the board consider renewing that contract at the January board meeting.

Executive Director Report:

Ms. Melgren reminded the board that key staff in the Corps of Engineers Little Rock District office have left, including Chad Dulaney and Trish Anslow. A temporary project manager, Amanda Lynch, has been assigned to the Coalition, and a permanent project manager will be assigned around mid-October. Skip Schaller, Roddy Rogers and Ms. Melgren are scheduled to visit the Corps Little Rock District office December 13th.

Ms. Melgren reported that the second white paper from Mueller Consulting, a report on funding options for the Coalition, was delivered November 15th and is included in board packets. She reported the \$5,000 contract still has about \$2,000 remaining for follow-up work.

Ms. Melgren reported the water conference was well received. She believes it continues to be a great networking and marketing event for the Coalition, as well as a good learning opportunity for all involved. She showed the Sunday edition front page Joplin Globe article about the event.

Ms. Melgren recommended the Coalition join the Springfield area and Joplin area Council of Governments.

Ms. Melgren reported having recently talked with city administrators of Battlefield, Republic, Willard and Ozark, about Tri-State Water Coalition.

Ms. Melgren reported having recently presented to the American Planning Association Missouri statewide conference, as well as at the DNR State Water Plan Interagency task force kick-off meeting.

Ms. Melgren reported having participated in the inaugural Missouri Stream Team Paddle Missouri event, and also having attended the Interstate Council on Water Policy's annual meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Ms. Melgren noted having included a list of Coalition Goals for 2017 in board packets.

Ms. Melgren noted a schedule for meetings in 2017 was included in packets.

Ms. Melgren reported a jump in executive director health care premiums from \$671 a month to \$998 a month. Consequently, she will be shopping for a new health care plan.

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:

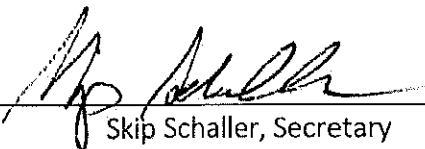
None.

Presentations:

Joe Richards, of United States Geological Survey, gave a presentation on the Ozark Aquifer System study update in progress.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned. The next Coalition board meeting will be January 18, 2017.


Skip Schaller, Secretary