**Tri-State Water Resource Coalition**
**Board of Directors Meeting**
**Minutes**
**April 14, 2026**

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## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Tri-State Water Resource Coalition was called to order at The Casino, 101 South Lincoln, Monett Missouri on April 14, 2026, at about 9:00 a.m. by Travis Cossey, President. The Tri State meeting was concurrent with the Southwest Missouri Joint Municipal Water Utility (JMUC) meeting.

## SELF INTRODUCTIONS

**Board Members Present:**

Krista Shurtz, City Utilities of Springfield
Skip Schaller, City of Monett
Travis Cossey, City of Nixa
Jeremy Parsons, City of Ozark
Kendall Powell, City of Branson
Kim Kinder, Dade County
Matt Barnhart, MO America via Zoom
Karen Haynes, City of Republic via Zoom
Roddy Rogers, Executive Director

**In Attendance:**

Derek Linam, MoAm via Zoom
Shelby Canole, MPUA
Brandon Renaud, MPUA via Zoom
John Fortuna, Jones and Fortuna via Zoom
Lewis Jones, Jones and Fortuna
Jason Stutesman, City of Nixa
Mark Griffin, CDM Smith
Jack Schaller, Olssen
Sandy Buescher, DNR
Jen Henggeler, COE via Zoom

Clifton Kester, City of Carthage (sitting in for Jason)
Clinton Finn, DNR via Zoom
Nathan Adams, Trekk Design
Greg Perkins, Trekk Design
Stephanie-Republic notetaker, via Zoom
Jeff Parkison, CU
Terry Leeds, Garver via Zoom
Michael Weller, DNR via Zoom

## APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion by Skip Schaller, seconded by Kim Kinder to approve Tri State minutes from January 13, 2026. Approved by Board vote.

**CURRENT TRI STATE MEMBERS**—Branson, Carthage, City Utilities of Springfield, Joplin, Monett, Nixa, Ozark, Republic, Pierce City, Liberty Utilities, Missouri American Water, Greene County, Jasper County, City of Springfield, Willard, Dade County.

### Tri State Officers

Officers took office on January 13, 2026 for one year.

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| President | Travis Cossey |
| Past Pres | Skip Schaller |
| VP | Jason Choate |
| Treasurer | Skip Schaller |
| Secretary | Krista Shurtz |

## REPORTS

### Executive Committee-

No report

### Tri State Financial Report - Skip Schaller

As of 04/06/26 Central acct balance is $182,034.43 in Money market
$3,580.09 in checking

### Technical

PAS funding agreement – Report issued. CDM Smith completed the first phase of the PAS funded Corridor Studies, including Hydraulic Modeling, and Timing/Permitting.

### Report from COE – Jen Henggeler

Jen provided the draft contract for us to be able to review in parallel with COE staff and will provide an estimated timeline for review and going to the ASA. Water supply agreement was sent to headquarters, and Jen anticipates it moving through headquarters quickly since they have been reviewing in parallel with us. Jen will provide

updates as it moves to the next phase. The reallocation cost to be contracted for is $26,808,000. That is 6.33% of the cost of usable storage. The contract will be structured to reallocate all storage, but payments can be made in two increments.

Jen noted that the package includes an amendment to the City Utilities agreement for dependable mitigation storage of 2,320-acre feet. She will work with CU and let them also have a preview of that amendment. Jen will follow up with CU and Roddy.

**Report from DNR – Sandy Buescher**

Sandy said they need to see the COE contract to final their draft (funding) contract for internal review. (Roddy will send it to her and Michael). DNR desires to make the first down payment out of this year's budget and are working with us to sequence the contracts to make that happen. She has been working on the contract and wanted to discuss in further detail with Lewis and Roddy and Jen after the meeting.

Sandy discussed the budget for the multi-purpose fund, noting that the fund has been reduced from $31 million to $16.7 million. This amount may adjust as the process moves forward. Sandy noted that they are working on an Intended Use Plan to list projects that are contracted or committed to and this project is on that list.

Sandy and Roddy discussed the timing of contract execution and the need to sign the contract by June to take advantage of DNR funds. Roddy noted that he has provided the updated contracts to everyone and that the time to sign contracts is coming up soon.

Sandy reported that the return flow bill was voted out of Senate committee unanimously, and there was only positive testimony given, all in favor of our portion of the bill. This will benefit SWMO Water as it provides water that returns/flows back to watershed from where it came to be credited to the user. She encouraged our members to send a letter of support for the bill and one for the Multipurpose Fund too. She will send examples.

**Executive Director Report**

**Reallocation Contract and Payment**—The COE was saying the second portion of the reallocation was $13.4 M at 2010 pricing like the first portion but now interpret that it is updated to $23M (total of 36M instead of 26.8)—which makes it even more desirable to take and pay for all of it now at the 2010 price. (We agree this was the intent of the legislation). Roddy explained that the previous interpretation allowed us to wait (interest/inflation free) to start paying for the second portion and just finance $13.4M for 15 years followed by $13.4M for a second 15 years with DNR. Now we would need to finance $23M in the second 15 years, so it will be as advantageous or better to take/pay for all of it now and finance the first $13.4 with DNR for 15 years but also finance the second portion with the COE for 30 years. So, we would make a payment to DNR (for

½ of $13.4 pending funding) and a payment to COE (for all of $13.4). The total annual payment would still be less than our members' boards approved, and this allows us to take advantage of the more favorable 2010 cost basis.

The COE contract requires the first payment to be made 30 days after signing. But COE will allow the DNR LS amount to count as a first "down" payment and we would not have to make a payment until 1 year after execution of the COE contract with JMUC. But we need to get it done by June 1 so DNR can take it from this year's budget.

Before the COE Contract was forwarded to Division with our comments, there was a lot of discussion, effort, and back and forth on the best final language by both the COE and SWMO Water. Main thing is it allows a (hopefully DNR funded) down payment to count as our first payment and no additional payment needed for a year. It also allows recasting the debt based on the remaining balance for prepayments in excess of $500,000 of the annual payment. Otherwise, we would have to pay annual payments based on full amount—even though significant portions may have been paid off.

Jones and Fortuna have adjusted the individual entity contracts to fit with the COE contract and DNR funding. It also sets the admin fee at a flat fee instead of a percentage and includes a Stockon Users group to allow only those with contracts to make decisions on the Stockton reallocation. They were provided for members and will need to be signed once the COE finals the federal contract. IT IS CRITICAL that this is done with no delay.

We will need to –quickly--sign all contracts (JMUC and COE and DNR) for DNR to be able to get funding from this year's budget, i.e., by June. If we don't make the DNR June budget deadline---we need to come up with the first payment ourselves—now. All parties are working hard to make the deadline.

The DNR funding agreement wording that was voted on and agreed to at the January board meeting is being prepared by DNR. DNR would pay for the storage cost outright from the Multipurpose Fund for the first half lump sum payment to the COE through the JMUC with SWMO Water making remittances to DNR to pay back half.

We are also considering DNR funding for the second half so we could pay off the COE and finance with DNR at a better rate for the second portion—like we are doing with the first.

This has all been complicated. But bottom line is we are still getting the storage at a VERY good price—as well as potential funding to pay for up to half of it.

O and M reserve—The COE provided data that showed the $4.50/ac-ft amount we included in the JMUC contract would be adequate to cover O and M and Repair, Rehab, and Replacement costs as well as develop a buffer. The annual costs have been up to nearly $200,000.

Costs language updated. Additional wording included to reflect both JMUC and Tri-State board considerations, and the voting structure applies to all user group members, including MoAm.

Discussion on invoicing of DNR payment was that the invoice from the COE would need to be for $13.404 million which Roddy would send to DNR to be able to fund JMUC's payment to the COE. Jen said the COE can send the invoice for that amount. Roddy asked if Sandy could send a draft DNR contract for us to be looking at.

Lewis explained that after the ASA approves the COE contract, the District Engineer signs and the contract will be sent for us to sign. It is then that our entities need to be ready to sign.

The federal contract will eventually be reviewed by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works following headquarters approval, with a decision expected within 1–2 weeks after that; this approval will delegate execution authority to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Kansas City District but will not finalize the contract. Once issued, the contract will be sent for signature, at which point Roddy will sign on behalf of JMUC, followed by execution by the District Commander. A key timing consideration is that member contracts must be completed before Roddy signs to ensure payment commitments are in place. Because the timing of receipt is uncertain, there will be a short turnaround window, with the goal of having everything ready later this month or next month.

Roddy asked for a motion /resolution of authority for him to sign the COE Contract.

Travis made a motion for that upon receipt of all signed pass-through contracts. Skip seconded. Motion passed. (for JMUC)

**Return Flows Bill** - Roddy reported he went to Jeff City to testify to Senate Committee on this on March 4-5 and they pulled the bill due to a late session the previous evening that extended into the morning hours. MPUA turned this into a productive trip by guiding him to meet with several of the senators or their staff that are on the committee.

Committee hearing was rescheduled for March 26 and he returned and testified along with Lacey from MPUA, and CU Springfield Lobbyist, Fred Dreiling. Bill was approved by Senate Committee and moved on to the House.

**Future Needs** -Roddy noted that he has an update letter drafted for the future reallocation request to meet additional 30% of needs from Pomme de Terre and Table Rock Lake. Holding it until DNR funding is final to prevent confusion between what has been approved and what we still need and are asking for. The Stockton reallocation will only meet about 70% of our gap need—based on demand studies that are now approaching 10 years old. Jen has established funding to update studies wr to Pomme De Terre as a source and to update demand studies.

**Annual Water Conference** – The date is September 29th at the Darr Center. Roddy asked and there were no conflicts. Roddy is preparing to find speakers for the event.

**Other Business**

**NWSA national legislation** -- Roddy provided an update on the national legislation the National Water Supply Alliance (NWSA) has been working on. (SWMO Water is a member) They were unable to reach an agreement to move forward. Limited Time had become an issue with the WRDA cycle. Had been working to get Hydropower to agree to work with NWSA to just take a small portion of the issue—transparency from the COE wr to charges and from water and hydro stakeholders---but met a dead end. Hydro wanted transparency from water but did not want to reciprocate with similar transparency from hydro.

**Next Meetings** -- Roddy presented dates for upcoming meetings and suggested July 15 and October 15 and members agreed.

Roddy asked about being gone for a week to 10 days in August. All good.

Motion to adjourn the meeting and go into closed session. Motion by Jeremy Parsons. Second by Travis Cossey. Approved by Board vote.

**Executive Session**
A break was taken at about 10:15 AM to allow non-Board members to depart from the meeting. The closed meeting resumed at about 10:25 AM.

Discussions of legal issues and contracts on reallocations of storage were held in closed session, and only actions resulting from the closed meeting are included in any minutes.

Board members, the attorneys, and administrative support in attendance at the open meeting attended the executive sessions.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business the closed and open meetings were adjourned by a motion Jeremy and seconded by Krista at about 11 AM.

Krista Shurtz 7/27/2026

Krista Shurtz, Secretary