

**TRI-STATE WATER RESOURCE COALITION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2010– 9:00 A.M.  
AUDITORIUM – EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC  
COMPANY BUILDING**

**Welcome & Introduction:**

Chairman Bob Nichols called the meeting to order and welcomed those present for attending. The following were present:

Lynn Calton – City of Lamar, Missouri  
Hal VanDaGriff – Verona, Missouri, representing Empire District Electric  
J. Fred Schlegel - Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Springfield, Missouri  
Bob Williams – City of Carthage, Missouri  
Brian Bingle – City of Nixa, Missouri  
Harold McCoy – Allgeier, Martin & Associates, Joplin, Missouri  
Matt Barnhart – Missouri American Water Company, Joplin, Missouri  
Melinda Piper – CPWSD #1, P.O. Box 586, Lamar, Missouri  
Morgan Pearman - Kansas Division of Water Resources (DWR)  
Steve McIntosh - Congressman Roy Blunt’s office  
David Rauch – Senator Claire McCaskill’s office  
Dan Johnson – City of Joplin  
Susan Champlin - City of Joplin

**Approval of Minutes of January 20, 2010 and February 17, 2010:**

Mr. Nichols asked for comments or corrections to the minutes of the meetings of January 20, 2010 and February 17, 2010.

**Hal VanDaGriff moved, seconded by Matt Barnhart, that the minutes of the meetings of January 20, 2010 and February 17, 2010 be approved as written. The motion passed, with all voting “aye”.**

**Report of Membership Committee:**

Mr. McCoy had no new activities to report at this time. Mr. Nichols explained that the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce recently joined the coalition as a new member.

**Report of Technical Committee:**

Mr. VanDaGriff explained during February, Freese and Nichols have gathered the majority of the background information and have initiated an analysis of adjustments needed to conduct additional studies for Sites 1 and 2, which are located between Lamar and Pittsburg. They have initiated a review of hydropower releases for diversion and attended the coalition’s 2009 press conference.

Freese and Nichols’ activities for March include the continued review of Sites 1 and 2 for the Pittsburg and Lamar area and the Missouri American Water Company. They have set up a model

for diversion of hydropower releases for the Pittsburg and Lamar area and for Springfield. They will confirm the site and size of an off-channel reservoir adjacent to Shoal Creek.

Freese and Nichols are 50 percent complete with gathering and review of available information and 25 percent complete with their studies for the four alternate sites. They are 10 percent complete with their studies for the off-stream channel on Shoal Creek for the Missouri American Water Company.

**Report of the Treasurer:**

Mr. Barnhart explained that Commerce Bank and the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce have recently joined the coalition. He stated that the current balance is \$162,707.10 after paying some legal fees.

**Status of forming an implementation organization:**

Mr. Nichols explained that the coalition's attorneys were awaiting a sample management contract from Missouri American Water. He also visited with officials from Empire District Electric, who have expressed no concerns but have agreed to participate in the discussions.

**Public Relations Activities:**

Mr. Nichols had no new activities to report in this area.

**Status of Developing Education Program for Fifth and Sixth Grade Students:**

Mr. McCoy explained that he and David Hertzberg have discussed this program but have nothing to report at this time. Mr. Barnhart discussed an educational program that Missouri American Water developed for students in the fifth through eighth grades.

Mr. Nichols explained that in September, 2009, the coalition co-sponsored a water conference in Springfield with Missouri State University. Those who planned that conference thought it was successful and would like to schedule another water conference on September 9-10, 2010 at the Doubletree Hotel in Springfield. They have asked the coalition to co-sponsor the conference again this year.

**Matt Barnhart moved, seconded by Hal VanDaGriff, that the Tri-State Water Resource Coalition co-sponsor the water conference being scheduled for September 9-10, 2010 in Springfield, Missouri. The motion passed, with all voting "aye".**

Mr. Calton asked Ms. Piper if Freese and Nichols have approached her regarding Sites 1 and 2, and she replied not at this time.

**Comments by Representatives of Federal and State Offices and Agencies:**  
**Senator Kit Bond:**

Stacy Burks was not present for this meeting.

**Senator Claire McCaskill:**

David Rauch had no new information to report but stated that Senator McCaskill has informed him of earmarks that have been attached to the transportation bill. He explained that it will be difficult to obtain federal funding. Senator McCaskill felt that the state and local governments should decide where the money should be spent.

**Congressman Roy Blunt:**

Steve McIntosh has no new information to report at this time.

**Missouri Department of Natural Resources:**

Fred Schlegel had no new information to report at this time but mentioned that a number of projects currently under construction in his region are being funded by the American Recovery Act stimulus funding.

**Kansas Division of Water Resources:**

Morgan Pearman explained that quarterly well measurements were completed during the second week of March. Water levels are trending upward from December, 2009 measurements with only three wells showing a decrease. Out of the three wells showing a decrease, only one of the wells is currently not in use. Decreases in the other two wells may be attributed to measurements taken shortly after well shut down.

Recharge on the two Baxter Springs wells appear to be tapering off. Due to lightning, both Baxter Springs wells have been off since last August and September. Measurements for the north well were approximately 180 feet while in operation during 2008/2009 but have increased to 96 feet. Measurements for the south well varied from 193 feet to 257 feet during 2008/2009 but have increased to 83 feet. Again, these levels are a result of both wells not being operated for approximately six months.

**Oklahoma Water Resource Board:**

Mr. Nichols explained that the coalition is trying to schedule a meeting with the Oklahoma Water Resource Board and Grand River Dam Authority. He did not believe that meeting would take place before June.

**Old Business:**

There was no old business to report at this time.

**New Business:**

There was no new business to report at this time.

**Executive Session:**

**Report of the Search Committee:**

Mr. Nichols conducted an executive session to discuss the activities of the search committee for candidates for the position of executive director. He explained that the job description has been modified in that the director should have more communication experience than technical experience. He also stated that instead of sending a broad request for applications, the committee members have identified people they would like to visit with.

Mr. Nichols has visited with a couple of potential candidates for the position. The committee members discussed several potential candidates. Mr. McCoy suggested contacting these individuals to see if they would be interested. Everyone agreed that the candidates must possess good public relation skills.

In additional business, Mr. Nichols discussed the recently adopted membership dues structure and explained that there are several board members whose organizations have not paid their dues. These organizations include both Jasper and Newton Counties. He asked about dropping them from the Board of Directors or if this problem should just be ignored.

Mr. McCoy suggested not sending them any notices of the meetings. Mr. VanDaGriff asked about sending those organizations a letter regarding the membership dues. Mr. McCoy did not believe Pittsburg will continue to participate.

Mr. Barnhart read the list of individuals and organizations who have paid their membership dues. Mr. Nichols asked when the notices were sent, and Mr. Barnhart replied October, 2009.

In additional business, the board members asked if there is enough business coming before the board to schedule monthly meetings. Mr. McCoy suggested meeting only when there is business to conduct. The board members discussed setting a regular meeting date to keep that date open, but only to meet when there is business to conduct.

**Adjourn:**

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting stood adjourned.



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Dan Johnson, Acting Secretary