

**Illinois River Watershed Partnership**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
Tuesday, May 10, 2011 - 6:00-8:00 pm  
Cherokee Casino Hotel and Conference Center  
West Siloam Springs, Oklahoma

**Meeting called to order by M. Faupel**

**Roll call recorded: Quorum Present**

**Board Members Present:** Larry Adair, Jonathan Barnett, Scott Carney, Mike Faupel, Sam Goade, Jay Hale, Hunter Haynes, Tom Hopper, Jennifer Michaels, Josh Payne, Gene Pharr, Dirk Philipp, Terry Rakes, Steve Randall, Robyn Reed, Mark Simmons, Tim Snell, Rick Stubblefield, Evan Teague, Scott VanLaningham

**IRWP Staff/Contractors:** David Duncan, Delia Haak, Michael Lindsey, Liza Miller, Marshall Mitchell

**1. Minutes: Board Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2011**

- **Motion to approve minutes made by G. Pharr/seconded by S. VanLaningham. Motion passed unanimously.**

**2. Treasurer's Report:** Michael Lindsey, Ozarks International Consultants

- First Quarter Financial statements January 1 through March 31, 2011
- **Motion to approve financial statements made by G. Pharr/seconded by J. Hale. Motion passed unanimously.**

**3. Finance Committee:** Rick Stubblefield, Chair

- 2011 sponsorship update.
- Rain Garden Celebration event, April 30 – sets the stage for Rain Garden program donations
- Finance committee recommended Board approval of updated financial procedures.
- **Motion to approve resolution to adopt Financial Procedures to Address Segregation of Duties made by M. Simmons/seconded by R. Stubblefield. Motion passed unanimously.**

**4. Program and Planning Committee:** Hunter Haynes, Chair

- Rain Garden installed at Center for Nonprofits on May 6, 2011.
- Upcoming rain gardens: Murphy Park in Springdale, TG Smith and Shaw elementary schools in Springdale, Crystal Bridges Museum in Bentonville.
- Discussion on opportunity of creating the Illinois River Watershed Center at Lake Keith, Cave Springs.
  - Finance and Executive Committees will continue to pursue opportunity.
- Conservation Program Report – David Duncan, Conservation Program Coordinator
  - Conservation Program Report handout.
  - Informational presentations in March-April. CREP informational meetings resulted in 21 site visit requests.
  - Next phase in CREP – 21 field visits, follow-ups with previous interests, identify landowners with over 100 acres in floodplain, identify high need areas.
  - Contracts – 3 current contracts, 2 in progress
  - CREP process and agencies

- FSA – chair of program, federal agency
- ANRC – funds program, writes the checks
- NRCS – site evaluation, help write landowner plan, federal agency
- Forestry Commission – if landowner wants to plant trees, they determine what trees and provide them, state agency
- R. Stubblefield stressed the importance of a liaison to help landowners figure out process and D. Duncan performs that function.
- OSU Projects Overview – Dr. Josh Payne (slideshow), new innovative BMPs in OK Use of industrial by-products for removing contaminants from surface waters.
- Sam Goade – Rain Garden excavation at Murphy Park in Springdale. Rain garden will capture runoff from building. New planting date is May 14, 2011.
  - ENVY Award nomination – E. Teague. Cargill/IRWP/Springdale Public Works were 1 of 5 finalists for the ADEQ Environmental Stewardship Award for the rain garden project at Springdale Public Works.
  - Finalists in alphabetical order:
    - Cargill in partnership with IRWP & City of Springdale Public Works
    - ConAgra Foods Batesville and Russellville
    - Delta Plastics of the South LLC
    - Frito-Lay, Inc. – Jonesboro, Arkansas Facility – Winner 2011
    - L’Oreal USA
- USGS Biological Monitoring update. IRWP and USGS will present June 6<sup>th</sup> at River Rally, SC. Reconnaissance conducted on 40 sites; biological assessment and monitoring at 18 sites to be conducted in July-August
- ANRC Rain Garden Grant update  
Everything approved, but waiting to make sure financing is in EPA budget. Start date: July 1

**5. Education Committee report: Dirk Philipp, Chair**

- Clean Water Raingers report by Marshall Mitchell.
  - Program update.
  - New songbook and illustrations, both copyrighted by IRWP.
  - Target Audience: Kindergarten-6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- CWR Watershed Festival report: Jennifer Michaels
  - Cancelled due to extreme bad weather, expenses incurred that cannot be recovered.
  - Activities for Festival will be used at McNair Middle School on May 13 and Botanical Garden of the Ozarks on May 17.
- Calendar of Education and Outreach events:
  - May 6 Rain Garden at St. Mary’s CFN with Walmart and Kawneer volunteers
  - May 12 Benton County Leadership Class
  - May 13 McNair Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> grade
  - May 14 Rain Garden at Murphy Park, Springdale Chamber Leadership Class & Cargill
  - TBA Rain Gardens at Crystal Bridges Trailhead, TG Smith and Shaw Elementary schools
  - May 17 Botanical Gardens of the Ozarks Earth Day
  - May 20 Sponsor Rogers Chamber Gov Affairs lunch, Teresa Marks, ADEQ speaker
  - May 21 REALGreen Expo with Bentonville/Bella Vista Chamber
  - May 25 Holt Middle School Garden Club
  - June 21-23 Watershed Camp
  - July 1 Rain Garden Grant scheduled to begin
  - Sept. 9 Illinois River Cleanup with OSRC
  - Sept. 27 Bentonville Garden Club
  - Sept. 29-30 4-State Watershed Academy at Cherokee Casino Hotel Conference Ctr.
    - ✓ Block of 75 hotel rooms/ballroom for sessions
    - ✓ Planning for 100 – 25 from each state

- ✓ Target Audience: Legislators
- ✓ Draft Agenda handout - 1 ½ days of sessions/optional tours on Friday afternoon

**6. Membership Committee report: Gene Pharr, Chair**

- 2011 Membership update. Board Members – make sure to pay for 2011
- Golden Paddle Award nominations due October 1, 2011. Urge Board Members to make nominations for this program.

**7. TMDL Committee report: Tom Hopper**

- A letter from IRWP, approved by Board, was sent to EPA with our concerns about adequate funding and use of current data.
- No information on when results will be released.
- EPA TMDL meeting, May 19, 6:00 pm., Rogers Embassy Suites. Update and opportunity for public to comment

**8. Board Policies and Procedures Manual report: Jennifer Michaels, Secretary**

- Several draft policies and procedures handed out for approval at February Board meeting. J. Michaels asked that we put approval process on hold until next board meeting. Will have additional policies and procedures in a complete packet which will be distributed before the next board meeting for review.

**9. Other Business**

- Arkansas Water Works and Water Environment Association named Delia the James Bailey Educator of the Year [http://www.awwwea.org/awea\\_awards.asp](http://www.awwwea.org/awea_awards.asp)
- S. Randall gave update on flooding of Illinois River at Fidler's Bend, OK. Record high flooding, 120,000 ft per second. Float operators are trying to recover for season.
- G. Pharr discussed need to maintain 4 flood-control lakes in NWA for future flood events. Infrastructure has life expectancy of 50 years.

➤ **Motion to adjourn made by M. Faupel. Meeting adjourned.**