

Environmental Task Force of Jasper and Newton Counties (ETF)

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2011

Joplin City Hall 5th Floor Meeting Room

Members Present: Dan Pekarek-Joplin Health Dept., Bob Nichols, Tony Moehr-Jasper County HD., Linda Swaim- Southwest Ozarks Stream Teams, Bob Steere, Mike Palmer-Empire Dist. Elec.

Members Absent: Jan Tupper, Chuck Surface-City of Webb City, Harry Rogers-HSTCC, Jerry Carter-Newton County Comm., Dr. Harold Haskin, Matt Barnhart-MOAM, Bob Kulp-Newton County HD, Gary Roark-Newton County Emer. Management , Bob Williams-Carthage Water and Electric,

Guest: Mark Doolan-USEPA, John Carter-Doe Run, Wally Kennedy-Joplin Globe, Steve Auchterlonie-USEPA

Bob Nichols opened the meeting and introductions were made.

Minutes of the October 20, 2010 meeting were approved.

Alliance Drug Take Back Program:

Melissa Schneider from The Alliance of Southwest Missouri, Safe Teens Coalition gave a brief overview of their program. Did an event in November, took in 989 lbs. Planning another event on April 30. They could use help with dropping off fliers, e-mail blasts, maybe help with volunteers to man drop off stations. Melissa indicated the group was working with DEA looking at having permanent drop off boxes rather than periodic events. Each box costs about \$1,000. Bob Nichols indicated he might be able to help with a sponsorship of at least one drop off box. She will send us fliers and will let us know of their next organizational meeting.

Stream Team Activities:

Linda Swaim provided an update to stream team assoc activities. They are considering having a youth water conference for stream teams in area.

Doe Run:

John Carter gave an update of activities. Locally working on 3 sites. Just about finished with the Snap site. Working on getting access to two others to do, Smithfield and 7th & Black cat site.

EPA Update:

Mark Doolan provided an update on activities. Approx. 1,000 acres of mined land remediation has been completed, mostly by WC and Carterville. 8,000 acres yet to do. Black and Veatch are doing test pits on properties to try and determine total mine waste to deal with. Doing new contract for Duenweg area-approx 300 acres. Oronogo area Blue T and Goldfields submitted plan for large repositories for waste. EPA still looking at filling in pits.

MDNR has completed additional yard remediations.

Lower Shoal Creek Watershed Partnership:

Bob Nichols wasn't present to report. Linda Swaim reported that they are looking at doing another stakeholder meeting.

Lower Shoal Creek Conservation Opportunity Area:

Linda Swaim reported next meeting in March. They are launching a new website.

Spring River Watershed:

Tony Moehr reported. DNR responded to their plan with some minor changes. Those were made and it has been submitted and accepted by them. Have applied for 319 funds for various community education items related to watershed protection.

Air Quality:

Dan Pekarek reported. He attended 2 meetings in Nov. At the Ozark Clean Air Alliance meeting in Springfield he explained to group that we were considering forming a local group in Joplin area similar to Springfield group and that we would like to have any support of help we could get from them. Doug Neidigh, Drury University offered to help us with start up. Attended an informational meeting held by MDNR in Springfield where they gave updates on proposed changes to ozone and sulfur dioxide regs. Dan reported that ozone reg. change proposal has now been pushed back again, this time to no later than July 31.

Diamond Grove Prairie:

Linda Swain gave a report on MDC plan to change prairie management practices at the prairie. They want to use patch-burn grazing with cattle and there have been concerns raised by several agencies/individuals about using this practice with cattle on this site until it can be further evaluated. Bob Nichols agreed to send a letter requesting more review of issue.

Excavating Contaminated Material:

Bob asked if anything had progressed on this issue. Tony indicated he hadn't heard of any more discussions toward some type of policy.

Env. Master Plan:

Tony reported work was still progressing.

Watershed Video:

Linda Swaim reported they are working on a draft. Has sent to Tony.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Pekarek