

Environmental Task Force of Jasper and Newton Counties (ETF)
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2012
Joplin City Hall 5th Floor Meeting Room

Members Present: Dan Pekarek-Joplin Health Dept., Bob Nichols, Tony Moehr-Jasper County HD., Bob Hockman-Tamko, Linda Swaim-Stream Team, Bob Kulp-Newton County HD, Matt Barnhart- MOAM, Jeff Burkett-Empire District

Members Absent: Jan Tupper, Jerry Carter-Newton County Comm., Dr. Harold Haskin, Gary Roark-Newton County Emer. Management , Bob Williams-Carthage Water and Electric, Chuck Surface-City of Webb City

Guest: Lori Harris Franklin-MDHSS, Sharon Odom-MDHSS

Bob Nichols opened the meeting and introductions were made.

Minutes of the October 19, 2011 meeting were approved.

Jeff Burkett was introduced as replacement for Tim Wilson for Empire District Elec.

Stream Team:

Linda Swaim indicated they have their next meeting next Monday night. They are waiting to see what happens with the 319 Grant for Spring River, they may have a role in that. There will be another Shoal Creek clean up on April 14th, from Grand Falls to Shimmerhorn Park. Linda has names of all property owners along way to let them know of clean up.

Ozone:

The draft plan was presented to the MPO at their Nov. meeting. It was taken under advisement. Their principle concern was that too many stakeholders were involved initially, might be hard to manage.

Doe Run:

John Carter has retired. No report.

EPA Update:

Dan gave a brief update on EPA yard remediation grant that has been applied for and received by the City of Joplin. Funds will be used to help property owners replace yards that have been found high in soil lead or cadmium after the May 22nd tornado destroyed the home. Initial amount of grant is \$500,000

Lower Shoal Creek Watershed:

Bob Kulp reported that the watershed plan still is to be re-written as 9 element plan. MDOC is looking at doing a low impact development project with Neosho School District, perhaps a rain barrel or rain garden project.

Newton County Conservation Opportunity Area:

Linda reported that at the last meeting Bonnie Roy from Mercy Hospital came to speak about design features of the new hospital campus, that include "natural design" i.e. reducing runoff, etc.

Spring River Watershed:

Tony Moehr reported. DNR requested in December that the 319 application be amended and resubmitted as a 2 year project with approx. \$300,000 budget. This has been done. Jasper County is applicant, still working on scope of work.

Joplin Source Water Protection Plan:

Matt Barnhart reported that MOAM is working with property owners to cap abandoned wells, mostly in rural areas outside of town. This year they will be looking further out to identify other risk potentials. They did identify some abandoned cisterns, wells as result of the tornado.

CDC Proposal to Lower Lead Threshold:

Tony reported that the advisory committee to the CDC has recommended lowering the level of concern for blood lead level in children from 10mcg/dl to 5mcg/dl. No final decision has been made yet. Newer studies show some adverse health effects even at the 5mcg/dl level. Jasper County currently has a 1.4% elevation rate and this would cause it to go up to approx. 10%. Would affect case management, testing, etc.

Draft Springfield Plateau Regional Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment:

Bob reported that draft plan is out and USFWS is holding 3 public meetings next week seeking comment.

Grant Applications:

No report.

Environmental Master Plan:

Tony reported that the update is basically done, just needs to be put on website.

By-Laws Update:

Linda provided overview of each proposed change. Each proposal (attached) was voted on individually.

Proposal One-Motion to approve Dan, second Matt. Approved unanimous.

Proposal Two-Discussion amended (attached) motion to approve Dan, second Linda. Approved unanimous. .

Proposal Three-Discussion amended (attached) motion to approve Dan, second Matt. Approved unanimous.

Proposal Four-Discussion amended (attached) motion to approve Dan, second Bob Kulp. Approved unanimous.

Proposal Five-Motion Bob Kulp, second Tony. Approved unanimous.

Proposal Six-Discussion amended (attached) motion to approve Jeff Burkett, second Bob Kulp. Approved unanimous.

Watershed Video:

Linda has second draft completed. Is about watersheds, directed to schools. Still deciding on who will do actual video work. We will see draft for approval.

Grand Lake Watershed Council:

Bob Nichols good representation at last quarterly meeting. Around 13 agencies attending. Exchanging info about activities.

Drug Take Back (drop box) Program:

Bob N. reported we have funded 4 boxes.

Strategic Plan:

Will vote on at next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Pekarek