

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

Members Present: Dan Pekarek-Joplin Health Dept., Eileen Nichols proxy for Bob Nichols, Tony Moehr-Jasper County HD., Linda Swaim-Stream Team, Bob Kulp-Newton County HD, George Campbell proxy for Matt Barnhart- MOAM, Jeff Burkett-Empire District, Jerry Carter-Newton County, Chuck Surface -City of Webb City

Members Absent: Bob Hockman-Tamko, Jan Tupper, Dr. Harold Haskin, Gary Roark-Newton County Emer. Management , Bob Williams-Carthage Water and Electric

Guest: John Carter-GeoEngineers, Gary Pendergrass-GeoEngineers

Bob Kulp opened the meeting in Bob Nichols absence and introductions were made.

Minutes of the January 18, 2012 meeting were approved. Motion Tony, second Linda unanimous.

Stream Team:

Linda Swaim reported the Shoal Crk. cleanup day scheduled last weekend was cancelled due to flooding. Will look at rescheduling later in year, possibly Oct. 25th. Stream Team received small grant to develop a brochure about activities. Looking at having a possible stream team conference this fall in Carthage.

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. MPO has developed a draft MOU for potential participants. It is still under review.

MDNR Missouri Waters Initiative:

A letter of support was submitted by ETF in support of DNR grant for pilot project for this water quality trading pilot project on Spring River.

EPA Update:

Bob Kulp gave report that EPA held public availability session in Granby recently. Addressed cleanup to begin soon in Newton County. Will take about 18 months. Some concerns raised about cleanup of pasture and how it would be affected.

Springfield Plateau Regional Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment:

USFWS was here for meeting earlier this month about RFP process for funds. Met with several potential interested parties. First RFP due out in late May. USFWS plans to do another meeting late May to discuss FRP process. At earlier meeting it was discussed that the ETF may have a role in coordinating project applications from our area. This might help ensure project funds are spent in this area.

John Carter and Gary Pendergrass from GeoEngineers from Springfield introduced themselves and indicated their company would be interested in helping develop local projects for funding.

Lower Shoal Creek Watershed:

Bob Kulp reported that the watershed plan still is to be re-written as 9 element plan. Drew Holt is looking into DNR 319 grant to pay for this. 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 she has resigned from the group. Bob indicated that at last meeting it was reported by Rhonda Head that they are working with a group active in Joplin's rebuild to rebuild green.

Spring River Watershed:

Tony Moehr reported. 319 grant has been amended and submitted to EPA. It is under review. Grant is for \$533,000, 2 year grant through Jasper County.

Joplin Source Water Protection Plan:

No report.

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.

MOAM Grant Application for Lower Shoal Creek Stakeholder meeting:

Grant application was submitted in March for \$2,000 grant for community education and stakeholder meeting. Bob N. requested input via e-mail before submitting.

Grant Applications:

No report.

Environmental Master Plan:

No report.

Watershed Video:

Linda reported Tamko has agreed to produce the second video. Bob Hockman will report on this effort in future.

Grand Lake Watershed Council:

No report.

Drug Take Back (drop box) Program:

Tony reported that 6 boxes have been placed. Four funded by ETF.

Strategic Plan:

Strategic Plan was discussed. Some items have been accomplished and it was recommended that as this is a living document, that it should remain on each meeting's agenda and progress on issues should be shown on document, perhaps in different font/color. This will help keep us up-to-date on progress. Linda will take a first stab at this before next meeting. Jerry Carter motioned to approve plan, Tony second, unanimous approval.

Reception Neosho/Carthage:

No report on this but Bob Kulp reported that Bob N. had secured a booth space at the Joplin Chamber Expo for early 2013.

249 Redevelopment:

No report.

Newsletter:

No report.

Advisory Council:

No report.

Next meeting: No date set.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned. Tony motioned, Jerry second, unanimous.
Respectfully submitted,

Dan Pekarek