

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.
Monthly Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2014
CW Titus Education Facility
Meeting Called to Order at 7:30 AM

Roll Call

Review of Minutes

Watershed Committee Update—Mr. Kromrey stated there will be three Board member openings beginning January 2015. Tomorrow, October 4th, is the WCO Family Fun Day at the Watershed Center from 9am-Noon. Free to the public. The CW Titus Facility is available to rent for meetings, workshops, retreats or other events.

“Watershed Center Education, Outreach and Partnerships” —Rob Hunt, Watershed Center Coordinator, Watershed Committee of the Ozarks—Mr. Hunt said the WCO created the Watershed Center at Valley Water Mill and it is a place for Professional Development, Community Involvement, Education and Outreach and Stewardship Demonstration. The CW Titus Education Facility is used by WCO’s partners and the public such as an MDC Hydrilla meeting, a Project WET Workshop and Stream Team training. There have been 20 different groups use the building this year. Mr. Hunt said there is lots of community involvement, especially with local colleges volunteering for work days. He said 500 people have volunteered on service projects this year equating to 2,000 hours, he has had 5 college interns and CU employees volunteered on United Ways’ Day of Caring. Mr. Hunt said this has been a very busy year for Education and Outreach as there have been more than 2500 kids at the Watershed Center on field trips and he has reached over 1,000 people offsite and given 12 Jordan Creek tours. There are many demonstrations of stewardship at the Watershed Center site including the rain garden, stormwater improvements and working to keep invasive species out and improving the native plants/grassy areas.

National Weather Service Update —Megan Terry— Ms. Terry said the 2014 precipitation total for Springfield, MO through October 1st was 7.75 below normal. The rain event on September 17th set a record for daily rainfall for that day at 3.23 inches with some street flooding and no river flooding. Current drought conditions for southwest Missouri are yellow or abnormally dry and the seasonal drought outlook is showing improving conditions. Ms. Terry showed a graph of the Stream flow Trends for May, July and Sept. 1st. The 8-14 Day Outlook is equal chances for above and below normal temperatures and above average precipitation. The 3-Month Outlook October-December 2014 is equal chances for above or below average temperatures and precipitation.

Regional Issues—Cindy Davies stated the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Governor’s Conference is in November and is taking nominations for Environmental Excellence Award. Barbara Lucks stated there are three Environmental Board openings and to contact her if interested. Terry Whaley said the Ozark Greenways Yoga on the Trail event at the Watershed Center was a success and the Frisco Highline Trail event is October 11th 3:30-6:30pm. Tiffany Frey stated the James River Basin Partnership membership float is October 4th.

Other Business— none

Meeting adjourned 8:25 a.m.