TRI-STATE WATER
Resource Coalition

Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, November 14, 2018
9 a.m. The MARC, 822 W Mt Vernon Blvd, Mt Vernon, MO 65712

MINUTES

Welcome:
President Skip Schaller called the meeting to order. The following were present:

Andrea Collier – Barr Engineering
Andrew Nelson – City of Republic
Casandra Ludwig – Carthage Water & Electric
Chuck Bryant – Carthage Water & Electric
Clinton Finn – Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Dave Combs – MOARK
David Hertzberg – City of Joplin
Dennis Pyle – City of Monett
Devin Smith – Kansas City District Corps of Engineers
Drew Landoll – Empire District Electric
Gail Melgren – Tri-State Water Coalition and SWMO Regional Water
Jack Schaller – Olsson Engineering
Jason Choate – Carthage Water & Electric
Joe Kelley – City of Mt. Vernon
Joe Rogers –
Laura Kelley – CDM Smith
Loretta Bishop – City of Branson
Matt Barnhart – Missouri American Water Co.
Mike Ray – City of Branson
Milton Dickensheet – City of Nixa
Phil Walsack – Burns & McDonnell
Roddy Rogers – City Utilities of Springfield
Russ Worsley – City of Lamar
Skip Schaller – City of Monett
Tony Robine – Harry S Truman Coordinating Council

Approval of Minutes from August 15, 2018:
Mr. Schaller asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes from August 15, 2018, and none were received.

Matt Barnhart moved, seconded by Mike Ray, that the minutes from August 15, 2018, be approved. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Standing Committee Reports:

President:
Mr. Schaller welcomed participants to the meeting and asked for self-introductions.

Mr. Schaller complimented Ms. Melgren on an outstanding water conference.

Mr. Schaller announced the slate of officers and executive committee members as follows:

President – Chuck Bryant
Past President – Skip Schaller
Vice President – Matt Barnhart
Treasurer – Mike Ray
Secretary – Andrew Nelson
*Additional ad hoc executive committee members*
Roddy Rogers – Technical Committee Chair
Milton Dickensheet

Mr. Schaller asked for comments or other nominations from the floor. Hearing none he called for a vote.

Milton Dickensheet moved, seconded by Matt Barnhart, that the slate be approved as presented. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Mr. Schaller reported that he is working on Ms. Melgren's annual review and would be sharing with executive committee members soon.

Executive:
Mr. Schaller explained that the bylaws currently define only one class of members: Members. He recommended that the bylaws be amended to create two classes of members, 1. Members, and 2. Associate members. He suggested that municipalities and water providers continue as Members, and that counties become Associate Members. Associate members would have the right to participate in all business of the Coalition, but would not have a vote.

Matt Barnhart moved, seconded by Mike Ray, that the proposed bylaw change, from one class of members to two classes of members, be approved. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Financial:
Treasurer Mike Ray said that monthly financial reports were included in board packets. The balance in checking on October 31, 2018 was $13,688.44. The balance in the Prime Advantage account was $385,065.40. Total assets of the Coalition were $398,753.84.

Chuck Bryant moved, seconded by Roddy Rogers, that the financial report be approved. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Communications:
Jason Choate discussed the need for a regional communication plan to prepare for the reallocation of water storage and subsequent infrastructure projects. This would help to define a campaign to educate the public about water issues, in particular water supply issues and SWMO Regional Water. Such a plan would define key messages, images, and key communicators in various communities, as well as a timeline for communications activities. It would also build hard copy and electronic tools, including social media sites. Tri-State would build and use these tools, but they would also be crafted so that various communities in the region could adapt them to their needs and use as well. The overall goal would be to spread a common message about the value of water across the region to generate public support for water issues. He suggested that the board direct the executive director to develop a request for proposals and issue it, for an engagement of up to $20K.

David Hertzberg moved, seconded by Roddy Rogers, that the executive director should issue a request for proposals for an engagement of up to $20K for a communications plan. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Membership:
Ms. Melgren reported having recently spoken to the boards of aldermen for Willard and Ozark. She said both communities are pursuing membership by including Tri-State membership dues in their annual budget requests.

Ms. Melgren reported that the city of Webb City has not paid membership dues for 2018, and has said they no longer want to be a member of the Coalition. She noted that the bylaws say their vote is not valid if they have not paid, even so, she recommended terminating their membership from the Coalition, in keeping with their expressed wishes. She noted such a vote requires two-thirds (2/3rds) of a quorum of members to pass, and Webb City will need to be given time to respond to the vote, so the actual termination will not take place until the next meeting of the board.

Matt Barnhart moved, seconded by Chuck Bryant, that Webb City be removed from membership of Tri-State Water Coalition. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Legislative/Regulatory:
Ms. Melgren delivered the sad news that the Coalition's lobbyist, Scott Marrs, passed away on October 26, 2018. She noted that his firm, Governmental Services Group, will continue to operate and that the Coalition's contract with them runs through the end of December, 2018. Mr. Marrs' son, Will Marrs, a recent law school graduate who has worked with his dad in the past, will take up the mantle. Jerry Burch, a former legislator and long-time lobbyist, will be working with Will in the coming months. Ms. Melgren suggested the board could continue with Governmental Services Group, or look for a new lobbyist. Chuck Bryant suggested Bob Jackson and Fred Dryly as

possibilities. Milton Dickensheet suggested Harry Hill. After board discussion no firm decision was made.

Mr. Hertzberg noted that two versions of a legislative ask for 2019 were included in board packets. The first was smaller, at $295K, and the second was larger, at $985K. The work items on each request were drawn from the task list defined by CDM Smith as next steps in the process of preparing for reallocated water storage space from Corps of Engineer lakes. Ms. Melgren explained that the amount of work in the smaller request could likely be accomplished within a year of the funds release to the Coalition, provided it was approved by the legislature/Governor. She said the amount of work in the larger ask would likely not be achievable within a year of the funds release. Consequently, she said the smaller request could be made as a line-item in the DNR budget, as was done last year. However, the larger request should be placed into the Multi-Purpose Fund in DNR's budget. Funds there will carry over one or more budget years and remain for use by the Coalition. Ms. Melgren expressed concern about using the Multi-Purpose Fund because DNR has few rules in place for use of the fund and would therefore have considerable discretion about their use. After board discussion the board directed Ms. Melgren to use the higher request.

David Hertzberg moved, seconded by Chuck Bryant, that the Coalition request $985K from the Missouri legislature in 2019, to be spent as defined within the presented request. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".

Mr. Hertzberg reported that he and Ms. Melgren will work with Will Marrs to create a strategy for the upcoming session and to schedule appointments with various legislators.

Technical:
Mr. Rogers reported that the new Rate Study kick-off workshop #1 would take place December 4th, in Monett. CDM Smith will be facilitating the session. He reminded board members that a data request had been sent to them by Ms. Melgren and answers are requested by November 20th.

Laura Kelley, project manager, CDM Smith, said the task order for the rate study has been awarded.

Executive Director Report:
Ms. Melgren said that elements of staging and timing of demand will be added to the rate study, depending on how far the current funding will go. She noted that COE funding approval for their portion of the rate study has not yet cleared the Office of Management and Budget in Washington, D.C.
Ms. Melgren requested data for the rate study be sent to her by November 20th.
Ms. Melgren noted that a water conference financial summary and compilation of evaluations was included in board packets. The overall rating of the conference by participants was 9.1 out of 10. The Coalition made $5811.75.
Ms. Melgren shared articles from the Joplin Globe, KY3 News, and the Cedar County Republican, about Tri-State Water Coalition. These stories were generated from the fall water conference.

Ms. Melgren reported that Missouri American Water Company has received a WIFIA loan for their upcoming reservoir project.
Ms. Melgren reported that the Federal WRDA bill passed and was signed into law by the president on October 23rd.
Ms. Melgren noted that the Coalition will work in collaboration with KC COE and MDNR on communications in the next year.
Ms. Melgren requested that those members who had not yet sent their drought and conservation plans to her please do so.
Ms. Melgren requested that those members who had not yet sent their heavy water users list please do so.
Ms. Melgren noted that the USGS Ozark Aquifer Study is going through revisions. Brian Clark, of USGS, has said it will hopefully be done by the end of the year.

New Business:
There was no new business.

Report from the Southwest Missouri Joint Municipal Water Utility Commission:
Mr. Rogers said the Joint Utility Commission (SWMO Regional Water) met just prior to the Tri-State Coalition board meeting. Officers for next year were elected and financials approved. The next meeting date is set for May 15.

Reports from legislative or agency officials:
Devin Smith, Kansas City District Corps of Engineers, reported on progress of the reallocation study for Stockton Lake. He said the cultural resource survey is underway and focused on the south side of the lake. He reported that a contract has been awarded for LiDAR at the lake. The Dam Safety report has been submitted to the Risk Management Group.

Presentations:
Dave Combs, executive director of Missouri and Associated Rivers Coalition (MOARK), talked with the board about his organization and their mission. He invited Tri-State Coalition to join and suggested we continue visiting with each other to look for synergies.

Adjournment:
**Matt Barnhart moved, seconded by Roddy Rogers that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried, with all voting "aye".**

The next Tri-State Water Coalition board meeting will be February 20, 2019.

Joe Kelley, Secretary