

**Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.**

320 N. Main Springfield, MO

**Work Session Meeting Minutes**

**May 8, 2012**

Members Attending: Michael Bridges, William H. Cheek, Keran Lemons, Stuart Murr

Staff Present: Mike Kromrey, Kelly Guenther, Stacey Armstrong

Others Present: Roddy Rogers

Mr. Bridges called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

1. **Request for Additional Items**—Mr. Kromrey requested to add Directors and Officers Insurance to the agenda items
2. **Staff Update**—Mr. Kromrey stated he would like to table the financial reports until the June 12th Work Session. Cinda Rogers should have the audit finished by then and has agreed to attend the meeting to field questions. The fundraising loan was paid off in April. He has applied for two grants: 1) funding from the LAD Foundation to finish the Watershed Center entrance sign 2) funding from the Wal Mart Foundation to provide solar lighting by the entrance walkway and parking lot of the C.W. Titus Education Facility. Mr. Kromrey stated Greene County helped seed the grounds and Rob Hunt is doing a great job taking over the education events, working with volunteers and taking care of the site. He said a tree limb fell on the roof and he is in the process of getting an estimate to fix it. The tool shed was broken into and the generator, two weed eaters and a chain saw were stolen. Ms. Armstrong stated David Chiles has been hired as the part time water quality field technician through the Asher Creek water monitoring project and she has trained him on sampling procedures. She said the Springfield-Greene County Health Department issued a press release regarding the partnership with the WCO to sample summer swimming holes. Ms. Armstrong stated next Tuesday at 10:30am there will be a ribbon-cutting at Fassnight Park to celebrate stormwater improvements. As part of the Big Urbie grant, a mural was painted along the greenways trail, and Terry Whaley will mention the mural in his speech. Mr. Kromrey stated May 22 is the all day staff retreat to be held at the Watershed Center.
3. **Corporation Business**
  - a. Meeting Minutes—Minutes from the April Work Session and Monthly Meeting were reviewed. Mr. Lemons moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Cheek seconded. Carried 4-0.
  - b. Financial Reports—Tabled until June.
  - c. Endowment (including donor letter)—Mr. Kromrey stated he and Ms. Guenther met with the Community Foundation about the endowment account and options. He said the average return is 7%, 4% is released to the organization and 3% is returned to the endowment minus the administration fees of less than 1%. A one million dollar endowment would earn the Watershed Committee approximately \$40,000 dollars a year. Public monies can be deposited into the endowment so theoretically Greene County could be a donor. Mr. Kromrey stated Bridget Dierks at CFO suggested he send a letter to the donors announcing he is the new Executive Director and emphasizing the success of the building and its use. Then in a few months send another letter asking for an extended donation to help set up the endowment. Mr. Bridges asked if it would be possible for Watershed Center

donors to set up a monthly withdraw and Mr. Kromrey said he would look into that option. Mr. Cheek said the Board could discuss the ideas of a sustaining membership at the August Board Retreat. Mr. Lemons suggested sending out the first letter by the end of May and the second letter by the end of August.

- d. Watershed Center-defining “mission related”—Mr. Kromrey stated there was a lot of discussion regarding the rental rates and fee waivers at the last Board Retreat. Mr. Lemons suggested Mr. Kromrey define who was exempt to pay and the Board could approve the list. Mr. Murr agreed if there were not clear cut lines everyone would want to use the facilities for free. Mr. Bridges asked if the hard costs of facility use were defined such as staff time and clean up. Mr. Kromrey stated Mr. Hunt is compiling such a spreadsheet of hard costs. The Board agreed the WCO Sponsors Greene County, city of Springfield and City Utilities should be exempt and possibly major contributors and suggested removing the fee waiver section from the rental packet. Mr. Kromrey said he would remove the fee waiver, define an in-house list of organizations and major sponsors/partners that would fall under the fee waiver.

**4. Other Business**—Directors and Officers Insurance—Mr. Kromrey gave the Board an insurance proposal by Ollis & Company. He said this proposal provides more coverage at a reduced cost and WCO will have a local Ollis representative, Cary Prater. Mr. Lemons asked if this coverage was Standard or Broad form. Mr. Kromrey said he will start an e-mail conversation with Mr. Prater and the Board so Mr. Prater can answer any questions directly.

**Meeting adjourned 6:00p.m.**