

Environmental Task Force Of Jasper And Newton Counties (ETF)
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2010
Empire District Electric Co. Board Room

Members Present: Dan Pekarek-Joplin Health Dept., Bob Kulp-Newton County HD, Jan Tupper, Bob Nichols, Chuck Surface- City of Webb City, Matt Barnhart-MOAM, Tony Moehr-Jasper County HD., Mike Palmer-Empire Dist. Elec., Gary Roark-Newton County Emer. Management, Harry Rogers-HSTCC

Members Absent: Jan Blasé-City of Neosho, Bob Steere, Jerry Carter-Newton County Comm., Dr. Harold Haskin Bob Williams-Carthage Water and Electric

Guest: Lori Harris-franklin-DHSS, Carl Hayes-Cherokee County Health Dept., John Hacker-Carthage Press

Bob Nichols opened the meeting and introductions were made.

Minutes of the October 21, 2009 meeting were approved. Unanimous.

Doe Run Report: No report.

Lower Shoal Creek Watershed:

Bob Kulp reported that the board was waiting for funding before moving forward for management plan. They are still waiting on DNR approval for the WRAS.

Spring River Watershed:

Tony Moehr provided a few copies of the draft watershed plan. If want a copy it is available on county health dept. web site. A couple areas in the plan call for information from the TMDL's for Spring River but MDNR has not done them yet. They have used some of their own testing data for now and can replace that data with TMDL data later when available. They are taking comments until end of January, will incorporate them into plan then submit to MDNR. Could apply for 319 funds and submit plan with grant application when done if want to. Bob Nichols asked if the Spring River Group can have one more meeting to give final approval to the plan after comments. Tony indicated that could be done. Plan included about 16-18 miles of Spring River in Jasper County.

Air Quality :

Dan passed out information from EPA regarding the proposed changes to the ground level ozone standard (attached). Dan reviewed the info with the group. EPA is proposing reducing the primary standard (health protection) from .075 ppm to between .060 and .070 ppm. They are also proposing a secondary seasonal standard to protect the environment to be within the range of 7-15 ppm-hours.

Grant Applications:

Harry reported that MOAM has a grant he is looking into that might be of use to group. It has a \$10,000 max and is due in May. Could be used to provide the 40% match for 319 grants. Could use for lower

Shoal Creek watershed plan, water monitoring costs, etc. Bob Nichols asked that Dan, Tony, Bob K., Harry and himself look at the grant for possible uses.

Prescription Recycling Program:

Carl Hayes gave an overview of the program that has been started in Cherokee County KS. In 2008 the KS legislature approved a law that allows for un-used prescription drugs from certain facilities (like nursing homes) to be re-used. The drugs could not have been compromised in any way (packaging, storage, etc.) and the re-use must be under the supervision of a pharmacist. So far in their program they are collecting drugs from nursing homes and are re-using them with the Community Health Clinic. So far, about \$1.1 million dollars worth of drugs have been recycled. This program does 2 things, it keeps the drugs from being flushed into sewers where they eventually end up in ground or surface water and it provides valuable drugs for patients in need.

Carl reported that Mo. Has similar legislation that allows such programs but no one has attempted it yet.

Conservation Opportunity Area:

Bob Kulp reported the group has identified 4 goals. They are:

- Establish a Stream Team association in the area
- Public education and outreach
- Establish a website
- Develop an informational flyer

They continue to look for funding opportunities.

Environmental Conference: No report

Other Environmental Concerns:

- 249 Redevelopment-Bob N. discussed that we need to keep cities informed of the report.
- Update EMP- Bob N. indicated no funding available right now for this project.
- Newsletter- Bob N. would still like to see us do this at some point.

CARE Grant:

Bob N. reported that he reviewed the grant info. And it did not appear to be helpful to us.

Watershed Video:

Bob Nichols reported that he thought that we should look at doing a video. Craig Jones with the City of Neosho had agreed to look into this. Bob Kulp had agreed to help. Bob or Bob will check with Craig to see if he is still available to help. It was suggested that we might be able to work with MSSU (Judy Stiles) or Joplin High School to do the video.

Updating Strategic Plan:

Bob N. discussed that we need to update our strategic plan. We have largely completed goals from our previous plan. MSSU (Tom Simpson) will not be available to help this time. Bob N. will check with John Moore to see if he could help lead us.

Advisory Council:

Bob Nichols passed out the By-Laws section dealing with the Advisory Council and the potential charge for this group. He asked everyone to look it over and let him know any thoughts/changes.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Bob N. asked if a group could be formed to put together a list of potential NRDA projects that could be presented to Dave Mosby when time is right. He asked Tony, Bob K, Harry, Dan Robin (Audibon), and himself to work on this.

Date of next meeting will be (no date set).

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Pekarek