

Environmental Task Force of Jasper and Newton Counties (ETF)
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2011
Joplin City Hall 5th Floor Meeting Room

Members Present: Dan Pekarek-Joplin Health Dept., Bob Nichols, Tony Moehr-Jasper County HD., Chuck Surface-City of Webb City, Bob Hockman-Tamko, Linda Swaim-Stream Team, Bob Kulp-Newton County HD

Members Absent: Matt Barnhart- MOAM, Jan Tupper, Jerry Carter-Newton County Comm., Dr. Harold Haskin, Gary Roark-Newton County Emer. Management , Bob Williams-Carthage Water and Electric, Tim Wilson-Empire Dist. Elec.,

Guest: George Thullesen-Empire Dist. Elec., Mark Doolan-EPA, Amy Salveter-USFWS, Dave Mosby-USFWS, Wally Kennedy-Joplin Globe, Tim Little-HSTCC, John Weber-USFWS

Bob Nichols opened the meeting and introductions were made.

Minutes of the July 20, 2011 meeting were approved.

Dave Mosby, John Weber and Amy Salveter from the US Fish and Wildlife Service were introduced. Dave and John Weber gave an update on status of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration plan being worked on by USFWS. This is a regional plan. Money for work is from settlements with responsible parties from the Superfund cleanup.

John Weber gave a powerpoint presentation on plan activities (attached). Some summary points include:

- This plan picks up usually where Superfund leaves off. Superfund deals with human health, this deals with “residual injury” to wildlife and environment, what is damaged-how to restore it.
- Approx... \$20 mil from settlements to be used in Jasper/Newton part of plan.
- Plan is regional-includes Springfield Plateau, most of SWMO.
- Plan to be in fed reg soon. Will seek public comment for 2 mos. There will be public meetings scheduled in area.
- RFP’s will be issued for site specific restoration projects. Local input will be sought for identifying these projects, e.g. riparian corridor restoration, prairie restoration, etc. Could be projects assoc. with tornado damage.
- Projects can be on public or private land. Landowner must approve.

EPA Update:

Mark Doolan gave update. Approx. 1500 acres complete in mine waste cleanup. Almost done in Webb City. Working at 7th and Prosperity-approx. 400 acres. Of approx. 10,000 acres total to clean up in Jasper County, 2,500 are to be done by PRP’s, 6,000 more to be done by EPA.

Newton County design work is finished. Should have contract out to bid soon and start early next year. Should only take about 18 months to complete.

MOAM is done with water system expansion.

Stream Team Activities:

Linda Swaim reported the Oct. 1 Shoal Crk cleanup went well. First group went from Grand Falls to Zahn's, then another group joined them and went to Shimmerhorn Park. 2,000 pounds collected. Will plan another in spring. Water Festival went well. Thinking of doing another video, maybe on non-point pollution.

Spring River Watershed:

Tony Moehr reported. DNR 319 application still in review at MDNR but looks good

Lower Shoal Creek Watershed Partnership:

Bob Kulp reported. Work on watershed plan has been delayed but trying to restart.

Drug Take Back (drop box) Program:

One was recently placed at Joplin Police Dept. Several are scheduled in area.

Air Quality:

Bob Nichols reported that several of us had met recently with the Joplin MPO. Doug Niedigh gave a presentation about Ozone, status of EPA rules, implications of going non-attainment, etc. The MPO requested the ETF put together a draft plan for how to form a local air quality workgroup, like the one in Springfield, and bring this back to their November meeting. That plan the "Proposed Elements For Addressing Air Quality Issues" was presented and reviewed with several changes proposed. The final draft was approved (attached), Bob. Kulp motioned, Linda Swaim second, all in favor.

George Thullesen gave update on status of EPA ozone rules. EPA has started enforcing the 2008 standard of 75 ppm. The next five year review will be in 2013 so we have a couple years to try and make improvements in ozone levels to stay in attainment.

Doe Run: no report

NW Newton County Conservation Opportunity Area:

No change.

Grant Applications:

No report.

Env. Master Plan:

Tony reported work is largely complete.

Strategic Plan:

No action.

Grand Lake Watershed Council:

No report.

Election of Officers:

Linda gave list of proposed officers:

President/Treasurer-Bob Nichols

Vice President-Bob Kulp

Secretary-Dan Pekarek

Tony motioned to approve, second-Linda Swaim, all approved.

Linda also gave report on suggested by-laws changes to address handling of treasurer duties. Currently Bob Nichols does this. Bob N. asked Linda to work with Bob Kulp and Gary Roark to do a complete review of by-laws for any suggested updates and bring to January meeting.

Next meeting Jan. 18, 2012.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Pekarek