

## Spring River Watershed Partnership Meeting

Held at Jasper County Central Annex Building  
105 Lincoln Carthage, MO 64836

### Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2012 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*Present:* Ed Browning  
Eric Ferrell  
Jim Honey  
Kip Heth  
Tony Moehr  
Randy Haas  
Robert Nichols  
Steve McKarus  
Linda Swaim

*Next meeting:* Late August after interviews are held with contractor applicants

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#### I. Reading of the agenda by Jim Honey

#### II. Grant award and financial information

Tony Moehr explained the steps of obtaining, reviewing and planning for a grant and also announced the award of the 319 Grant for the Spring River Watershed.

Tony expressed the need for meeting match funds and the importance of keeping track of time worked and expense used to meet the grant requirements. He also expressed the need for implementation of cost sharing.

Funding for modeling of streams in certain areas may be needed. DNR is looking at the possible modeling of the entire Spring River Basin instead of doing it in small pieces at a time. Kansas State might be a resource for this project.

Kip Heth asked if data regarding different water events such as heavy rains, no rains, no flow etc might be needed. Tony stated that JCHD has five years worth of stream sample data that can be used for this purpose.

DNA speciation was discussed and if funding may be available for it. DNR will not fund DNA speciation.

Linda Swaim asked if money from grant for Region M or money from the Private Citizen grant can be used for match or to help with funding of activities and projects. Tony Moehr stated that it depends if the funds are from federal funding and he is not sure about the other uses. DNR will not pay for things such as conferences but will accept as match the cost of time worked at the conference, literature needed, etc. The finance people for the grant are coming down next week to discuss requirements and what is allowed through the grant.

Eric Ferrell asked if driving time to and from meetings, activities, etc. for grant purposes should also be tracked or just mileage and time working. Tony stated that would be discussed with the financial people as well.

#### III. Terms of agreement

Who will be responsible for what projects such as storm water stenciling, exhibition rain barrel project, water garden exhibition, etc.? Linda Swaim and Eric Ferrell will take care of any SWOST indicated projects on the Grant Task requirement list. Other subcommittees to complete other tasks on requirement list will be formed

after the field agent is contracted. Linda also stated that the cities are willing to lend a hand in helping with projects.

Septic pumping and repair program was discussed in brief. Funding may be provided to those who hook into city sewer to help cleanup or collapse existing septic tanks. Funding may also be provided to help owners to pump septic or repair existing septic tanks. Tony is working with GIS coordinator on mapping property owners who live along or near rivers or any tributaries so information and education can be sent to them regarding purposes of the grant. This includes all property owners outside of the city limits of Carthage. In the beginning only properties that are adjacent to streams and tributaries will receive information. In the future it will be discussed how far away from these areas should be targeted. It was suggested that all persons in the water shed be notified and then target specific groups as the grant goes forward.

It was briefly discussed that there could possibly be programs augmented through other resources for agriculture watering programs etc.

It was asked if there are CAFOS in this water shed area, none that anyone could think of at the time but it will be verified to make sure since it could have a potential effect of water quality.

#### **IV. Field Agent contract**

It was discussed that the DNR will fund a part time field agent under contract with Jasper County. Field agent will work out of the health department offices. Requirements were discussed, Robert Nichols expressed concern about being able to find an applicant who has a bachelor degree and who has experience in the field but agreed to leave it as a requirement until it is noted how many applicants there are. If not many the ad may state "bachelor degree preferred, not required". Under Additional Desirable Qualifications number 3. "Immediate supervision of a small staff of employees" has been removed from job requirements. It was also stated that any of the other requirements can be changed but no other motions were made at that time.

Field agent will be responsible for contacting the public, create education materials, and work with land owners. He will work 3 days a week and will report to the SRWP. The job will continue to April 14, 2014, when the grant ends.

Linda Swaim expressed concern about being able to monitor the field agent's performance. Tony stated it can be written into the contract that the field agent will meet each of the 36 tasks listed in the grant in a timely manner or the contract will be terminated as a way of monitoring for field agent's performance of his duties.

The salary has been budgeted for \$25.00 per hour but can be negotiated depending on qualifications. The salary is funded through the grant.

A committee of three including Tony Moehr, Steve McKarus, and Kip Heth will select the applicant with the additional help of Jim Honey if needed. After the final applicants have been chosen the SRWP will meet again to make a final decision as Tony feels it important that the SRWP to approve the contractor.

Nichols moved and Heth second that the Job Description be approved with the changing of the name to Spring River Watershed Partnership and the deletion of Item 3 under Additional Desirable Qualifications. Motion passed.

#### **V. Posting of position**

DNR requires that position is posted as a bid or RFQ due to the position being a contract position. Deadline for response will be August 13, 2012.

It was suggested that the Jason Jones of the Career Center, Pitt State, MSSU job coordinators, DNR website, MSU job coordinator, and Stream Team website be contacted for job posting. The position will also be posted on the Jasper County website and in the public newspapers.

Nichols moved and Ferrell second that the Request for Qualifications be approved with the change of name to Spring River Watershed Partnership. Motion passed.

## **VI. Moniker and logo**

The moniker of the SRWP shall be "Spring River Proud" and a logo has already been designed for use. It was suggested that the logo be used as a letter head for correspondence and fliers. Moniker and logo will be used to advertise all activities, marketing and for volunteer use. It was stated that a person is working on a brochure for this grant as well.

## **VII. Activities and Volunteer work**

It was suggested there be a booth at the Maple Leaf celebration and that badges, pens and brochures be handed out and that there be some sort of activity take place at the booth as well.

Jim Honey spoke of the goal to clean up the properties owned by Jasper County in Kendrick Town and perhaps there could be a "Clean Up Spring River" type goal that the community could be involved in as well.

Kip Heth also mentioned using the local early morning talk shows to advertise the events that will be taking place throughout the grant period.

Linda Swaim would also like to host a Stream Team Conference in Carthage.

## **VIII. Miscellaneous discussion**

It was mentioned that Zeb Carney, Bob Williams, Carthage City Administrator, Carthage high school Stream Team coordinator and the Agriculture Department at Carthage Tech be added to the contact list. Eric Ferrell stated he would contact the Carthage High School and the Ag department at the Technical School.

Robert Nichols also mentioned that someone from the Farm Bureau needs to be contacted. He also stated that the task force will have a booth at the Webb City Expo on September 13, 2012 and perhaps we could have some information there.

Jasper County Environmental Staff will head program and receive preliminary reports and then will report to the SRWP, all in agreement.

Jasper County auditor will oversee the book keeping, all in agreement.

The date of the next meeting of the SRWP shall be in late August after the interviewing of applicants for field agent position.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.