

**Minutes of the  
ARKANSAS NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
November 9, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission was held Wednesday, November 9, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., at Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, 101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 350, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commissioners in attendance were Chairman David Feilke, Mike Carter, Don Richardson, Fred Fowlkes, Jerry Hunton, Sloan Hampton, Ann Cash, and Bill Poynter. Commissioner Neal Anderson was absent.

Staff members participating included: Randy Young, Executive Director; Ryan Benefield, Deputy Director; Edward Swaim, Water Resources Division Manager; Mark Bennett, Water Development Division Manager; Adrian Baber, Conservation Division Chief; Cynthia Bearden, Agency Controller; Crystal Phelps, General Counsel; Deanna Ray, Assistant General Counsel; Tommy Wren, Government Relations Manager; Lori Nakai, Public Information Specialist; Blake Walters, Land Resource Specialist; Bob Fowler, Land Resource Specialist; Cody Harrington, Land Resource Specialist; Kathryn Stewart, Water Conservation Specialist; Deanne Redman, Administrative Assistant; Joyce Silverman, Grant/Financial Officer; Lois Miller, Grant/Financial Officer; Gina Wilson, Construction Finance Analyst; and Carla Hill, Executive Assistant.

Chairman Feilke called the meeting of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission to order.

A list of guests is attached to the minutes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 16, 2015**

Upon motion by Mr. Fred Fowlkes, second by Mr. Bill Poynter, the Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the September 16, 2015 regular meeting.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Career Service Recognition – Director Young recognized the following ANRC employees for their years of service: Dewania Coleman-Jones, 10 years; Adrian Baber, 20 years; and Lois Miller, 20 years.

Director Young welcomed and introduced new employee Tommy Wren. Mr. Wren will be serving as Government Relations Manager.

Upon motion by Mr. Jerry Hunton, second by Mr. Fred Fowlkes, the Commission unanimously approved Mr. Mike Carter to serve as Chairman and Mr. Don Richardson to serve as Vice-Chair for 2016.

Miller County Conservation District requested the district be billed directly and that the Commission not withhold state funding for AACD and NACD dues. Director Young referred to Title 2, Section 218.1 State fund requests, Section A., "...membership fees for the Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts and the National Association of Conservation Districts will be withheld and paid by the Commission from state funds prior to commitment of state funds for matching or special projects." For Commission consideration the Director stated the Commission could consider updating Title 2 or AACD could interact with the districts concerning payment of dues.

2016 Scheduled Meeting Dates – All 2016 meetings will be bi-monthly on the third Wednesday at the Commission office beginning in January. (A copy of the scheduled dates is attached to the minutes.)

**STATUS REPORT ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

Mrs. Cynthia Bearden presented the financial assistance report dated September 30, 2015. (A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.)

**LEGAL ISSUES**

**ANRC Response to Tri County Regional Water Distribution District's "Amended Petition to Annex Territory"** – Mrs. Crystal Phelps reported there are no conflicts with other water districts boundary lines. Mr. Sloan Hampton moved to approve and file Tri County annexation with a second by Mrs. Ann Cash. Motion passed unanimously.

**Proposed Revisions to Existing Title 3 and Proposed Title 24** – Mrs. Crystal Phelps presented a final version of Title 3 and proposed Title 24. Upon motion by Mr. Sloan Hampton, second by Mrs. Ann Cash, the Commission unanimously approved the rules be forwarded to the General Assembly for approval.

**Main Street Creative Corridor Project**, Mr. Tony Ramick, Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Grants Manager – Mr. Ramick informed the Commission of the low impact development project which was funded through federal, state, and city funds to demonstrate how to enhance water quality in an urban setting.

**WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT DIVISION -**

**Tabled Items** – Mr. Mark Bennett and Mr. Ralph McDaniel, representing East End WID, requested approval of funding East End Water Irrigation District.

**EAST END WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**  
**(SALINE COUNTY) (WDF)**

**Up to \$463,500.00**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: To provide water service to new customers in the Nature Land area near Hensley.*

The Commission approved a loan in an amount up to \$463,500.00 from the Water Development Fund. This loan is for twenty (20) years at three and nine-tenths percent (3.9%) interest. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$13,500.00 is to be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the district establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

Upon motion by Mr. Sloan Hampton, second by Mrs. Ann Cash, the motion was approved unanimously.

**Consideration of Applications for Financial Assistance** – Mr. Bennett presented staff recommendations for the referenced projects below requesting financial assistance from the Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund (CWRLF), the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF), and the Water, Sewer & Solid Waste Fund (WSSW).



The Commission approved a deferred loan in an amount up to \$51,500.00 for the City of Imboden from the Water, Sewer & Solid Waste Fund. This loan is for twelve (12) years with a repayment schedule of ten (10) years at two and three quarters percent (2.75%) percent interest. Payment upon principal is to be deferred for two (2) years and interest is to be waived for two (2) years. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$1,500 will be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the city establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

**IMBODEN (LAWRENCE COUNTY) (WSSW)**

**Up to \$51,500.00**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: Rehab and upgrade to 100,000 gallon elevated water storage tank.*

The Commission approved a grant in an amount up to \$51,500.00 from the Water, Sewer & Solid Waste Fund. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$1,500.00 is to be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the city establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund and upon these grant funds being the last funds used for the project.

**SPARKMAN (DALLAS COUNTY) (WSSW)**

**ADDITIONAL Up to \$41,200.00**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: Repairs at sewer plant to bring back in compliance with discharge permit and repairs due to spring floods.*

The Commission approved a grant in an amount up to \$41,200.00 from the Water, Sewer & Solid Waste Fund. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$1,200.00 is to be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the city establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund. These funds may be paid directly to Arkansas Rural Water Association for costs associated with these repairs.

**SPARKMAN (DALLAS COUNTY) (WSSW)**

**ADDITIONAL Up to \$41,200.00**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: Repairs at sewer plant to bring back in compliance with discharge permit and repairs due to spring floods.*

The Commission approved a loan in an amount up to \$41,200.00 from the Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Fund. This loan is for twenty (20) years at three and nine-tenths percent (3.9%) interest. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$1,200.00 is to be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the association establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund and upon grant funds being the last funds used for the project.

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING**

Mr. Bennett reported that the Executive Director, pursuant to the Commission regulations, increased funding for the following project:

**CRAWFORDSVILLE (CRITTENDEN COUNTY)**  
**(00933-WSSW-L)**

**\$15,450.00**

**CONSERVATION DIVISION -**

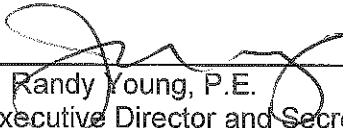
Mr. Bob Fowler, Land Resource Specialist, introduced Dr. Jeff Miller, Chair, Department of Agriculture at Southern Arkansas University. Dr. Miller informed the Commission of updates to the SAU campus and current educational opportunities the agriculture department offers.

**ACTIVITY REPORTS**

Activity reports were presented by the following: Mr. Charles Glover, Arkansas Association of Conservation District Past President; Dr. Mike Daniels, U of A Cooperative Extension Service; Mr. Mike Sullivan, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service; and Mr. Jaysson Funkhouser, US Geological Survey.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Mr. Don Richardson made the motion to adjourn.

  
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J. Randy Young, P.E.  
Executive Director and Secretary

1-20-16  
Date