

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.
Monthly Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2015
Midtown Carnegie Library
Meeting Called to Order at 7:35 AM

Watershed Committee Update—Ms. Dierks opened the meeting. Mr. Kromrey said the Watershed Committee staff has successfully moved offices to the Watershed Center. An extension of the Little Sac grant is likely and will include and update to the Little Sac Management Plan.

Roll Call

Review of Minutes — October minutes were reviewed.

“Emerging Issues and Trends in Water Management”—Ryan Mueller, Executive Director, Interstate Council on Water Policy (ICWP)— Mr. Mueller said he became the Director of ICWP in January 2015. The ICWP is a nonprofit made up of state, interstate, regional and other water resource management agencies whose mission is to enhance the stewardship of the nation’s water resources. There are 14 state members, including states as far away as Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wyoming, W. Virginia, and Minnesota. The Tri-State Water Resources Coalition has joined as a member. Mr. Mueller said there are three focus areas: 1. National Water Policy Development (includes managing water for sustainable, long term goals for both human and ecological needs), 2. Integrated Planning for Sustainable Management (includes effective national water policy that supports integrated planning for sustainable water resource management, and 3. Water Data and Science to Inform Policy and Planning (includes effective integrated water science tools for making resource decisions). He said over the last two years \$7.2M has been allocated to support fundamental hydrological data networks, water policy, water infrastructure and financing and planning assistance to States. ICWP promotes using science to better understand water use data and supports projects like a National Water Census, State Water Use Grants, and Research and Development. On a national level, 2010, the Federal Government passed the Water Act 111.11 which included federal funds for the Water SMART program, Reclamation and United States Geological Survey. The ICWP also focus on Drought & Water Supply Emergency Preparedness including lessons learned from the recent historic drought in Texas and Oklahoma and building a network of Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS). Mr. Mueller said March 21-24 in Washington D.C. a Round Table meeting co-hosted by ICWP & the Western States Water Council is scheduled.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources Update—Cindy Davies — Ms. Davies said under drinking water the total coliform rule is getting updated April 1, 2016 to include a required ‘to-do’ system assessment and certain start up procedures that must take place. Under the community service effort, she said the Division of Environmental Quality provide documents and fact sheets to help smaller communities. MDNR also provides smaller communities planning assistance for those having financial and/or technical difficulties meeting requirements. She said there are links and information on the MDNR website. The first Our Missouri Waters meeting is scheduled in the Sac watershed on November 17th. DNR is working with the Watershed Committee on this project.

Regional Issues—Gail Melgren said the annual Tri-State Water Conference was well attended and WCO was one of the sponsors. Diana Sheridan said the Environmental Incentive Program deadline is November 20th, the Conservation Stewardship Program is being overhauled and soil health is at top of the agenda at the USDA and NRCS. Barbara Lucks said Tree City USA Advisory Committee has a couple of openings, America Recycles Day is November 14th which is also a free day at the Discovery Center. December 11th is the District O grant deadline. Stacey Armstrong said the Our Missouri Waters Sac River meeting is November 17th 5:30pm at the Cedar County Health Complex in Stockton, MO.

Other Business— none

Meeting adjourned 8:30 a.m.



DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

**December 4, 2015 – 7:30 A.M.
Midtown Carnegie Library
397 E Central St
Springfield, MO 65802**

AGENDA

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Review of Minutes**
- 3. “Recent Flood Trends in the Ozarks” presented by Bob Pavlowsky, Director, Ozarks Environmental and Water Resources Institute**
- 4. Natural Resources Conservation Service Update, Michael Squires**
- 5. Regional Issues**
- 6. Other Business**

Coffee and Pastries from Big Mommas’ Coffee House

January 1, 2016 Meeting – Cancelled in observance of New Years Day

February 5, 2016 Presentation by

Monthly Meeting Update Rotation:

Missouri Department of Conservation— January, May, September

National Weather Service —February, June, October

Missouri Department of Natural Resources—March, July, November

Natural Resources Conservation Service—April, August, December