

ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE OF JASPER AND NEWTON COUNTIES (ETF)

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2009, 2:00 PM

Basement Conference Room, Joplin City Hall

Members Present: Jan Tupper, Dan Pekarek-Joplin City Health Dept., Chuck Surface- City of Webb City, Bob Kulp-Newton County HD, Bob Steere, Tony Moehr-Jasper County HD, Bob Nichols.

Members Absent: Jan Blasé, Mike Palmer, Gary Roark, Matt Barnhart, Jerry Carter, Dr. Harold Haskin, Bob Williams

Guest: Wally Kennedy-Joplin Globe, Steve McKarus-Jasper County HD, Dareus Adams-Jasper County Commission, Jerold Norton-Tri-State Eng., Lynn Onstot-City of Joplin , Brian Head-COJ, David Hertzberg-COJ, Ryan Talken-Joplin Health Dept., Tracy Crider-SMB, John Hacker-Carthage Press, Don Lucietta-Cong. Blunt's Office, Don Van Dyke-MDNR

Bob Nichols opened the meeting and introductions were made.

Dan introduced Doug Neidigh.

Clean Air Action Plan:

Doug Neidigh, Program Manager, Ozarks Center for Sustainable Solutions, representing the Ozarks Clean Air Alliance (OCAA) gave a presentation about the OCAA and their draft Clean Air Action Plan (CAAP) to address the issue of the new lower ground level ozone standards established by EPA.

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of October 15, 2008 were reviewed. Motion to approve made by Chuck Surface, seconded by Jan Tupper and approved.

Bob Nichols led a brief discussion of the need for the ETF to be represented at the OCAA. The group felt like it made more sense for the ETF to join the OCAA rather than form a local similar group. By being an OCAA member we would be able to use any material or programs they develop in our area as well as perhaps be able to access funding for local projects. We would also be able to keep the messages consistent. A motion was made by Bob Steer for the ETF to join the OCAA and seconded by Chuck Surface, all were in favor. Bob asked Dan Pekarek to continue to represent the ETF at the OCAA. Bob Nichols will send a letter.

Lower Shoal Creek Watershed:

Bob Kulp gave a brief update. There was a stakeholder meeting in October in Neosho to go over recently completed WRAS. It has been submitted to MDNR. Board hasn't approved yet.

Spring River Watershed:

Tony Moehr indicated the group met in December. They have been discussing possible funding sources. They have started looking at developing a watershed plan. Will meet again in February.

Environmental Conference:

Bob Nichols reminded the group that we are co-sponsoring a conference on March 27th in Joplin with the Tri-State Water Resource Coalition and the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks. This will be the 2nd Annual Environmental Conference. It will be held at the LaQuinta Inn in Joplin. The topics of the conference will be water plans for the four states. Bob will be asking for help with the conference and will be asking for financial supporters also.

EPA/DNR Update:

Tony reported that EPA has completed the original 75 acre mine waste cleanup by Webb City. They are working on a second track of land now.

Don Van Dyke reported that the clean-up of the 57 remaining yards in the area had begun last summer. Thirteen lots were cleaned up. The excessive rains slowed down progress. The first \$100,000 appropriation covered that. He is hoping for an additional \$250,000 to do work this year. All work will need to be done by June 30th.

Other Env. Concerns:

None

Advisory Council:

Bob Nichols reported that our new By-Laws (Sec. 2.02) require an advisory council to be formed of representatives of cities. Bob will draft a letter to cities.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Submitted,

Dan Pekarek