



Water Partnership Team (WPT) Meeting

10:00 AM – 12:00, Tuesday, December 12, 2006

The Station, Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, MO

Co-Chair – Harlan Higginbotham

Members in Attendance:

Dale Watson – Andrew County

Curtis Hedrick – Atchison County

Marvin Nickell – Caldwell County

D. J. Gehrt – Clinton County

Zac Johnson – Daviess County

Manley Tillison – Gentry County

Bill Selby – Harrison County

Bob Steins – Nodaway County

Dick VanVactor – Worth County

Members not in Attendance:

Norman Ellis – Buchanan County (related to illness)

Huey Jacobs – DeKalb County

Ken Kurtz – Holt County

The Water Partnership Team meeting was called to order by Harlan Higginbotham, Co-Chair. Ann Lovett, the Administrative Assistant for the Satellite office in Maryville, was introduced. The minutes were read and approved with no corrections or additions.

Mr. Higginbotham discussed the tours to the Maryville Water Plant and the Missouri American Plant in St. Joe. Harlan said it provided a great opportunity for team members to get to know one another, and become familiar with the basic operations of both a small surface water plant and a large-scale ground water plant.

Harlan then referred to the Mission Statement of the Water Partnership Team, reiterating its purpose, rules and responsibilities. He encouraged the WPT to renew their commitment to the WPT, and take a larger role to engage key representatives from their county in the water planning effort.

Marsha Boone provided an overview of the work plan, outlining the WP Team's current and past activities and tasks for January through March 2007.

Bill Hills, Consultant for the WPT, discussed the baseline survey, an extensive amount of data on the water systems in the 12 counties. The MDNR news release was discussed because of its reference to the baseline information that Bill Hills had put together. The press release was not received by all of the members. Staff agreed to verify that WPT members receive this and other future documents in the near future. The press release identified seven water systems named that could possibly serve as hubs for a long-range regional plan. They are: Missouri American Water Co. in St Joseph, Middle Fork Water Company in Gentry County, and the cities of Cameron, Maryville, Plattsburg, Bethany,

and Savannah. It was determined that 42 of the 83 systems purchase water from another water system.

Cameron is going to vote in April for their pipeline. The possibility of some water systems tapping into their line later on, was discussed.

Beverly Maltzberger, University of Missouri Extension, discussed the retreat planning for February or March. Some dates were discussed in February, and at that time, it was brought up that the Legislative Days are occurring at that time. The committee felt that they should prepare some kind of one page informational handout to be presented during that time, so that the seeds could be planted regarding the issue of water in NW Missouri. Marsha is going to look into having something ready for them to take.

Beverly said a possible date was February 13th, meeting at the Stoney Creek in St. Joe, from 9-3. Retreat topics will include conflict resolution and working together as a team. The retreat will replace the regular monthly meeting for the WPT.

Business:

Marsha and Ann are working to provide the members with notebooks, including all the handouts, biographies of the team members, minutes of the meets, mission statement, etc. Team members that have not completed their bios were encouraged to do so. Hopefully, they will be ready for the WPT in January.

It was also decided to hold future WPT meetings at Northwest Missouri State. And, that there may be funds available for team members to recoup some of the costs for driving. Marsha is going to look into this further and will report in January.

New Parking Permits for NW Missouri State will be sent out to the members before the January 9th meeting.

The meeting was then adjourned.