

# **Illinois River Watershed Partnership**

## **Board of Directors Meeting**

**Meeting #2**

**6:30 pm, February 15, 2006**

**Jones Health Education Center  
Springdale, AR**

### **Board Members present:**

Diffin, Faupel, Gaston, Haak, Hale, Herron, Lindsey, Mardis, McSpadden, Michaels, Pharr, Rakes, Saunders, Seward, Simmons, Skopecek, Snell, E. Teague, K. Teague, Thomas, Van Laningham, Weathers, Whitener, Woolbright

### **1. CALL TO ORDER/ Luanne Diffen**

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve by J. Skopecek/seconded by M. Faupel  
Approved by unanimous vote

### **3. TREASURER'S REPORT/Jimmy Mardis**

Included as Attachment 1

Motion to approve by K. Teague/seconded by S. Herron  
Approved by unanimous vote

### **4. Executive Summary/Luanne Diffen**

Board committees have been formed. All board members are required to participate on at least one committee.

At the first summit, participants were asked "what are you doing to improve the Illinois river watershed?"

The priority list that came out of that summit was:

1. Unite state boundaries to work on Illinois River water quality issues
2. Expand current education and outreach opportunities
3. Enforce all current regulations
4. Encourage water monitoring protocols
5. Hire an executive director

Since our last meeting, all Board committees have met at least once, and most have met twice. Luanne met with the Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Commission.

## **5. Grant Proposals**

Evan Teague – request of \$8,500 from ANRC for public education and outreach  
Katie - \$300,000 Urban NPS education and outreach campaign, which would run through Sept 30, 2007. A 43% match and measurable impacts are required. She is currently formulating a workplan.

J. Skopecek moved to approve seeking of both grants. Mardis seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

## **6. Committee reports**

### **Executive Committee / Luanne Diffin**

- a) Outlined outreach goals
- b) Chose Maloney Marketing – they developed logo

B. Haak moved that the Board approve the logo. Seconded by Skopecek. Unanimous approval.

- c) Network with organizations: Joined River Network and AWAG

### **Program and Planning Committee / Mike Faupel**

Draft planning manual is in Directors' manual. Request for feedback from the Board.

Input: we should do more than just demonstration projects (for example conservation easement program, riparian area projects)

### **Technical committee/Sheri Herron**

Draft goals in Directors' manual

Technical manual

Serving the education committee, run through board first

Maps of watershed

Compilation of available water sampling data

Compilation of 7 parameters from all POTWs in watershed – monthly

### **Education committee/Katie Teague**

Plan in Directors' manual

## **Membership Committee / Karen McSpadden**

(no notes available)

## **Nominations/Evan Teague**

Reviewed proposed rotation schedule in directors' manual  
Short term goals look for Oklahomans to fill remaining at large seats

Motion to accept goals made by Woolbright/ seconded by Hale. Approved unanimously.

Goals – seek nominations from general memberships  
Creating applications process

Will meet with Oklahoma observers after the meeting for nominations ideas.

## **Finance/Jimmy Mardis**

Draft budget in Director's manual

Mardis moved that the Board accept the offer of free office space from the Benton County Farm Bureau. Seconded by K. Teague. Approved unanimously.

NW AR council is offering to pay for Uvalde's accounting services for the group for one year.

Motion to accept offer made by J. Skopecek. Seconded by M. Faupel. Unanimous approval.

Motion to approve preliminary budget authorizing Treasurer to authorize expenditures based upon priority made by Simmons. Seconded by Whitener.

Approved unanimously.

Approve final at next meeting

- Sheri passed out the questionnaire (a couple minutes given for the Board to answer both sides) and then she passed out the Technical notebooks as Luanne collected the completed questionnaires.

- Jan Skopecek moved that the Board form a Search Committee to find an Executive Director. The committee will develop a job description, advertise the position announcement in Arkansas and Oklahoma to solicit applications, review candidate applications/interview and present their selection at the May 9th Board meeting

- Scott VanLaningham seconded

- Motion passed unanimously

- Search Committee is composed of the Executive Committee, Tim Snell, Bev Saunders and Mark Simmons

- Mike Faupel moved that the Board dedicate a portion of each board meeting to an update of actions on the Oklahoma side of the state line. Ed Fite from the Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Commission will speak at the May 9th

- Colene Gaston seconded

- Motion passed unanimously

- Sheri walked through a PowerPoint presentation of the answers to the questionnaire (also in the Technical Notebooks)

- Luanne reminded everyone that the next meeting will be Tuesday, May 9th. Brief discussion about whether to meet again at the same facility or the Jones Center - same facility was preferred.

- Evan announced that the Arkansas Farm Bureau has an Environmental Committee and the Chair, Dennis Ritchie, extended an invitation for all IRWP Directors to attend the next meeting which will be at the State Farm Bureau office in Little Rock on February 28th from 10 am - 2 pm.

Please let Evan know by next Tuesday if interested in attending.

- Luanne announced that the Oklahoma Clean Rivers and Lakes conference will be held April 5th - 7th. Contact Bev Saunders for more information.

- In order to improve the quality/efficiency/effectiveness of the Board meetings, Luanne asked the Board and observers, "what worked well" and "what didn't work well".

Responses included...

Worked well

- individual resource notebooks for board members to follow along

Didn't work well

- planned PowerPoint that didn't happen might have expedited the discussion

- lights were never turned back on so a section of the Board was in the dark the whole meeting

- reduce the total number of tables (bring inside the pillars) to bring group closer together (might be easier to hear one another)

- prepare extra copies so guests could see the same information that the Board was discussing

- have extra copies of info. about the organization (vision, mission, Board composition and membership for guests

- Lastly, Luanne asked that Board members complete and turn in the yellow sheets with the 5 questions from the initial Summit

- Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.