

Illinois River Watershed Partnership

Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting #3
6:30 pm, Tuesday, May 9, 2006
Jones Health Education Center
Springdale, AR

Board Members present:

Cameron, Diffin, Faupel, Gaston, Haak, Herron, Lindsey, Mardis, McSpadden, Michaels, Pharr, Saunders, Seward, Snell, E. Teague, K. Teague, Thomas, Van Laningham, Woolbright

1. Meeting called to order/ Luanne Diffin

2. Introduction of Guests/ Luanne Diffin

Gene Higginbotham, Senator Mark Pryor's Office

Ron Timmons

Ed Fite, Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Commission

Meredith Lee, Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Commission

Tom Massey, Representative John Boozman's Office

Don Catanzaro

Tony Ramick, Arkansas Natural Resources Commission

Morril Harriman, The Poultry Federation

James Hoelscher

Amy Wilson, Beaver Water District

Rob Smith, Arkansas Democrat Gazette

3. Public Comments

Ed Fite gave an update from the Ozark Scenic Rivers Commission. They are funding their water quality program again with money received from the poultry industry. Their water sampling efforts are not related to the Attorney General's sampling. Their project budget is \$323,000 and adds to their data set that goes back to the 1970s. They are conducting an education program focusing on stakeholders and hope to join with IRWP to do comprehensive survey of stakeholders (400 targeted).

4. Treasurer's Report/ Jimmy Mardis

The IRWP currently has \$2,337.93 cash on hand.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report made by K. Teague, seconded by Faupel.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Executive Summary/ Luanne Diffin

President Diffin challenged each Board Member to recruit 10 new members before the next Board meeting.

6. Events, Activities & Updates

- Oklahoma Scenic River Commission sponsoring three (3) Illinois River Clean-ups this summer. The first will be held on **June 2nd**. Contact Meredith at OSRC to sign up and to be put on quarterly newsletter mailing list.
- National River Cleanup Week is May 13th –21st. Discussion about how the IRWP can participate.
Motion to register with Lake Fayetteville Watershed Partnership's Clean up as a part of National River Clean-up Week made by Mardis, seconded by Michaels. Approved unanimously.
Area clean-ups:
May 14th: Buffalo River Clean up
May 20th: Lake Fayetteville Clean up, sponsored by Lake Fayetteville Watershed Partnership
May 20th: West Fork of the White River Clean-up, sponsored by Audubon Arkansas
May 13th-21st: Mulberry River Clean-up, sponsored by Byrd's Adventure Center
- **Week of June 12-20** (specific date still to be scheduled): IRWP Board Mixer at Simmons Foods in Siloam Springs
- **July 8th**: Illinois River Watershed Partnership Membership Drive, Lake Wedington. Contact the Membership Committee (Karen McSpadden, karenmcspadden@cox.net; 479.225.2077) for details.

7. Committee Reports (Powerpoint presentation with committee reports accompanies these minutes)

a. Executive Committee/ Luanne Diffin

- IRS 501(c)3 application has been submitted;
- Received commitment on funding for Executive Director; position will be advertised this Sunday
- (5/14/06) in NW AR and OK papers;
- Web site will be up in a few weeks;
- Luanne made presentations to AWAG; AR Farm Bureau Environmental Issues Committee; ADEQ; Arkansas Waterworks and Water Environment Association; NACA; U of A Biological & Agricultural Engineering
- Next week: Presentation to watershed conservation workshop

b. Program and Planning Committee/ Mike Faupel

- Working on draft organizational plan, a copy of which is included in the Board packet. Committee will present a draft at the August Board meeting.

c. Technical Committee/ Sheri Herron

- Provided an provided update on specific projects and activities in the watershed, including projects by Dr. Haggard, Dr. Nelson, BMP Inc., City of Rogers. See accompanying PowerPoint for details.
- Bev Saunders gave an update from Poultry Partners regarding soil sampling on farms. In March, a magistrate gave the Oklahoma Attorney General's office

permission to do discovery. In mid April, twenty-four (24) farmers received subpoenas. A case will be heard May 17th to determine whether or not sampling plan will go forward. This plan includes on farm soil sampling, edge of farm water sampling and groundwater sampling.

d. Education Committee/ Katie Teague

- Funding for the Urban Nonpoint Source Education Program has been secured and the project began May 1, 2006.

e. Membership Committee/ Karen McSpadden

- The Membership Committee brought back a proposal for membership dues levels, which was tabled at the last meeting. The committee proposed the following membership levels:

Individuals:

Student/Senior (65+)	\$10
Individual	\$25
Family	\$35
Lifetime	\$500 (amended by Board to \$300)

Organizations:

Youth Organizations	\$10
Nonprofit Organizations	\$35
Business (<25 employees)	\$50
Business (25+ employees)	\$100
Government	\$100

Motion to approve membership levels with change of lifetime to \$300 made by Haak, seconded by K. Teague. Approved unanimously.

- The Board discussed whether dues should be based upon a calendar year and whether they should be prorated when paid mid year.

Motion for memberships to be on a calendar year basis made by Pharr, seconded by Mardis. Approved unanimously.

- The Membership Committee presented a draft membership brochure prepared by Maloney Marketing for Board feedback.
- Saturday, July 8th will be the IRWP Membership Drive at Lake Wedington. All Board members are asked to help promote the event and to attend.

f. Nominating Committee/ Evan Teague

- Draft nominations procedure, nominations recommendation process, and affirmations process were presented and discussed. See Powerpoint.

Motion to approve nominations procedures as Board policy made by Woolbright, seconded by Van Laningham. Approved unanimously.

g. Finance Committee/ Jimmy Mardis

- Updated draft organizational budget presented;
- Joint meeting of Finance and Membership will take place soon to increase fund-raising efforts;

- Each Board member asked to provide contact information and financial contribution target for his/her employer or organization and to provide any other possible contacts for fund-raising efforts possible.

8. Conservation & Agriculture Questionnaire results presented/K. Teague

Meeting adjourned.