

Tri-State Water Resource Coalition



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Tri-State Water Resource Coalition was called to order at The Casino, 101 South Lincoln, Monett Missouri on April 20, 2022, at 9:41 a.m. by Roddy Rogers.

SELF INTRODUCTIONS **member of both boards *member of Tri State Board

Attendance:

Bob Wilson

Chris Landoll

Dan Johnson**

David Hertzberg

Devin Smith

Doug Colvin**

Gail Melgren

Hal Van Da Griff

Hannah Humphrey

Harold McCoy

Jack Schaller

Jason Choate**

Jason Stutesman

Jennifer Henggeler

Jennifer Hoggatt

Jeremy Parsons*

Joe Kelley**

John Schumacher

Josh Youngblood

Kevin Barnes*

Matthew Barnhart*

Michael Weller

Mike Beatty*
Mike Klem
Pete Rauch
Roddy Rogers
Skip Schaller**
Steve Stodden**
TJ Whatley
Travis Cossey
Absent Kendall Powell *

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Matt Barnhart made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 18, 2021, meeting. Jason Choate seconded. The motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee: The Bylaws say officers may serve for two consecutive 1-year terms. The current officers have continued to serve halfway through their second year. Matt Barnhart motioned that the current officers be approved to serve this second-year term through the end of the year at which point a new slate will need to be established and voted on. Steve Stodden seconded, and motion passed. Roddy appointed a nominating committee of Skip Schaller, Matt Barnhart, and Steve Stodden to which he will submit a 2023 slate of officers to be voted on in November.

Financial: Skip Schaller reported that the Money Market account has a little over \$230,000 and the checking account balance is \$8,586.65. Dues will bolster the accounts for bills to be paid.

Technical: PAS funding studies status was covered in the earlier JMUC meeting. Held discussion on replacing Roddy on the Technical Committee. Jason Choate was proposed as a good candidate. Roddy will contact Jason after the meeting to see if he can serve.

Legal: covered in JMUC meeting.

COE Report: COE Project Manager Jennifer Henggeller gave an update on status of the reallocation. Over the last year several meetings were held to respond to comments

and to discuss various items concerning the reallocation report. These included Coordination meetings with Wildlife and Conservation, SWPA, legal counsel, and the next level of supervision and approval (Division). A cultural resources agreement was signed in June 2021 which gives parameters on funding required to do additional survey work around Stockton. There are 53 miles of shoreline left to survey with the exact number of sites unknown. One third of the 53 miles is not required to be surveyed due to topography. This is mostly covered by operations and maintenance funding. Hydropower (SWPA) wanted an outside, independent review of how hydropower benefits were calculated and that was done. "Results loss of load" modeling is the gold standard modeling approach but neither the COE nor SWPA used that model. The consultant hired by the COE didn't endorse the method used but said it is reasonable for reallocation and was complete. SWPA is familiar with the process and was involved throughout the process.

In an August 2021 meeting with Division HQ, Dam Safety asked for the study to be put on hold until performing a second risk assessment to evaluate the safety ratings. Stockton is under consideration to be changed from a 4 to a 3 which could require dam modifications and a waiver for the reallocation. The Hydro Division has updated flood info with respect to consequences downstream. That, combined with a second risk assessment resulted in the District recommending the DSAC rating be changed back to a four.

Updated methods of evaluating risks in the COE portfolio of dams rating methods has been endorsed by HQ. The dam safety oversight group is meeting April 21, 2022, and will make a final decision on the rating. Changing back to a four will result in the total reallocation being possible instead of one half at a time.

The next major milestone meeting is scheduled for May 3 at which time it is the intention to seek that the agency endorse the tentatively selected plan of 45,750 acre feet and an additional 49,000 acre feet with 1.87 foot pool raise, rounded up to 1.9. A premeeting is also scheduled to review and take comments. Additional discussion was held on withdrawal limits and the amount of total usable storage, both of which were covered in the King and Spalding SWPA comment response document. The COE will look more closely at total usable storage amount.

Entities will likely need to make a decision on taking water in the next year or so. The schedule and final report depend on the upcoming (pre)meeting decisions. Targeting submission of final report to HQ in August after which they have 3 months to review. If there are additional comments or work it could take longer.

If, in the future, the dam rating goes down to a 3, SWMO Water would be notified, any major repairs or rehab would be paid by the owner, with a 15% factor on top of construction for what the user owes.

DSAC ratings are tied to 10-year assessments. Inspections are done every 5 years if there are no other changes to the dam. The next reassessment is scheduled for 2024. Schedule is subject to multiple levels of approval, but entities need to think if they are in or out on taking and paying for storage. This has taken 15 years and there likely will not be another opportunity to get water storage like this. There was discussion on the precedent set for Mark Twain users to take water at a later date. The importance/requirement of a staging plan was discussed, particularly if the State were to fund and or hold the allocation.

DNR Report: Michael Weller reported that the multipurpose fund will supplement the PAS funding to reimburse work for planning studies and legal expenses. A spreadsheet was presented showing the breakdown of expenses for studies and legal expenses. The floor was opened for comments or questions.

Hannah Humphreys-DNR, reported that funding from legislative community grant programs will be better defined in the first week of May when the amount of money that is available will be known. At that time, applications may be made. ARPA has a 50% match requirement; that is an affordability challenge. The engineering, contractors, supply chain issues will be additional challenges. Current parameters call for projects to be completed by 2026. Possible legislation is being considered to extend deadlines. Application portal will be opening mid may. Call if questions.

Dues: Roddy shared a spreadsheet of a proposed/estimated budget based on office costs, National Water Supply Alliance dues, MPUA dues, travel, insurance, salaries, and other expenses. In the past dues were split 80/20 Tri State/JMUC. It was suggested to reverse the split to fund JMUC more as more expenses will be running through the JMUC going forward. The total estimated budget (for both Tri State and JMUC) is \$246,000.

We need to consider whether or not to also increase the flat fees if the connection-based fees increase.

Reallocation costs will be placed with the JMUC as well as the planning studies, so most expenses will be there, and we should have enough to float \$50,000-70,000 based on current pending billings.

Roddy presented spreadsheets showing last year's dues by entity as well as alternate calculations using different fractions of the primacy fee multiplier and what the resulting dues for each entity would be for each alternate.

Tri state has money in the bank to operate on, but JMUC needs additional funding. After discussion, Roddy recommended 30-40 % of the primacy fee be used as a multiplier. The number of connections for each entity can be found on the DNR web site. Members will review and adjust as necessary upon receiving their respective invoice.

Jason Choate proposed that JMUC members' dues go 100% to JMUC to fund JMUC (and they will still be members of Tri State); and dues of Tri State members that aren't yet in the JMUC to go 100% to Tri State. After discussion using one third of the primacy fee rate as a multiplier to connections was the consensus.

There were two motions—one for JMUC and one for Tri State, first 1/3 of primacy fee increase x connections to determine dues for each entity and 100% of dues for each JMUC member will go to the JMUC and JMUC members are still members of both organizations and Tri State members' dues who have yet to join the JMUC will go 100% to Tri State. Motion to approve for SWMO was made by Skip Schaller, seconded by Doug Colvin, motion passed. Motion for Tri-State was made by Steve Stodden, Jeremy Parsons second, and motion passed.

Future consideration: Gail Melgren suggestion to add to bylaws that the memberships are connected to each other. Obligate JMUJC to continue to participate in Tri-State. Steve Stodden recommended a review of the bylaws before making any changes.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dan Johnson brought up the need to set-up a Joplin City Council special work session, do study, do projections, housing market going crazy, very important when we can meet and do this. Looking at June 13. It was noted that the rate study defining gaps and amounts is on the SWMO on website.

Final thoughts: Gail shared her vision for the group to energize post Covid, encouraged continuation of participation, leadership level by showing up quarterly and Roddy was officially welcomed by the group as the new Executive Director.

Remaining 2022 Meetings are scheduled for August 17 and November 2.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

Secretary_____