

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.
Monthly Meeting Minutes
September 5, 2014
Midtown Carnegie Library
Meeting Called to Order at 7:30 AM

Roll Call

Review of Minutes

Watershed Committee Update—Ms. Dierks opened the meeting. Mr. Kromrey said the next 30th Anniversary event is a free family day at the Watershed Center Saturday, October 4th from 9am-Noon and there will be three Board vacancies next year and WCO is taking Board applications.

“Ozarks Water Watch Update” —David Casaletto, Director, Ozarks Water Watch — Mr. Casaletto stated he was the Director of Table Rock Lake Water Quality for ten years and has been the Ozarks Water Watch Director for four years. Ozarks Water Watch (OWW) was formed by area business people to protect the lakes with a mission to promote water quality in the upper White River basin of Arkansas and Missouri, its four major lakes – Beaver, Table Rock, Taneycomo and Bull Shoals, and the many streams and rivers which flow into them. Mr. Casaletto said it is important to protect the environment while also protecting the economy. OWW does this by monitoring and reporting, volunteer monitoring, provide information and advocacy on public policy issues affecting water quality through working relationships with state and federal agencies and legislators, local communities, area businesses and interested citizens. OWW also provides public information, education, promotion and communication about water quality issues through printed publications, the Internet, community events participation, and public meeting presentation. They support and collaborate with allied watershed groups working in common cause through local water quality programs and projects and support and administer water quality action throughout the basin including water quality assessment and improvement plans and projects such as the Septic Remediation Program and the Clean Marina Project. Mr. Casaletto said his dreams and goals included a ‘no child left indoors’ initiative, statewide septic inspections at the time of property transfer, basin-wide nutrient trading program and a basin-wide Watershed Management Plan shared between Missouri and Arkansas. He provided copies of the Status of the Watershed 2014, which summarizes water quality in the Upper White River Basin using data compiled from volunteer groups, and municipal, state and federal agencies. There is an interactive map on their website, www.ozarkswaterwatch.org. Mr. Casaletto said the Celebration of Clean Water conference held June 11th doubled in attendance from the previous year and celebrating 40 years of MODNR, 30 years of Watershed Committee and 25 years for Stream Team.

Missouri Department of Conservation Update —Dave Woods— Mr. Woods stated hydrilla has been found in 3 ponds in the Little Sac River watershed and 2 in the James River Basin watershed. MDC is working with City Utilities to treat the ponds. Last night was the Taneycomo trout sampling and this weekend is Bass Pro Outdoor Days. MDC has a Great Outdoors Day event September 27th in Bois D’Arc. Mr. Woods said MDC started a new program teaching beginning fishing and using volunteer instructors.

Regional Issues—Ms. Lucks stated the agriculture pesticide collection was August 23rd and the Prescription Drug Take Back is September 27th. Saturday, September 27th, “Smithsonian Museum Day Live” will be at the Discovery Center. November 15-16 is America’s Recycling Day. James River Basin’s Membership Float is October 4th. Carrie Lamb said one of the Big Urbie projects is underway; retrofitting the parking lot at the Busch building with pervious concrete, pavers, bioswales, rain gardens and trees. Cindy Davies said the Governors Conference will be held November 12-13 at Bass Pro’s White River Conference Center.

Other Business— none

Meeting adjourned 8:30 a.m.