MINUTES TRI-STATE WATER COALTION MEETING WITH LEGAL CONSULTANTS STINSON/ MORRISON/ HECKER OCTOBER 6, 2009

The TSWC met at 10:00 A.M. on October 6, 2009 at the Law Officers of Chuck Brown 613 S. Byers Avenue, Joplin, Missouri.

PRESENT: Representatives from the offices of STINSON, MORRISON,

HECKER, LLP

Nicholas G. Frey: 230 West McCarty Street

Jefferson City, MO 65101

573-636-6263

Victoria R. Westerhaus: 1201 Walnut Street, Suite 2900

Kansas City, MO 64106

816-691-2427

Stephen Chinn

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Nichols Chairman, Roddy Rodger City Utilities, John Black

City Utilities, David Hertzberg City of Joplin, Chuck Brown Tristate Attorney, Steve Murray Missouri American Water, Matt Barnhart Missouri American Water, Hal Vandergriff Empire, and Lynn

Calton City of Lamar.

<u>Item 1:DISCUSSION:</u> Various options of creating a legal organizational structure.

Pros / Cons

-Non Profit Utility

Con: Could not issue tax exempt bonds

-Joint Municipal Utility Commission

Con: Must amend Missouri Constitution and statute to permit

for-profit members (or alternatively have for-profit

members serve as advisory members)

To use exempt facility bonds, all members must sell water to public at regulated rates; bond allocation caps may be an issue

Other series of tax-exempt bonds may be issued through the State Environmental Improvement and Energy Resources Authority in Missouri; for bonds in other states, would have to enter into cooperative agreements with other entities in states of Kansas and Oklahoma.

Pro: Has eminent domain power in Missouri; but must enter into cooperative agreements with other entities that have eminent domain power in Kansas and Oklahoma.

Has power to construct, own and operate facilities in Missouri and other states

Has authority to contract with Corps of Engineers and others

Has authority to set rates that are not regulated by the PSC

Recommendation was made to pursue Municipal Utility Commission. If Municipal Utility Commission was unsuccessful, the recommendation would be to go with the Non Profit Utility.

<u>Item 2: Research</u>: Joplin Industrial Development Authority

- Do they have allocation enough to do \$100 million bond
- Need to get MAMU Support
- Contact the attorney for JIDA Gina Atteberry at Spencer Dwyer Law Offices.

<u>Legislature discussion:</u> At 11:15 Ron Richard arrived at meeting. Mr. Richard discussed the following items:

- Need to find sponsor in Senate and House
- Recommendation to have Alex Curchin review proposal
- Recommended Representative Ed Emery and Senator Jack Goodman

12:10 Break for Lunch

12:15 Gary Nodler arrives Ron Richard leaves meeting

<u>Legislature discussion:</u> Gary Nodler discussed the following issues:

- Recommends not changing law, working within the existing law.
- Suggests having Missouri American Water as advisory member and contract.
- Concerned that Senator Joan Bray will kill legislation
- Gave example of Kansas City Sports Authority. Sports authority owns stadium as a non profit, Royals and Chiefs ok with contracts, and are not on Board.

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