

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.
Monthly Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2016
Midtown Carnegie Library
Meeting Called to Order at 7:30 AM

Watershed Committee Update—Mr. Dove opened the meeting.

Roll Call

Review of Minutes — November minutes were reviewed.

Watershed Committee Update— Mr. Kromrey thanked Bridget Dierks and the Community Foundation of the Ozarks for the grant that brought the Land Ethic Leaders workshop to the Watershed Center. There will be a follow-up presentation by Stan Temple on Tuesday, December 6th at noon. The WCO received another MDC Community Conservation grant that will allow continued work on habitat improvements at the Watershed Center.

Source Water Monitoring at City Utilities— Kari Wolken, Water Quality Analyst, City Utilities of Springfield— Ms. Wolken said City Utilities has two surface water treatment plants, Fulbright and Blackman, which provides water to around 80,000 customers daily (roughly 250-275,000 people). She showed a map of City Utilities water sources including McDaniel Lake, Fulbright Spring, Fellows Lake, Valley Water Mill Lake, James River and Stockton Lake (through the pipeline). She said she mainly focuses on McDaniel Lake which is 25,235 acres and a shallow lake system. McDaniel is a primary water source for Fulbright Water Treatment Plant. Ms. Wolken said as a Water Quality Analyst some of the things she is looking for is clarity of the water, stratification and algae identification. Her sample sites include the McDaniel bridge and McDaniel dam. Lake sampling tools she uses are Secchi disc, field notes, Pro ODO YSI and a DO/Temp probe. She can pull from three depths, 7ft., 13ft., and 23 ft. Ms. Wolken explained most common types of algae are the Blue Greens, Diatoms and Greens. The Blue Greens can cause the most problems because they can release Hepatoxins, Diatoms can cause taste and odor issues and the Greens are not harmful. She said there are upwards of 70-80 kinds of these algae in the lakes and if the algae numbers come in at 20,000 cells/ml or above, then they will need to treat the lake with algaecides. Ms. Woken said City Utilities has an excellent Source Water Protection Plan that includes community education and outreach, restrictions on lakes, and purchasing properties around the lakes to create buffer zones.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources Update —Cindy Davies — Ms. Davies said DNR has been bringing different Departments together to work on watershed issues around the State and it has been successful. Locally, she said the Clean Water Intended Use Plan provided grant money to Taney County and the city of Monett.

Regional Issues— Charlie Burwick said this is the 17th year of the Greater Ozarks Audubon bird count. Commissioner Bengsch said the recent Billy Long Ag Tour took them to a Bois D' Arc farm that was impressive in their land use and water management and grazing practices. He recommended other taker a field trip to see those practices at work.

Other Business— none

Meeting adjourned 8:30 a.m.

Minutes taken by Kelly Guenther