



Minutes
October 9, 2007, 1:00 – 3:00 PM
NWMSU – The Station

Members in Attendance: Harlan Higginbotham, Curtis Hedrick, Norman Ellis, Phil Lammers, Manley Tillison, Bob Stiens, Dick VanVactor, Ken Minter, Randy Railsback, Lance Rains, Tye Parsons, Marsha Boone, Bill Hills, and Dick Graner (substituting for Bill Selby).

Members Not in Attendance: Dale Watson, Marvin Nickell, Zac Johnson, Heuy Jacobs, and Wayne Voltmer.

Participants, Advisors, Staff and Visitors: Kaye Wells, Bernie Meyer, David Williams, Doug Schulte, Judy Bowman, Steve McIntosh, Beverly Maltzberger, Jerry Baker, Marie Steinwachs, and Matt LeCerf. Representative Mike Thomson was in attendance briefly.

Chairman Harlan Higginbotham opened the meeting at 1:10 pm on October 9, 2007 at the Station located on NWMSU campus. Attendance Sheet in Minute Book.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The September 11, 2007 Water Partnership Team minutes and September 27, 2007 Water Partnership Team Finance minutes were emailed to each member prior to meeting as well as the agenda. Members reviewed the minutes and it was the consensus of the members that no additions or corrections were made to the minutes.

PRESENTATION

Marsha Boone informed the members a Capacity Development Training is being planned. The database will need to be updated to include all water system board members. David Williams has a list of mayors and board members that Jerri Dearthmont will need to update the database.

Also, the Phase I Report is complete and will go to print tomorrow. The cover letter will include that training will be provided and credits will be given.

Marie Steinwachs, Director of the Environmental Assistance Center and Beverly Maltzberger, Community Development Specialist both with the University of Missouri Extension spoke about the upcoming Capacity Development Training. A contract between NWMSU/DNR and University of Missouri has been executed to begin this pilot program. The trainings will be held in three centralized locations within the 12 counties

for a total of 10 hours with 3 sessions being held. The training will include topics that each water system board needs to know about operating a water system. Some of the topics will include: Planning, budgeting, administration, rate studies, asset management, future regulatory issues and educational components. It was suggested when notifying the water systems about the training to include future Missouri funding and that credits will be given to operators. There are a total of 83 water systems, 23 which are water districts and the remaining are cities or private systems.

BUSINESS

Bill Selby from Harrison County has resigned. Richard Graner, Mayor of Bethany has been recommended as the new replacement. The Partnership will be poled by Harlan regarding Graner's possible appointment.

Membership Bylaws

Judy Bowman, Ombudsman with the Department of Natural Resources informed the members that the sub-committee met on October 1 in regards to by-laws. The sub-committee will meet again and review sample by-laws from Colorado and Illinois. Once the by-laws are established, they will be presented to the WPT for their consideration and adoption.

Form Economic Development & Public Outreach Sub-committees

A sub-committee will be formed for the Phase II Work Plan for economic development and public outreach. Beverly Maltsberger, UME and Amy Ryan, Commerce Bank and member of the NW Roundtable will co-chair the sub-committee. It was suggested to contact Northwest Roundtable for their involvement. Bill Hills and Marsha Boone will be attending the November 29 Roundtable meeting.

New Finance/Legislative Sub-Committee Formed

It was also suggested to form a combined finance/legislative sub-committee for consideration of future funding. Tye Parsons and Randy Railsback will co-chair the new committee: they will recruit members and develop a work strategy for the committee. Jerri Dearmont will add all 12 county representatives to the mailing list once the feasibility study is complete.

Update: Feasibility Study, Corps of Engineer Application

Steve McIntosh presented the planning assistance to states agreement (PAS) between the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Corps of Engineers (COE) in the amount of \$100,000. The local share will be \$50,000; (\$25,000) cash and (\$25,000) in-kind contributions. The NWMSU will also be included as a reviewer and potential cost-sharing partner of the preliminary engineering and financing report. Director Childers and the Kansas City Corps District will sign the agreement by the end of October. A Draft of the Scope of Work for NW MO Regional Water Supply Transmission System Study was also provided. There will be three financial alternatives included in the study. Once the study is complete, the COE will be done unless we ask for their assistance in the future. The Water Partnership requested that Steve include in the PAS an analysis of possible regional water transmission management structures with recommendations of the best alternative.

Bond Financing Meeting

Tye Parsons informed the members three Financial Assistance Center persons from DNR met with the WPT on September 27 about the new \$50M funds for water and wastewater projects. The \$50M is divided in four different programs, with \$12M allocated towards rural water statewide. The grants will be scored on impacts of health, readiness and if the project can be completed within a five year period, but are focusing on three years. The maximum is \$500,000 or \$1,400 per connection with a 50% match. The match must be already committed by some other means of funding. November 15 is a soft deadline for applications to be in. The SRF applications are due at that time also. A large portion of the meeting was on the Atchison County project. This project is estimating to cost \$12M, \$6M for the plant and \$6M for the transmission lines. This project includes six entities, four that are cities and two water districts (Fairfax, Craig, Rock Port, Tarkio, Atchison County PWSD and Atchison County Wholesale Water Commission). The average water bill for Nodaway County is \$52.00 per 5,000 gallon or 2% median household income. Bruce Hattig, Bartlett and West Engineers is taking the lead on the applications for the Atchison County project.

Report from the Field

David Williams reported he is in daily contact with Atchison County Wholesale Water Commission. The ACWWC will meet Thursday night in Fairfax. Tye Parsons has also been meeting with four communities (Skidmore, Burlington Jct., Clearmont and Hopkins) in Nodaway County to get rural water to them

NWMOWWC

Bill Hills attended the Northwest Missouri Wholesale Water Commission and Atchison County meetings, and said that the Commission would like a response to their letter from last month. The WPT will respond by letter informing the Commission of the planning sessions planned to determine the best possible governance structure for the proposed transmission, and an invitation to the Commission to participate. The Partnership also requested that the Corps of Engineers feasibility study include a managerial study component to address the issue, which will also be included in the letter.

After the meeting the sub-committee for engineers will meet and discuss the response for the NWMWWC letter.

The next meeting will be November 6, 2007, 10-12 PM, at the Station on Campus.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.