

Illinois River Watershed Partnership
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, February 16, 2011
Minutes

Introductions of new IRWP employees:

IRWP welcomes David Duncan, Conservation Program Coordinator and Liza Miller, Admin Assistant

Meeting called to order by M. Faupel

Roll call recorded—Quorum Present

Board members present: Scott Carney, Mike Faupel, Sam Goade, Jay Hale, Tom Hopper, Jerry Hunton, Karen McSpadden, Dr. Josh Payne, Dirk Philipp, Terry Rakes, Steve Randall, Mark Simmons, Jackie Smith, Tim Snell, Rick Stubblefield, Evan Teague, Scott Van Laningham

IRWP staff: Delia Haak, David Duncan, Liza Miller

Guests and members present: Marshall Mitchell, Matt Reid, Tom Myers, John Coleman, Dr. Jim Peterson, Ed Fite

Public Comments:

- M. Faupel introduced John Coleman, Sustainability Coordinator, Fayetteville
J. Coleman discussed Fayetteville's proposed streamside protection ordinance. IRWP is neutral on ordinance.
- **Motion made to write a formal statement of IRWP's position, signed by M. Faupel and D. Haak, made by R. Stubblefield/seconded by S. Van Laningham. Motion passed unanimously.**

1. Minutes: Board Meeting Minutes for November 9, 2010

- **Motion to approve minutes made by M. Simmons/seconded by S. Van Laningham. Motion passed unanimously**

2. Treasurer's Report: Rick Stubblefield, Finance Chair

- Review of financial statements, January 1 through December 31, 2010
- **Motion to approve financial statements made by K. McSpadden/seconded by J. Hale. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Reviewed 2009 Audit Report prepared by Beall Barclay
- **Motion to approve 2009 audit report made by S. Van Laningham/seconded by T. Hopper. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. Committee Reports

Program and Planning Committee: D. Haak, for Hunter Haynes, Chair

- Introduced Matt Reid, intern, January - June focusing on rain gardens.
- **March 10 Green Development Workshop:**
Co-sponsor with AR Urban Forestry Program and UA Extension
Great opportunity to support IRWP and Forestry Commission
IRWP-ARFC Award to Crystal Bridges for preservation of urban trees and forested area

- **March 12 Riparian Project:**
 S. Carney announced tree farm with 1000 seedlings to be planted at Flint Creek Power Plant.
 D. Duncan talked to Gentry High School FFA about planting trees as class project.
 Locations: Gulley Park Trail, Fayetteville; Spring Creek, Springdale; Turtle Creek, Rogers;
 Sager Creek tributary, Siloam Springs; Flint Creek Power Plant, Gentry; Prairie Grove
 Battlefield Park Trail, Prairie Grove; Townbranch, Tahlequah.
- **CREP Report:** David Duncan, Conservation Program Coordinator
 D. Duncan has worked with Oklahoma CREP coordinators to get ideas for Arkansas CREP
 program and rewritten CREP fact sheet to make it easier to understand. He is combining
 EQIP and CREP. Fact sheets are approved by NRCS and FSA. He is attending work shops
 with Washington County Extension with CREP booth to share information, and will attend
 two more with Washington County Extension this month, as well as two with Benton County
 Extension in March. He will also attend 4-6 CREP meetings, inviting any residents on the
 river—Washington Co. landowner list completed; Letters will be sent to residents in
 Washington Co. and Benton Co. in March.
 E. Teague discussed miscommunication in the attempt to amend CREP program; ANRC
 approved changes, but it didn't get communicated, so amendments are not finalized.
 R. Stubblefield suggested having Oklahoma CREP come and share how they have grown the
 program and train CREP presenters.
 J. Payne suggested the fact sheet should be available on Arkansas NRCS website vs. on
 various websites, to have one place to send people. He expressed concern, though, that
 IRWP would not be able to update information.
 D. Haak mentioned possibility of Illinois River Rally with Oklahoma and Arkansas,
 educating 4-H youth about CREP.
- **Low or No Phosphorous Fertilizer:**
 S. Randall discussed idea for retailers to offer no-phosphorous fertilizers and smaller
 packages for consumers. D. Duncan survey sample of NWA retailers found
 no-phosphorous products are offered. Another survey will be taken in the spring.
- **Rain Garden Celebration fundraiser:**
 Flyer for sponsors detailing what each sponsor receives in return for sponsorship.
 D. Haak asked for support for Rain Garden Celebration, a chance for new sponsors.
 D. Haak invited board members to attend on April 30 at Roger's Little Theater.
 Rain Garden Grant scheduled to be finalized by ANRC-EPA in March.
 D. Haak asked for a Rain Garden Initiative: The chance to seek sponsors for rain gardens.
- **IRWP-ANRC Biological Monitoring Project:** Dr. Jim Peterson, USGS Project Team
 Leader, made presentation on ANRC grant of \$250,000 to IRWP. IRWP contracted with
 USGS.
 Two Objectives of the project:
 1. Describe biological communities of small streams.
 2. Describe relations between biological communities and nutrients, land use, and other
 environmental factors.
 The project will look at entire fish community, macroinvertebrates, periphytons, and habitat
 at 18 sites in the Upper Illinois River Watershed.
 USGS Scientific Investigations Report will be available Dec. 2012 on USGS website.
 J. Peterson will be available at future board meetings to give updates on the project.
- **Illinois River Watershed TMDL:** T. Hopper, E. Teague, R. Stubblefield, J. Payne
 J. Payne discussed the need for representation from IRWP board at EPA TMDL meetings.
 These meetings may lead to one or more TMDLs in the Illinois River Watershed.
 R. Stubblefield stated Aqua Terra Consultants are overwhelmed by data sets.

T. Hopper expressed concern that the study is adequately funded to gather current data that truly reflects the condition of the river today.

- **Motion to form a board ad hoc committee to attend TMDL meetings, and make appropriate comments and letters made by M. Simmons/seconded by T. Snell. Motion passed unanimously.**
- M. Faupel appointed TMDL Committee: Tom Hopper, Evan Teague, Rick Stubblefield, Dr. Josh Payne
M. Faupel discussed need to frame a clear proposal to meet with EPA about adequate funding and current data. Ad hoc committee needs to give recommendations on specifics for current date.
- **Motion for TMDL committee to prepare a letter, approved by executive committee, to submit to EPA to provide recommendations on quality, funding, and currency of data made by S. Van Laningham/seconded by M. Simmons. Motion passed unanimously.**

Education Committee: Dr. Dirk Philipp, chair

- **Clean Water Raingers Report** given by Marshall Mitchell
In 2010, CWR held 14 public school concerts for 5,000 students and teachers, and 4 public concerts. A total of 1,099 students joined Clean Water Raingers.
2011: 16 schools contracted for CWR concerts. One concert to date: 900 students.
9 more concerts scheduled and 7 pending.
CWR partnered with Beaver Water District for CWR activity books, with a new map including Beaver Lake Watershed, and inclusion of clean drinking water facts.
5000 new activity books have been printed.
New CWR DVD produced by Jennifer Michaels and Marshall Mitchell. New CWR songbook with new illustrated characters created by Thinkpen Design, and funded through Walmart grant.
- **Clean Water Raingers Watershed Festival:** Will be held April 23 at Lake Fayetteville at Mae Farm, between Lokomotion and Lewis & Clark. Target audience: CWR, students, public in general. Education and activity booths being finalized.
- **Watershed Camp:** Beginner camp, 10-12 years olds, June 21-23 at the Environmental Science Center at Lake Fayetteville
- **Video and Photography Contest:** Feb. 1 – Oct. 1. Contest description on the website.
- **Media Campaign and Website Redesign:**
Draft of web design by new provided, Adair Creative, sent to board. Media campaign funded by grant from Walmart.

Membership Committee: D.Haak for G. Pharr, Chair

- **2011 Membership Goal:** 350 members
2010 memberships: 282 members
Complete membership report in materials packet. D. Haak encouraged board members to give complimentary memberships early in the year. IRWP has received two complimentary board memberships to date. Board members encouraged to renew memberships early.
- **Golden Paddle Awards:**
D. Haak reviewed 2010 awards and encouraged board to think about 2011 nominations due Oct. 1, 2011.

Nominations Committee: Evan Teague, chair

- Board Vacancy—Committee recommendation of Patrick Tenney, Vice President of Baldwin & Shell Construction, nominated by S. Van Laningham and H. Haynes.
- Vacancy is at-large, but should be filled with someone in construction.

- **Motion to approve committee recommendation of Patrick Tenney to fill at-large board member vacancy, made by S. Van Laningham/seconded by R. Stubblefield. Motion passed unanimously.**

4. Other Business

100 copies printed of *Handbook of Best Management Practices for the Upper Illinois River Watershed and Other Regional Watersheds*. Suggestion made to reprint handbook in separate topics.

- S. Van Laningham announced new Beaver Watershed group has moved out of interim stage, has bylaws and board members.
 - Board Policies and Procedures drafts to be approved by Board, prepared by Board Secretary, J. Michaels, to be read and approved by board members. This will be an action item at May board meeting.
 - 2011 Illinois River Watershed calendar presented as gift for board. Photos by Ron Michaels.
 - M. Faupel said executive committee's 2010 review of executive director was completed. D. Haak received an excellent review; the board is pleased with programming, outreach, and new staffing.
- **Motion to adjourn made by M. Faupel. Meeting adjourned.**

Meeting Minutes by Liza Miller, Administrative Assistant.