

AGENDA
Illinois River Watershed Partnership
Watershed Learning Center – (former Lakeview Baptist Church)

Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, February 6, 2014
1st Quarter Board Meeting

MINUTES

- BOARD ATTENDANCE: Jonathan Barnett, Scott Carney, Dan Douglas, Mike Faupel, Sam Goade, Jay Hale, Hunter Haynes, Tom Hopper, Sarah Lewis, Jimmy Mardis, Gene Pharr, Dirk Philipp, Roland Pinault, Kurt Price, Terry Rakes, Robyn Reed, Mark Simmons, Tim Snell, Evan Teague, Patrick Tenney, Scott Van Laningham, Ralph Weber
- 5:00 pm Tour of former Lakeview Baptist Church which will be home to IRWP Watershed Learning Center – Refreshments served
- 6:00 pm **Welcome and Call Meeting to Order:** Sam Goade, President
Guests: Mayor Larry Smith, State Senator Bart Hester, Kyle Weaver, Director, Congressman Womack’s office, Pastor Johnny Harp, Tony Ramick, ANRC, Jim Petersen, USGS
- 6:05 pm **Announcement of NWA Economic Development District Grant to establish Watershed Learning Center – Dan Douglas, House of Representative, District 91**
Introduction of NWA Legislators supporting Project - Jonathan Barnett, House of Representatives, District 87
Support from:
The Honorable Bart Hester, Arkansas Senate District 1
The Honorable Uvalde Lindsey, Arkansas Senate District 4
The Honorable Jim Hendren, Arkansas Senate District 2
The Honorable Dan Douglas, Arkansas House District 91
The Honorable Jonathan Barnett, Arkansas House District 87
The Honorable Les Carnine, Arkansas House District 90
The Honorable Mary Lou Slinkard, Arkansas House District 92
The Honorable Debra Hobbs, Arkansas House District 94
The Honorable Sue Scott, Arkansas House District 95
The Honorable Charlene Fite, Arkansas House District 80
- 6:30 pm **Minutes** of November 7, 2013 Board Meeting. Motion to approve by Hale, second by Weber.
Board Action: Approved Nov. 7, 2013 minutes
- 6:35 pm **Finance Committee Report:** Dr. Ralph Weber
Presentation of 2013 Financial Statements. Motion by approve by Faupel, second by Douglas.
Presentation of 2014 Budget. Motion to approve by Mardis second by Faupel.
Board Action: Approved 2013 financial statements and 2014 Budget
- 6:45 pm **Technical Committee:** Tom Hopper, chair
IRWP Illinois River Monitoring report – Jim Petersen, USGS, Chief, Hydrologic Investigations
Petersen reported on results of two-year monitoring study funded by ANRC grant. Report title: *Effects of Land Use, Stream Habitat, and Water Quality on Biological Communities of Wadeable Streams in the Illinois River Basin of Arkansas, 2011 and 2012.* <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2014/5009/>
Rain Garden and Razorback Greenway Green Infrastructure projects – Becky Roark
Riparian Project and Flint Creek Tree Farm – March 8 – Ethan Whiting
- 7:00 pm **Program and Planning Committee:** Hunter Haynes, chair
Watershed Learning Center – Church renovation plan and budget estimate
Summary reports from January 23rd Planning Committee sub-groups:
a. Facility: windows, flooring, painting interior and exterior, universal access,

- landscaping LID, energy efficiency, walking bridge
- b. Programming: active learning, indoor cave model, technology, special events
- c. Naming lake, center, buildings, signage, logo

Congratulations to Mark Simmons for induction into Arkansas Business Hall of Fame 2014.

- 7:15 pm **Watershed Sanctuary and AGFC update:** Sam Goade
Motion by Hopper, second by Simmons, approved by voice vote: To authorize Dan Douglas and Jonathan Barnett to meet with AGFC in Little Rock to discuss the following terms:
1. \$880,000 on Tract 2 development with firm deadlines for the control gate, the stream restoration, North Pavilion, Amphitheater, and South Parking Lot.
 2. 25 year lease with 50:50 usage and 50:50 routine operating maintenance expenses. AGFC maintains structural integrity.
 3. If a conflict arises that cannot be mutually satisfied, IRWP has final authority on Tract 2
 4. No extension on Amendment 3, February 28, 2014 deadline which was agreed to on Dec. 27, 2013.
 5. Tract 1 lease discussion to begin upon completion of a Tract 2 lease agreement and operating plan.

Additional discussion item:

Request an AGFC environmental impact statement for the effects of the lake being drained during the spring nesting and births of the Threatened and Endangered Gray Bats.

- 7:40 pm **Education Committee:** Dr. Dirk Philipp, chair
2014 Action Plan and Watershed Sanctuary Documentary - Lauren Ray
Social Media Outreach update – UpstreamMatters.com, Facebook
Annual Conference: “Restoration of Our Rivers: Sustainable Economic Development”
at Crystal Bridges Oct. 2-3

- 7:50 pm **Membership Committee:** Tom Allen, Chair
February 8 – Volunteer Guide Training at Sanctuary
2014 Membership dues due!
1914-2014-2114 Bartlett Dam Time Capsule dedication committee needed Nov. 15 event
Golden Paddle Award ceremony Oct. 2 at Crystal Bridges

2014 Board Meeting Dates: May 1, August 7, November 6

- 8:00 pm **Adjourn**

Signature

Gene Pharr, IRWP Board Secretary