Southwest Missouri Joint Municipal Water Utility Commission

Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes

October 17, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Southwest Joint Municipal Water Utility Commission (JMUC) was called to order at The Casino, 101 South Lincoln, Monett Missouri on October 17, 2023, at 9:03 a.m. by Skip Schaller, President. The JMUC meeting was concurrent with the Tri State Water Resource Coalition meeting.

SELF INTRODUCTIONS

Board Members Present:

Jason Choate, Carthage
Krista Shurtz, City Utilities of Springfield
Kendall Powell, Branson
Skip Schaller, Monett,
Travis Cossey, Nixa
Michael Beatty, Liberty Utilities
Jeremy Parsons, Ozark
Dan Johnson, Joplin (virtual)
Matt Barnhart, MOAM (virtual)
Roddy Rogers, Executive Director-SWMO Water

In Attendance:

Jennifer Henggeler, COE via Zoom
Michael Weller, DNR via Zoom
Lewis Jones, Jones and Fortuna
Mark Griffin, CDM Smith
Jack Schaller, Olsson
Jason Stutesman, Nixa
Josh Youngblood, MPUA via Zoom
Phil Walsack Burns and McDonnell
Jordan Furnas, Republic via Zoom

JMUC MEMBERS

Current members are Branson, Carthage, CU, Joplin, Monett, Mt Vernon, Nixa, Stockton, Ozark, Republic, and Pierce City.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion to approve the JMUC minutes from July 18, 2023, was made by Travis Cossey, seconded by Jason Choate, and passed.

President Steve Stodden has moved on to MPUA. Travis Cossey made a motion, seconded by Kendall Powell, that Krista Shurtz be appointed to fill Steve's at large spot on the JMUC Board, and the motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee-Skip reminded that entities need to decide on their intent to take a portion of water storage reallocation and how much so that we can appropriately structure contracts.

JMUC Financial Report-Travis Cossey

As of 10/3/23 Central acct balance is: $348,107.94

Technical -Jason Choate

PAS funding agreement – PAS funding agreement. Roddy worked with John Grothaus of the COE on further refining the scope and expectations for Corridor Studies, Hydraulic Model, and Timing/Permitting Studies.

PAS agreement is set up to use COE consultants to do hydraulic model, aerial photography, environmental archaeological studies, and timing/permitting studies. These studies are now kicking off via the COE and their consultant selection process. Pending negotiating scope and price, CDM Smith has been selected to do the studies.

This will kick start what is a several year process to get to the design stage. COE had concerns about the cost of the studies and we worked to better define the scope of just building a model as opposed to building it and running specific alternatives. That will be in future phases.

COE Report -Jennifer Henggeler

Jen reported on the technical studies described above that the scope on the aerial photography should be close to final and that they (COE) plan to use Wolpert, a firm they already have a contract with. RFPs on Environmental and Archeological studies are being prepared.

She also reported that they are nearing completion of back checking comments and policy on the reallocation report. The COE has reviewed hydraulics analysis performed by Hazen Sawyer and while using a little different methodology, came to a similar conclusion of 2500 ac-ft DYMS. This was also reviewed by another subject matter expert who agreed with

the methodology and approach and his comments are being addressed. After comments are addressed, they will be ready to move to the next step in the process.

DNR-Michael-Weller

Michael reported on attending the White River Basin Stakeholders Conference and interesting discussion on issues from both Water and Hydropower stakeholders. Also said that as they get closer to drafting return flow legislation that we could talk more about presenting to the Legislative Committee on Conservation and Reservoirs.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Roddy reported on the August 10 meeting with DNR regarding our specific reallocation. Met with Dru Buntin—DNR Director and his staff. This was a good opportunity to give a brief overview of our project and what we are trying to accomplish as well as inquiring into possibilities for funding.
Also Working with Michael Weller (DNR) to set up a face- to- face meeting with State Conservation and Resource Legislative Committee.

Sent a letter of support on behalf of SWMO Water to the Missouri Guard Rails Project—an effort to establish reasonable limits on CAFO development in Missouri.

Renewal of workman's comp insurance was completed and paid for. Costs went down to $745 (from $918).

Roddy attended the White River Basin Stakeholders meeting at School of The Ozarks on Sept 20. Discussed initiating studies on the White River Basin and the series of Lakes—Beaver, Table Rock, Bull Shoals—many stakeholders there—with sometimes conflicting needs. DNR's Chris Wieberg asked if our organization would support funding from the state for this. Not supply funding—but be supportive of state funds being allocated. Is in our interest as we have requested reallocation from Table Rock. The board was in consensus of being supportive of such funding.

Asked that each member determine their number of connections for the purpose of establishing 2024 dues.

Annual Water Conference- Held Successful Conference September 26 at Darr Center. Cancellation of some speakers and gaining of new ones resulted in rearrangement of the program and no slots left for a panel but was all good— had a good line up of speakers as reflected in evaluations. There were more that had to travel and will require expense reimbursement, but we have done that in the past and we should still come out ok. The conference theme was "Trends That Matter" and discussions on the positive impacts that result from having a secure water supply for the future. Danny Johnson Manager of Metro North Georgia Water, Lane Crider, the CEO of the Beaver Water District in Arkansas, and Tad

Bohannon from Central Arkansas all spoke about their experience, i.e., trends and positive effects of having a water source in place. North Georgia just received the largest reallocation ever given. Karen Kwon, formerly in the Colorado Attorney General's Office spoke on current conditions in Colorado and how the drought is catalyzing regionalism. Worked with CU on videos of grade school students commenting on trends which were completed and shown. Improvement needed for food and room temperature. Thank you to all who came and supported the conference. Media coverage/interviews with KY3, KSMU, Springfield News Leader (no story), Springfield Daily Citizen.

Attended the NWSA annual meeting in Denver September 5-7. Had the opportunity to talk with COE staff and other water organizations like ours. In their report, the national COE rep highlighted our project as nearing completion/potential receipt of reallocation.

Roddy has had multiple calls with COE/Jen on review of hydrologic analyses.

Working with Jen and others to schedule a visit to DC with ASA and Burlison who sits on two key committees.

Presented to MPUA on Sept 28 in Branson.

Spoke to 70 fourth graders on water supply.

Jones and Fortuna activities

Working with Jones and Fortuna on documentation for establishing contract parameters between entities and JMUC; letters of intent; guardrails on collection of administrative costs post reallocation. A draft letter of intent was provided to board members to take to their Boards. The Board (Jeremy) asked if we would provide bullet points and steps to take for them to use in approaching their Boards and Roddy will work with Jones and Fortuna to provide that. Board members also wanted to get approximations of costs for their gap needs based on updated costs from the COE. Jen plans to get that to Roddy within the next week. Roddy had calculated approximations based on the Rate Study by CDM and gave that to members verbally.

Working to schedule meeting with COE modelers and Jones and Fortuna on research of storage calcs and DYMS to come to agreement that DYMS would be equivalent to 2500 ac ft. While it may require CU to purchase more storage to regain the same capacity, it will result in savings of between $8-9 million to SWMO Water. This is pending the backchecking Jen reported on.

Held meetings/conference calls with Jones and Fortuna on reallocation contracts as well as JMUC contracts with individual entities. Reminded the Board that we have provided a template contract for each board member to look at. Language on guardrails on admin costs was explained by Lewis. Roddy reiterated that once the COE decides on the reallocation, and it is

affirmative, each entity will need to either sign the contract or opt out of storage. To know how to structure the contracts—we really need to know if CU/Spfd-- MO Am/Joplin plans to take any of the reallocation and their inclination to hold a reserve pool for minimal incremental cost. Each entity needs to have been discussing this with their respective Boards/governing bodies to be able to act when the reallocation is approved.

Jones and Fortuna prepared a white paper on how power interests could continue to use the storage we are requesting until we have infrastructure in place to deliver it; and how to incorporate it into the contract with the COE. They had also reached out to SWPA and we were able to meet with them on September 26.

OTHER BUSINESS

In the interest of full transparency, Roddy informed the Board that his son now works with Olsson Engineering. There is no contractual relationship or connection of any kind between Olssen and SWMO Water, but they attend the meetings, and in the future could pursue work with SWMO Water.

Dues—Will be sending out invoices for 2024 in the next few weeks. Roddy sent out the number of connections to everyone for review and any modifications required.

Next Meetings—scheduled for January 16, 2024, and April 16, 2024

Motion to move into Executive Session Skip
JMUC—Motion by Jason Choate, 2nd by Krista Shurtz. Approved

CLOSED MEETING – Executive Session

Contractual and legal discussions were held in closed session, and only actions resulting from the closed meeting will be included in the minutes.

A break was taken at 10:01 AM to allow non-Board members to depart from the meeting. The closed meeting resumed at about 10:15 AM.

Board members and the attorney in attendance at the open meeting attended the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business the closed and open meetings were adjourned by motion from Michael Beatty, seconded by Travis Cossey for Tri State; and a motion from Jason Choate, seconded by Krista Shurtz for JMUC.at about 11:28 AM.

1-17-24

Kendall Powell, Secretary