

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.
Monthly Meeting Minutes
FEBRUARY 5, 2016
Midtown Carnegie Library
Meeting Called to Order at 7:35 AM

Watershed Committee Update—Mr. Dove opened the meeting. Mr. Kromrey introduced Karen Spence as a new Watershed Committee board member. WCO received a grant from the Missouri Department of Conservation that includes hiring a part time person for habitat improvement at the Watershed Center.

Roll Call

Review of Minutes — December minutes were reviewed.

“Sustainability at Missouri State University”—Jordan Schanda, Sustainability Coordinator, Missouri State University — Ms. Schanda stated MSU has a Sustainability Advisory Committee whose purpose is to develop recommendations for new sustainability initiatives, develop strategies to increase renewable energy use, develop strategies to promote sustainability initiatives and research peer universities in relation to their sustainability initiatives. She said in 2009, students voted to implement a \$2 per semester fee to go towards sustainability issues on campus. The Sustainability Fund is used solely by students for students. Students for a Sustainable Future was the first sustainability group on campus. Campus programs include Eco-Reps, Green Teams, Sustainability Commission, Bears for Sustainability, a Campus Garden and a minor in Sustainability. Ms. Schanda said sustainability at MSU includes Air and Climate, Buildings, Energy, Recycling, Reduce and Reuse and Transportation. Some outcomes include a reduction in energy usage by 15% from FY11 to FY14, tray-less dining in the cafeteria led to a yearly savings of 875,000 gallons of water, the cafeteria also saves thousands of dollars by growing their own herbs, 61% of students use some sort of sustainable transportation, a food recovery network, hydration stations, a composting program, a water reclamation project at Darr and a Water Sense Purchasing Policy.

National Weather Service Update—Megan Terry — Ms. Terry said 2015 precipitation for the Springfield area was 59.74 which was 14.17 above normal and the 4th wettest year on record. She said the Dec 26-28 flood was a 2 ½ day heavy rainfall event that resulted in over 200 water rescues and 13 fatalities. Record crests were recorded on area rivers and flooding occurred along Lake Taneycomo and Lake of the Ozarks. The James River crested at 34 feet in Galena and flood stage is 15 feet. Table Rock Lake rose 17 feet in 3 days during the event. She said the Springfield area averaged 10 inches of rain during that event. Ms. Terry said the 8-14-day outlook included temperatures above average and normal precipitation. The 3-Month outlook calls for equal chances of normal temperatures and normal precipitation. Storm Spotter Training will be held in Greene County February 16th and Christian County February 9th. The Severe Storm Expo at the Battlefield Mall is February 27th 10am to 3pm.

Regional Issues—Terry Whaley said Ozark Greenways is 25 years old in 2016 and a celebration will be held on Saturday, June 4th. He said Mary Kromrey was hired as the Marketing and Event Coordinator, Dan Chiles said the USDA through the local NRCS office is helping to restore a 1/3-mile riparian corridor along his property in Greene County. Ms. Armstrong said 140 participants came to the Our Missouri Waters meetings and 45% completed the survey that will help determine citizens top concerns in the watershed. She will email the survey results after they are compiled. February 23rd is the first Watershed Advisory Committee meeting in Greenfield. Rob Hunt said February 15th is a trail work day at the Watershed Center. Barbara Lucks said a DNR Pesticide Collection Event is scheduled for Saturday, June 25th in Bolivar.

Other Business— none

Meeting adjourned 8:30 a.m.

Minutes taken by Kelly Guenther