

Environmental Task Force of Jasper and Newton Counties (ETF)
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2016
Joplin City Hall 5th Floor Meeting Room

Members Present:

John Harrington, City of Neosho
Bob Hockman, Newton County Citizen
Jeff Burkett, Empire District
Dan Pekarek, Joplin Health Dept.
Clayton Cristy, Jasper County Citizen

Jim Jackson, Newton County Commission
Charla Geller, Newton County EMD
Tony Moehr, Jasper County Health Dept.
Eric Ferrell, La Russell Stream Team

Guests Present:

Rosita Davis, Joplin Health Dept. Jeremy Boes, MO-AM Water
Heidi Scheffler, Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council Jim Triplett, Grand Lake Watershed Alliance Foundation

John Harrington opened the meeting and introductions were made.

The minutes of the July 20, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Eric Ferrell, Clayton Cristy second.

Financial Report

The finances for the quarter were reviewed. The account had three debits for Missouri and Kansas annual reports and a fee for cancelling the State of Kansas registration for a total of \$71.25. The account balance is \$17293.84.

New/Vacant Director Positions

Jill Cornett from the Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council has joined the board as a Newton County representative. The ETF is still short one Newton County representative, and two Jasper County representative. Eric Ferrell's term has expired, he was presented with a Resolution by John Harrington for his years of service.

Jasper County Annual Funding request

The Jasper County Auditor, Richard Webster, requested a funding request letter for the 2017 year be submitted to assist with budgeting the upcoming year. Dan submitted the request for \$1500. Jim Jackson requested the Newton County funding letter be sent directly to him.

2017 Budget Approval

Dan submitted the 2017 budget for approval. John Harrington suggested we revisit the idea Bob Nichols had regarding a college scholarship. Ideas discussed included an essay contest for area high school students or a scholarship given to MSSU and or Crowder College to give to an Environmental Health student. Bob Hockman, Tony Moehr and Dan Pekarek agreed to reach out to the 2 colleges for input into a program. It was approved to allocate \$500 for this to be added to the 2017 budget. The budget with totals of \$2,500 in Income and \$3,630 in Expenses was then unanimously approved with a motion by John Harrington, seconded by Eric Ferrell.

Annual Financial Report

The ETF bylaws require the Annual Financial Report to be submitted to board members by December 1st each year. Dan will put that together and send it out via email.

EPA Report

Mark Doolan was not able to attend meeting.

Missouri LEAF Committee

Dan sent out an email last week asking for ideas for projects the LEAF committee could consider at their next meeting. Bob Hockman suggested better signage at the Frisco Trail. Eric Ferrell suggested looking into the needs of the "Walnut Bottoms" walking trail in Carthage. The board was encouraged to forward any ideas they have to Dan before the LEAF meeting on Monday October 24, 2016.

FSCAA

The FSCAA is still trying to get some funding opportunities from JATSO. Dan will set a meeting with Taylor Cunningham to touch base. The DNR's recommendation to the EPA for our region is attainment. Dan Pekarek met with the Audubon Center regarding an educational kiosk set up at their location. They are interested as long as the content also meets their focus, which is birds. The kiosk would also need to be portable, as there is limited space at the center.

Missouri Clean Waters Initiative

Jill was unable to come to the meeting due to a prior commitment. Heidi Scheffler attended on her behalf and gave an update. They will have some funding for projects due to a 319 grant. They are looking for a stream bank project on the North fork of Spring River and hosting an educational workshop.

Spring River Watershed

Tony reported the 319 Grant funding officially ended on August 31, 2016. MDNR indicated it will be amended for another year, but they are waiting on official word before more work begins on a possible stream bank stabilization project. Many projects have been completed under this grant including; septic system repairs, cost sharing of rain barrels, rain garden demonstrations and storm drain stencils.

Grand Lake Watershed Alliance Foundation

Jim Triplett with the GLWAF spoke on their interest in having a MO representative on their board of directors, someone with a vested interest in the river system or landowner. He invited all attendees to visit their website www.glwaf.org.

Next Meeting: January 18, 2017

Meeting unanimously adjourned at 3:15pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Pekarek, Secretary

Approved: _____

Date: _____