

Environmental Task Force of Jasper and Newton Counties (ETF)  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
October 21, 2015  
Joplin City Hall 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Meeting Room

Members Present:

John Harrington, Newton County City  
Jeff Burkett, Empire District  
Dan Pekarek, Joplin Health Dept.

Bob Hockman, Newton County Resident  
Tony Moehr, Jasper County Health Dept.  
Eric Ferrell, La Russell Stream Team

Guests Present:

Rosita Davis, Joplin Health Dept.  
Brian Ross, Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council

Ines Nizeye, Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council  
Mark Doolan, EPA

Dan Pekarek opened the meeting and introductions were made.

The minutes of the July 15, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Eric Ferrell, John Harrington second.

Financial Report

The finances for the quarter were reviewed. The account had \$59.77 in expenses, no credits, with a balance of \$18, 723.08. Dan is checking with Jim Jackson to see if the \$1500 for Newton Counties ETF fees were donated by Bob Nichols. Jasper County has made their request for \$1500 to cover their fees. The Community Bank and Trust account has been closed, the balance was transferred to our current account.

Suggestions on projects the ETF could financially support included; sponsor MSSU Health and Wellness Conference in spring of 2016, citizen workshop, college level environmental clubs, and a stipend for a college student in exchange for environmental research for the ETF.

Meeting with Attorney Phil Richardson

Dan, Bob Hockman, and John Harrington met with ETF attorney Phil Richardson. Bob Hockman's name was added to the checking account. Eric made a motion for John Harrington to be added to the account along with all checks written to contain two signatures. The motion was unanimously approved with a second by Tony.

An officer in the role of president was necessary to file the state report. John Harrington volunteered. An email vote was conducted 8/8/2015, with 7 yes votes. A motion to accept the email vote was made by Eric Ferrell, second by Jeff Burkett and unanimously approved.

Dan has submitted an application for a quote on officers insurance.

Future of ETF Survey

An email was sent out after the last meeting asking all board members to check with their respective groups for thoughts on the continuation of the ETF. All 7 that responded voted yes to continue the group. (2 members were sick at the time of the email and could not respond.)

Conflict of Interest Policy

Dan found a draft of a Conflict of Interest Policy. Rosita will be scanning the document and sending out to all board members for review to vote on in the next meeting.

Nomination of 2016 officers

All current officers volunteered to continue their positions for 2016: President- John Harrington, Vice President- Bob Hockman, and Secretary- Dan Pekarek. The unanimous vote to accept these nominations was made with a motion by Tony and a second by Eric.

### Vacant Director Positions

The ETF Board is currently short two members from Jasper and two from Newton County. The current bylaws allow for 8 Jasper County and 6 Newton County members. There is a question as to if the past vote to include Cherokee County violated the bylaws of the Task Force. Dan suggested we speak with Carl Hayes from Cherokee County for his input and put this on the agenda for December meeting.

### EPA Update

Mark Doolan gave an update on the area EPA clean up progress. Carterville, Webb City, Neck City, Purcell, Duenweg, and Oronogo are all at or near completion. The area by Hwy 249 and Zora should be completed by Christmas. The next area for clean-up will be the West side of the County off Malang Rd. in Joplin. The Corp of Engineers are in charge of the Newton County Clean-up. They will begin in the Granby area in November. Gary estimates there are 3-4 years of work in that area.

### Natural Resources Damage Restoration Project update

Dan and Tony attended a meeting regarding the Request for Proposal for Natural Resource Damage Restoration Projects for Upland Habitat within the Springfield Plateau Region. The criteria for this RFP allows money to be spent outside the Jasper and Newton County region that the money was originally intended for. Motion for Dan to draft a letter to the trustees, DNR and Fish & Wildlife, requesting the money be spent on Jasper and Newton County projects was unanimously approved by the group with a motion by Eric Ferrell, seconded by Tony Moehr. The members agreed to educate their City Managers and County Commissioners on this subject.

### Four State Clean Air Alliance

The Four State Clean Air Alliance have officially been accepted into the Ozone Advance program. They have one year from the date of acceptance to submit their Path Forward document. Subgroups have been working on updating their Clean Air Action Plan to use as the Path Forward document and estimate completion in the spring of 2016. The fourth PSA has been completed on the topic of Solvents. The EPA has set the new ozone standard of 70ppm, down from 75ppb.

### Spring River Watershed

Tony gave the group updates on the Spring River Watershed. The 319 Grant was extended for another year to September 2016. They have installed 44 new septic systems and repaired or replaced an additional 15. An additional Rain Garden demonstration at the Fair Acres YMCA in Carthage will be installed November 15, 2015.

### Website Maintenance

Dan will talk to Linda Swaim regarding the website questions that came up at the meeting. How long is the domain name valid? Should a board member or a third party maintain the website?

### Next Meeting

It was agreed upon that another meeting would need to take place before our regularly scheduled meeting in January. The dates of December 2<sup>nd</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> were decided. An email poll will be sent out to make sure a quorum will be met on one of those dates.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Pekarek, Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_