

Water Steering Team Minutes  
June 6, 2006  
9-12:00 pm  
NWMSU – Student Union – Room B

## INTRODUCTIONS

Those in attendance were:

Bev Maltsberger, Manley Tillison, Harlan Higginbotham, Helen Price, Bill Selby, Kenneth Minter, Norm Ellis, Dick VanVactor, Tom Bliss, DJ Gehrt, Randy Railsback, Nancy Thomson, Steve McIntosh, Judy Bowman, David Williams, Tye Parsons, Jim Hickey, Arnie Kreek, Bruce Hattig, Marsha Boone, Kirk Wayman, Breck Summerford, Andy Macias, Jerri Dearmont and Christi Turpin.

## REVIEW & APPROVAL OF APRIL 4 and MAY 2 MINUTES

Harlan Higginbotham asked if anyone has corrections or additions to the minutes need to notify Jerri. The minutes are available on the webpage at [www.nwmorcog.org](http://www.nwmorcog.org).

## COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Water Steering Team membership is growing. Dick VanVactor is from Grant City and is representing Worth County, and Norm Ellis is with the Buchanan County PWSD #1 who was present. Nancy acknowledged that Jim Hickey with NWMSU helped with a grant that was submitted. Kirk Wayman, Director of the campus radio station will help with media.

Counties that are still lacking membership include:

Caldwell, Daviess and DeKalb Counties. All other membership has been filled. (Please refer to the membership list on the web page.)

## GRANT APPLICATION UPDATE

Nancy Thomson reported an EPA STAR Grant was applied for through GRANTS.gov on Thursday, May 25. The grant, if funded, will help support this project in order to reimburse any related costs such as mileage, salaries, copies, etc. in order to gather the information needed. Also, received a support letter from Senator Talent's office supporting this grant. Also received a letter from DNR stating they had received the 604B application.

## ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES

Information that needs to be gathered and placed into a database will need to be items such as engineering data, water testing, any sampling testing, drilling information, etc. People should be able to access this information when they need it. Bev mentioned that this information should be available through the USGS or Extension office since they did a lot of this testing.

The Team needs to identify the problems and then answer the questions. Christi stated about two weeks ago she met with Senator Kit Bond's Chief Deputy for about 35 minutes. She said they are 100 percent behind us and are aware of what we are trying to accomplish. Also visited with Senator Talent's representative and had lunch with Pete Kinder. So the Team does have legislative support.

Christi asked if the mission statement on the agenda is still valid. There were no changes to the statement.

What is the problem with water in NW Missouri?

- 1) **Supply** of water – well and ground water – limited access – Bill Selby
- 2) Piping water to the people – **Distribution** – expenses – DJ Gehrt
- 3) Variable supply – drought and dry times – Dick VanVactor
- 4) People who don't have water – Distribution – Nancy Thomson
- 5) Size of pipe/interconnections – Bill Selby
- 6) **Quality** – New ground water being contaminated
- 7) **New Rules/Regs** are hard to handle or meet (Not the problem)
- 8) **Aging infrastructure** – Judy Bowman
- 9) **Attitudes on rates** – TMF
- 10) **Short-term thinking** – territorial and got mine
- 11) **Board Training** – for all board members to know and learn the impacts of their decisions.
- 12) **Population Loss** – basic demographics

Questions that need answered for the problems:

- 1) What are the changes in demographics for NW MO?
- 2) How do the demographics affect water/sewer issues in NW MO?
- 3) What Economic Development could happen in NW MO if there was water?
- 4) What are the projects of population in the future? (Trends, population, industry)
- 5) How much water do we need and where?
- 6) Where are sustainable sources?
- 7) What are the progressive states doing that might help us?
- 8) How do we advise or direct the municipalities and Districts?

Christi asked if there is anything in the Clean Water Act that needs changed. Kit Bond has asked this and maybe this needs to be addressed.

Bev Maltsberger suggested having Daryl Hobbs retired from the University Extension, come and speak at a meeting.

Some Roles and Responsibilities:

- 1) Liaison between public entities in the counties. Radios and newspapers. Christi needs to help get into those counties to meet people. She has met with some already.
- 2) Coordinate counties and municipalities together.
- 3) Past water problems. Life expectancy
- 4) Economic development – Housing, industry and demographics

Christi will email the list of people who were invited to the first symposium to the committee members to review and update and be sure all are listed before the mailing goes out for the June 29 meeting/reception. The deadline to review and get back with corrections is Friday, June 8. Need to focus on symposium II and getting the book together and sub-committee's together.

Need to educate the citizens. This group is to identify the plan and then get it to DNR and they will decide how to get the plan into place. The Federal and State agencies do not have the money to fix these plants, etc anymore and they need a plan to solve these problems. Christi will meet again next week with the Feds to discuss where we are at in the process.

## SLOGAN/LOGOS

The NWMSU worked on three logos and slogans for the water steering team. The three logos were presented and all three were not acceptable. The three slogans were and were not acceptable either.

- 1) Running water, Sharing life
- 2) Bringing quality to NW MO
- 3) Life & Health for NW MO

Marsha Boone and Christi will work together on a slogan and logo for the committee.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sub-committees need to get data gathered and printed to go out to the people for the June 29 meeting.

- 1) Economic Development – Terry Maglich not present.
- 2) Engineering – Breck is trying to get the booklet completed. Need to meet with Christi next week and have it printed. The booklet will include maps, data, water sources of current information, usage, etc.
- 3) Legislature – Christi is working on this. Need new regs on water and sewer for booklet, what concerns are being issues and problems.
- 4) Community Development – Marsha is working on what has happened and demographics.
- 5) Public Outreach –

The Symposium II agenda and briefing was presented. The Symposium will begin at 5:30 pm in the Student Union, Ballroom. Dinner will be served buffet style. The Lt. Governor or Governor will be present. The Symposium II will hold interactive workshops to gather valuable input from participants and then a wrap-up of the evening.

The water steering team **will not** meet at 3:00 pm on June 29.

The third Symposium is scheduled for October 5. Hope to present possible plans and scenarios.

The next water steering committee meeting will be Tuesday, July 11 from 10-12 pm in the Student Union, Room B.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.