

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.

Monthly Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2011

Midtown Carnegie Library

Meeting Called to Order at 7:33 AM

Watershed Committee Update— Mr. Murr stated the September 2nd presenter is James Sandberg with the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Kromrey stated the first class of Site Stewards have completed their training and will be an integral part of the Watershed Center. Mr. Bullard thanked everyone who attended the C.W. Titus Education Building ribbon cutting and presented a time lapse video of the construction.

Review of Minutes—Mr. Murr asked participants to review the July Monthly Meeting minutes and forward any additions or corrections to the Watershed Committee office.

The Big Urbie: Springfield-Greene County Urban Watershed Stewardship Project—Stacey Armstrong, Projects Coordinator, Watershed Committee of the Ozarks—Ms. Armstrong stated the WCO was awarded a 319 Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant that has been nicknamed “The Big Urbie”. The objective of the grant is to improve water quality and reduce quantity of runoff leaving the Springfield/Greene County urban area and to reduce loading of pollutants identified in the 303(d) watersheds, TMDL’s and Watershed Management Plans. The award amount is \$1,000,000 with \$684,000 in match. Ms. Armstrong stated the WCO has six partners involved in this grant: City of Springfield Storm Water Services, Greene County Resource Management, Ozarks Environmental and Water Resources Institute, Missouri Project WET, James River Basin Partnership and Ozark Greenways. The targeted watersheds are Pea Ridge Creek, South Dry Sac River, Jordan Valley Creek, Fassnight Creek, South Creek, and Wilson’s Creek. Ms. Armstrong stated the planned water quality improvements include implementing Best Management Practices (BMP’s), using Low Impact Development (LID) technology, monitoring the MBP effectiveness at the sub watershed level, and providing educational resources for the community to learn about nonpoint source pollution from stormwater. Ms. Armstrong stated projects will include implementing BMP’s at Doling Park, two urban streetscapes using rain gardens, bio-retention cells, living walls, tree box filters and pervious pavement and the Government Plaza retrofit, including rainwater harvesting and bio-swales. Ms. Armstrong stated other projects include rain gardens, rain water harvesting, detention basin retrofits and stream corridor improvements. The monitoring portion of the grant will be conducted by Ozarks Environmental and Water Resources Institute (OEWRI). Ms. Armstrong said monitoring BMP performance and monitoring sub-watershed levels includes establishing base level and storm flow water quality conditions, utilizing the ongoing MS4 data to quantify loading reductions achieved during projects, and providing accurate data models to estimate loading reductions expected from wider implementation. Ms. Armstrong stated the education portion will include BMP Workshops, Project WET Workshops, and educational materials-LID and Pet Waste brochures, a Rainwater Harvesting Manual, an Urban Soil Testing Program, a Stormwater Video Series and a website-www.bigurbie.org

Natural Resources Conservation Services Update—DeDe Vest—Ms. Vest stated there are some Resource and Conservation Development offices being closed throughout the state and budget cuts of 15% are expected. She said the NRCS has signed two cooperative agreements, one with Ozark Greenways and one with the Ozarks Regional Land Trust.

Other Business—Jerry Vineyard said he brought the new LAD Foundation brochures. Ted Hillmer said the Wilson’s Creek 150th Anniversary is August 12-14 and 60,000 people are expected. Kenny Knauer said PBS is airing “August Light”, a movie about the Wilson’s Creek battle. Joe Pitts said JRBP is hosting Swimmin in Moonshine Saturday, September 27 and the BANFF Film Festival Thursday, September 15th. Tammy Yeldon said the Table Rock Lake Clean Up is Saturday September 10th, 9am-1pm. Barbara Lucks said the Show Me Yards and Neighborhoods Home Owner Fall Lawn Program is August 25 at the Botanical Center. The Environmental Report Card for 2010 is available and the Clean Water Services Division will premier a bio-solids exhibit at the Ozark Empire Fair this week. Loring Bullard said the Monthly Meeting will probably be held at the C.W. Titus Education Building in October. Watch your meeting announcements for this. The WCO intends to have two meetings a year in the new building.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 a.m.

