

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc.
Monthly Meeting Minutes
November 4, 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 — October minutes were reviewed.

Watershed Committee Update— Mr. Kromrey said copies of the Fall Newsletter were available.

Sustainable Forestry and Watersheds— Greg Iffrig, L-A-D Foundation— Mr. Iffrig said the L-A-D Foundation was established by Leo Drey in 1962 to protect natural areas. The L-A-D Foundation owns over 146,000 acres of land which includes, twelve designated Missouri Natural Areas, Grand Gulf State Park, Dillard Mill State Historic Site, Cave Spring on the Current River, nearly 1,000 acres of river ways corridor lands and more than 70 miles of public hiking trails. The Pioneer Forest is over 140,000 acres and has over 35 miles of river frontage and has been managed for over half a century by single-tree selection harvesting. Pioneer Forest helps support the local economy providing jobs and leadership in the timber industry and also helps restore natural communities and maintains healthy forests and woodlands. Mr. Iffrig said the Ball Resurgence Natural Area in Perry County is 273 acres and is managed by the Missouri Department of Conservation. The Foundation owns other lands near this area where restoration of agricultural fields to native greases is taking place. He said Leo Drey made enormous contributions to the State of Missouri and Pioneer Forest is a demonstration forest to show people how to take care of the land and pass it on for future generations. Mr. Iffrig provided copies of the L-A-D Foundation Annual Report and brochure.

National Resources Conservation Service Update —Mike Squires — Mr. Squires said the EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) deadline is November 18th. He said this program promotes good forestry management and conservation practices. Strike Force, a program through the USDA to reduce poverty in rural areas, concluded this week. The RCPP program in the James River watershed will be run through the local office and the contact person is Diana Sheridan.

Regional Issues—Commissioner Bengsch said Greene County received the State's most innovative government award. Ted Hillmer said the Envirothon was held at Wilson's Creek National Battlefield and the Park is working on getting a car charging station. Gopala Borchelt said Ozarks Water Watch (OWW) runs Ozarks Environmental Services which works on small wastewater plants and drinking water systems and they recently fixed the system in Rockaway Beach. OWW also has a grant and loan program to help fix failing septic systems in the Upper White River Basin. Tammy Trantham said November 12th the GLADE students will be participating in a project at the Watershed Center.

Other Business— none

Meeting adjourned 8:30 a.m.

Minutes taken by Kelly Guenther