

**MINUTES**  
**ARKANSAS NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**June 1, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) was held in person and via Zoom on Wednesday, June 1, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. at the Arkansas Department of Agriculture, 1 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205.

Commissioners in attendance were as follows: Chairman Roy Reaves, Vice Chairman Will Brewer, Commissioner Bruce Leggitt, Commissioner Neal Anderson, Commissioner Eddie Glover, Commissioner JoAnne Bush, Commissioner Jamie Burr, Commissioner Bill Poynter, and Commissioner William Anderson.

Staff members in attendance included: Chris Colclasure, Director; Ryan Benefield, Deputy Director; Debby Dickson, Water Development Section Manager; Leah Johannes, Program Fiscal Manager; April Harris, Administrative Analyst; Richard Dawson, Engineer Supervisor; Matthew Brooks, Engineer; Dewania Coleman-Jones, Program Fiscal Manager; Chris James, SRF Accounting Operations Manager; Tate Wentz, Water Quality Division Manager; Whit Montague, Engineer Supervisor; Blake Forrest, Geology Supervisor; Megan Perkins, Conservation Program Coordinator; Bob Fowler, Environmental Program Coordinator; Nick Richardson, Environmental Program Coordinator; Robert Claxton, Computer Support Analyst; Gaylon Stanfield, Network Support Analyst; Wade Hodge, Chief Counsel; Kolton Jones, Attorney; Wes Ward, Secretary of Agriculture; Inoussa Zaki, Chief Fiscal Officer; and others attending virtually.

A list of guests is attached to the minutes.

Chairman Reaves called the ANRC meeting to order, and roll was called.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 16, 2022 and April 5, 2022**

*Upon motion by Mr. Will Brewer, seconded by Mr. Bruce Leggitt, the Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the meetings held on March 16, 2022, and on April 5, 2022.*

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR** – Director Colclasure began by highlighting events occurring within the Arkansas Natural Resources Division (NRD):

- Director Colclasure stated we are trying to elevate programs to increase awareness throughout the year. For example, social media videos were made for the wetland riparian tax credit program, groundwater recharge, & flood insurance awareness week. Additionally, articles were submitted to the County Line, and the City & Town Magazine for the Arkansas Drinking Water update.
- We just completed our lands audit for property NRD has interest in through old water loan programs which have been paid off. We will work with our legal staff on releasing the property back to communities who have finished paying off their debt.
- Recently worked with Virginia Tech University on Rural Investments to Protect Our Environment (RIPE). We collaborated with Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts (AACD), Arkansas Rice, and Arkansas Ag Council to submit a proposal to United

States Department of Agriculture (USDA) partnerships for a climate smart commodities program. If funded, it will bring \$18 million to AR for climate smart conservation practices. Four states are involved as part of the RIPE pilot program (Minnesota, Virginia, Arkansas, North Dakota); it is a three-year program, and we will work with five to six counties across the state.

- Recent staff changes include new hire Matthew Brooks, Engineer, in the Water Resources Development Section (WRD). The agency is also in the process of three additional new hires.
- Director Colclasure recognized Richard Dawson, Engineer Supervisor, for the vital role he has had within the agency and congratulated him on his retirement from the agency after 27 years.

Next, updates on sections within the agency were given:

#### Groundwater

- The 2021 Annual Groundwater Report is ready.
- NRD will be leading a Groundwater Summit in Lonoke on June 21-22, 2022.

#### Conservation

- Arkansas received \$650K in federal funding for the feral hog program.
- Megan Perkins & J.P. Fairhead are working with our legal division to prepare & execute outstanding Memorandums of Understanding to get feral hog funding to the conservation districts.
- Recently had an Arkansas Conservation Partnership meeting wherein state & federal partners focused on conservation issues throughout the state. A special committee formed from this meeting and has been looking deeper into the needs of conservation districts.
- Grand Prairie received \$13M and Bayou Meto \$24M through Senate Energy & Water appropriations.
- Grand Prairie & Bayou Meto each recently had a project coordination team meeting.

#### 319/Unpaved Roads

- Tate Wentz recently led a field trip as part of the Buffalo River Conservation Committee as well as a field trip with the Nature Conservancy's board for a Stone County project. Both trips were for the Unpaved Roads Program.
- We are collaborating with stakeholders and in the process of updating the 2014 Nutrient Reduction Strategy. The draft strategy is currently out for public comment.

#### Water Resources Development

- Staff is currently managing approximately 134 water & wastewater and levee projects. Additionally, we recently updated water & wastewater entities across the state on the Infrastructure and Jobs Act as well as the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). This has triggered an influx of applications for financial assistance.
- We are in the process of securing training for Act 605.



#### Floodplain Management/Dam Safety

- Our Floodplain section recently sponsored a four day training, Managing Floodplain Development Through the National Flood Insurance Program. This training was presented in partnership with Arkansas Floodplain Management Association (AFMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Secretary Ward and Director Colclasure presented a proclamation for Flood Insurance Awareness Week.
- Whit Montague and Director Colclasure attended an announcement in mid-April wherein USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced Arkansas will receive approximately \$96M for nineteen communities with flooding issues located in the Delta region in south Arkansas.

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REPORT** - Mr. Inoussa Zaki, Chief Fiscal Officer, presented the financial assistance report dated May 31, 2022.

Chairman Reaves asked Mr. Zaki how the combined fund balance is invested. Mr. Zaki responded that it is in the state pool, and we receive a portion at the end of each month.

**LEGAL** – Mr. Kolton Jones provided rule updates to the Commission:

- Rules Implementing the Water Resources Conservation and Development Incentive Act, Title 14, were reviewed by the legislature on May 18, 2022, approved and filed with the Secretary of the State (SOS) office and will become effective this Friday.
- Unpaved Roads Program Rules were reviewed by the legislature on April 20, 2022, approved and filed with the SOS office, and became effective May 7, 2022.
- Potential upcoming changes to Rules Governing the Arkansas Water Resource Agricultural Cost-Share Program, Title 10, to increase participation in the program.
- Potential upcoming changes to Rules Governing the Tax Credit Program for the Creation, Restoration, and Conservation of Private Wetland and Riparian Zones, Title 13, to help add clarification on which projects are eligible for tax credits.

Secretary Ward stated the Infrastructure Planning Advisory Committee continues to work on federal funding coming into the state as this is a big priority for the Governor. Furthermore, last week he received notification that Arkansas will receive the second half of the American Rescue Plan funding earlier than expected. Additional information should become available over the next few weeks.

**WATER QUALITY** – Tate Wentz provided the Commission with the Wetland and Riparian Tax Credit Committee Recommendations. There are two public members for consideration: Josh Duzan and Aaron Thomason, P.E.

*Upon motion by Mr. Neal Anderson, seconded by Mrs. JoAnn Bush, the Commission unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Duzan and Mr. Thomason to the Wetland and Riparian Tax Credit Committee.*

**CONSERVATION SECTION** – Megan Perkins reported on the below appointments and reappointments:

**Appointments to Conservation District Boards**

Clay County	Blake Goodman
Perry County	Candace Reed
Poinsett County	Judd Cunningham
Poteau River	Leonard Russell

**Reappointments to Conservation District Boards**

Buffalo	Don Balentine
Buffalo	Ricky Reed
Montgomery County	Rod Powell
Washington County	Carolina Castaneda
Woodruff County	Vance Thompson

*Upon motion by Mr. Will Brewer, seconded by Mr. Neal Anderson, the Commission unanimously approved the appointments & reappointments to Conservation District Boards.*

**Fiscal Year 2023 Grants-to-Districts Funding** – Mrs. Perkins provided the Commission with the NRD FY 2023 (July 1<sup>st</sup>-June 30<sup>th</sup>) state grants-to-districts funding proposal for conservation districts. NRD has \$250,000 in the budget to allocate this year. Forty-nine applications from 31 districts were received. Funding for 33 projects across 26 districts is being recommended. Mrs. Perkins mentioned Dallas County had funding left over from a reallocation approved at the last commission meeting. A total of \$948.62 was reimbursed to Dallas County in FY22, therefore, the ANRC/NRD portion for FY23 will be \$51.38. Additionally, the state feral hog funding is included in this grants-to-districts allocations.

*Upon motion by Mr. Eddie Glover, seconded by Mrs. JoAnn Bush, the Commission unanimously approved the Fiscal Year 2023 State Grants-to-Districts allocations.*

**Fiscal Year 2023 Line Item Funding** - Mrs. Perkins provided the Commission with line item funding for the conservation districts for FY 2023 in the amount of \$939,990.00. However, this year the Commission will withhold \$19,533 to pay the employee's dishonesty policy, worker's compensation insurance, and a reserve for special projects. Any remaining amounts at the end of the fiscal year are sent back to districts.

For FY 2023, the amount available to distribute to the districts is \$920,457.00. The conservation section staff recommends the FY 2023 available line-item funding be distributed equally to each of the 75 conservation districts, estimated at \$12,273 per district.

*Upon motion by Mr. Will Brewer, seconded by Mr. Neal Anderson, the Commission unanimously approved the Fiscal Year 2023 line-item funding recommendation.*

Commissioner Leggitt inquired about the status of annual conservation district audits. Director Colclasure stated Mr. Zaki has requested bid proposals for a vendor to conduct audits on all 75



conservation districts. Chairman Reaves asked if we would have a recommendation by the next commission meeting. Director Colclasure stated he should have one by the next meeting. Mr. Zaki stated the contract will be on the Arkansas Legislative Council (ALC) agenda for review this month, therefore, he hopes to have a contract started by July, but at the latest August. Commissioner Leggitt requested to receive the recommendation via email before the next commissioning meeting. Director Colclasure clarified that July is the approval process for the contract. The audits will still not occur until a while after that.

Commissioner Leggitt asked if we can go back to having the conservation districts hire a CPA every two years to conduct the audit. Director Colclasure and Debbie Moreland with AACD stated some districts still do that, however, not all can afford to pay for an audit.

**Fiscal Year 2023 Beaver Funding**– Mrs. Perkins presented a report on the 56 conservation districts which participate in the beaver program and their request for FY 2023 funding. NRD receives \$150,000 to disperse to conservation districts to help eradicate beavers. She stated the recommended allocation amounts for FY 2023 are based off of beaver year reports & funding dispersed from FY 2022.

**2021 ANNUAL GROUNDWATER REPORT** – Blake Forrest, Geology Supervisor, presented the 2021 Groundwater Protection & Management Report. He stated additional aquifers in the state are looked at, but the main focus is on the Sparta/Memphis Aquifer (Sparta) and the Mississippi River Valley Alluvial Aquifer (Alluvial). There are five groundwater study areas: St. Francis, Cache, Grand Prairie, Boeuf-Tensas, and South Arkansas. The following have been designated as critical groundwater areas: Cache (Alluvial & Sparta), Grand Prairie (Alluvial & Sparta), and South Arkansas (Sparta).

In 2021, there were 1,169 total water level measurements in the Mississippi River Valley Alluvial Aquifer. In the spring of 2021, 456 wells were measured, whereas in the fall of 2021, 372 wells were measured. Furthermore, 410 wells were comparable for the one year change from 2021 to 2022.

In 2021, there were 549 total water level measurements collected in the Sparta Aquifer. In the spring of 2021, 242 different wells were measured.

Mr. Forrest presented data on water level altitude, depth of water, explained how percent saturated is calculated, and touched on rain amounts across Arkansas and the decreases and increases of one, five, and ten-year groundwater change, as well as spring/fall (pre-/post-irrigation) change during 2021.

Mr. Forrest stated he does not have any new complete data for groundwater use, therefore, he briefly discussed data from 2018. He stated total groundwater irrigation use for 2018 is 7,590 Mgal/d from all aquifer sources in eastern Arkansas, with 6,517 Mgal/d from the Alluvial aquifer and 68 Mgal/d from the Sparta aquifer. The Sparta is primarily used for municipal and industrial uses, whereas the Alluvial is used for irrigation use.



Lastly, Mr. Forrest briefly discussed the Water Conservation Tax Incentive Program. He presented data from 2017 to 2021. In 2021, at total of 75 projects were approved (15 impoundments, 43 land leveling, 10 surface water conversions, and 7 water meter installations).

**WATER QUALITY PRESENTATION** – Tate Wentz presented information on the four major programs within the Water Quality section: 1) Nonpoint Source Pollution Program, 2) Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program, 3) Arkansas Nutrient Reduction Strategy, and 4) Wetland and Riparian Zone Tax Credit Program. These programs focus on the terrain and landscape structure; therefore, we work in the riparian zone. This is the area of land around streams, rivers, and lakes. By working in the riparian zone, we help reduce sediments and nutrients from entering the water. Sediment reduction and nutrient abatement both lead to water quality improvement. Mr. Wentz explained how these programs work, how they are connected to other entities and agencies outside of our department. He also touched on how water quality plays a role on drinking water and on agriculture.

### **WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT SECTION**

*Upon motion by Mr. Neal Anderson, seconded by Mr. Will Brewer, the Commission unanimously approved the following staff recommendations for financial assistance and for an increase in financial assistance:*

### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:**

Mrs. Debby Dickson presented staff recommendations for the referenced project below requesting financial assistance from the Arkansas Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF), the Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Fund (WSSW), the Arkansas Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF), and the Water Development Fund (WDF).

### **Arkansas Environmental Training Academy Ouachita County**

#### **Project: Act 605 of 2021 Required Board Training for Retail Water Providers**

#### **Project Description**

At the request of the Natural Resources Division, the Arkansas Environmental Training Academy (AETA) is proposing to provide training as required by Act 605 of 2021 pertaining to Retail Water Provider Boards. All members of a retail water provider governing board must complete eight hours of training within one year of becoming a board member. All members of a water provider board, as of January 1, 2021, shall receive the training required under this section by December 31, 2022. A member with 10 years or more service on the governing board is exempt from training. As the State mandated Environmental Training Center, the Academy meets or exceeds all the requirements of the project. The AETA has a system in place for the following:

- Course Identifier - the AETA has a system in place to provide a unique qualifier to all courses.
- Certificate of Completion - The AETA will issue a Certificate for all students who complete the training.



- Course Roster - Rosters are produced for all AETA classes and will be submitted to Natural Resources Division (NRD) in a digital or paper format as requested.
- Unique Qualifier – AETA Rosters contain the last four (4) digits of student SSN and first three letters of their last name.

The AETA has the capabilities to provide this training on-campus, on-site, virtually on the Zoom platform, and Internet delivery. The curriculum is based on the NRD provided outline and anticipates ability to deliver training in mid-July. The AETA is working to develop a training schedule to meet the immediate need (through December 2022) as well as developing an established schedule for 2023.

The AETA will provide the following classes through December 2022:

- 11 Classes at training locations across the state
- 6 Classes on-campus that will also be available virtually on the Zoom platform
- 12 classes by Internet delivery

Total Cost for 29 classes through December 2022: \$50,924.

The AETA will offer additional classes for the 2022 schedule, at the request of NRD, for a standard rate of \$1,756 per class.

The AETA proposes to develop a training schedule for 2023 that includes:

- 12 Classes at training locations across the state
- 12 Classes on-campus that will also be available virtually on the Zoom platform
- 24 classes by Internet delivery

Total Cost for 48 classes in 2023: \$84,288

The AETA will offer additional classes for the 2023 schedule, at the request of NRD, for a standard rate of \$1,756 per class.

#### **Executive Director's Recommendation**

Recommend the commission approve an amount up to \$150,000 in a grant to Arkansas Environmental Training Academy (AETA) from the Water Development Fund.

### **Arkansas Rural Water Association**

#### **Project: 2022 - 2023 Circuit Rider Grant**

#### **Project Description**

Arkansas Rural Water Association (ARWA) has been providing Training and Technical Assistance to water systems throughout the state of Arkansas since 1985 through funding provided by the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission.

ARWA has multiple technical assistance programs. This proposal is for the Association's continued funding assistance for a "Circuit Rider". The Circuit Rider is a trouble shooter, capable of providing the technical assistance necessary to help any water system, preferably under 10,000 population, with their infrastructure problems. The Circuit Rider would primarily provide assistance with operation, maintenance, management and financial problems that plague the smaller systems in the State of Arkansas. This technical assistance program is presently funded at \$125,000/year and ARWA is requesting that funding level remain the same to operate this annual program.

#### **Project Financial Information**

The current three year (2017-2019) average Median Household Income (MHI) provided by UALR for the State of Arkansas is \$45,712.

ARWA will provide quarterly and year-end reports to the agency on each Commission funded program.

#### **Executive Director's Recommendation**

Recommend the commission approve an amount up to \$125,000 in a grant to ARWA from the Water Development Fund.

### **Arkansas Rural Water Association**

#### **Project: 2022 - 2023 Public Water Systems Grant**

#### **Project Description**

Arkansas Rural Water Association (ARWA) has been providing training and technical assistance to water and wastewater systems throughout the state of Arkansas since 1985 through funding provided by the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission.

The technical assistance grant program works with public water systems in ten counties listed as Arkansas' persistent poverty counties. These ten counties are selected for PWS (Public Water Systems) infrastructure surveys. A planned, in-depth, on-site inspection of the selected systems is performed to include all existing above ground water system infrastructures.

These water system infrastructure inspections are to determine the source of water, number and type of tanks, pump station's voltage, horsepower, pump capacity, and if a system has interconnections with other PWS's. Additional inspection results determine the required power needs in KW (kilowatt) for emergency generators, the type of emergency electrical transfer switches and if a manual transfer switch or automatic transfer switch could be installed to make the PWS more resilient in a time of power outages. The inspections also determine the percent of monthly water loss for the last twelve months and to assist systems with water audits. This technical assistance program is presently funded at \$65,000/year and ARWA is requesting the funding level remain the same to operate this annual program.



### **Project Financial Information**

The current three year (2017-2019) average Median Household Income (MHI) provided by UALR for the State of Arkansas is \$45,712. ARWA will provide quarterly and year-end reports to the agency on each program.

### **Executive Director's Recommendation**

Recommend the commission approve an amount up to \$65,000 in a grant to ARWA from the Water Development Fund.

## **Benton County Water Authority (WA) #4**

### **Benton County**

### **Project: Water Main Replacement**

### **Project Description**

Benton County WA #4, located east of the City of Lowell in Benton County, has experienced significant growth in the drinking water service area during the past 10 years. This growth along with hot summer temperatures has caused the system difficulty providing flows and pressures to meet the Arkansas Department of Health's requirements, when water usage is high. The service area has several 3" and 4" dead end lines that serve approximately 250 residents and has begun to reach capacity. The northeast portion of the system on McGarrah Road needs to be upgraded to a 6" water main with appurtenances. The master meter vault piping and meter at the connection point should be upgraded from a 4" to a 6" meter vault piping and meter to provide additional flow for the service area that is nearing capacity. Water meter services throughout the system need to be replaced to include check valves to limit leaks. Leak detection vaults are needed on branch lines to locate leaking water mains due to the varying karst topography of the service area.

### **Project Financial Information**

Based on available information, the current monthly water bill for Benton County WA #4 is \$56.20 based on 4,000 gallons of usage. Benton County WA #4 will be required to increase their water rates by 11%, which equates to \$62.38 and \$60.99 for a 4,000-gallon bill for residential water and commercial water, respectively. The current three-year (2017-2019) average Median Household Income (MHI) provided by UALR for Johnson Township is \$48,868. The current customer base for this project is 250. Benton County WA #4 currently has one loan with ANRC and is current on all payments.

### **Estimated Project Costs**

Construction	\$3,600,000
Contingencies	360,000
Engineering – Planning, Design & Construction	287,100
Engineering – Inspection	148,500
Legal Fees	19,660
Administrative	25,000
Other – Permitting, Archeological, Easements	80,000
Estimated Capitalized Interest during Construction	10,000
<b>Total Estimated Capital Cost:</b>	<b>\$4,530,260</b>

### **Executive Director's Recommendation**

Recommend the commission approve a loan in an amount up to \$4,530,260 from the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund.

In addition, authorize the executive director of the commission the discretionary authority to increase the amount of financial assistance to the applicant for bid overruns by an amount up to 10% of the commission funding amount (\$453,026) without returning to the commission for approval. Such increase in financial assistance shall be granted only after consultation with the commission chairman. Any financial assistance increases pursuant to this section shall be reported to the commission in its entirety at the next regularly scheduled commission meeting.

If approved, the executive director will establish any necessary combined annual borrower rates and additional terms and conditions including the requirement to establish and maintain a depreciation reserve fund.

## **Central Arkansas Water Pulaski County**

### **Project: Jack H. Wilson Water Treatment Plant Upgrades**

#### **Project Description**

Central Arkansas Water (CAW) has several different high service booster pumps throughout central Arkansas and the Jack H. Wilson Water Treatment Plant is the most critical treated-water pump station in the CAW system. On an average day, over 60% of the water delivered to CAW customers is pumped through station 1A at the Jack H. Wilson treatment plant. In 2015, CAW commissioned an engineering study to assess and recommend improvements to the then 50-year-old treatment plant. In 2016 a detailed design document was presented to CAW for the pump station improvements. That design resulted in a 2-phase construction plan. Phase 1 of the project was bid in 2017 and subsequently completed in 2019. CAW is now ready to begin phase-2 of the construction required to complete the pump station rehabilitation and improvements. High Service Booster Pump Station 1A phase 2 includes the installation of 5 new pumps, motors, and the control gear necessary to rehabilitate the pumpstation to improve operational efficiency and effectiveness. It will also extend the functional life of the 58-year-old pumping facility at the water treatment plant.

#### **Project Financial Information**

CAW will not be required to raise rates at this time. The current three year (2017-2019) average Median Household Income (MHI) provided by UALR for the City of Little Rock is \$49,968. CAW listed the customer base for this project at 156,000. Central Arkansas Water currently has eight outstanding loans with ANRC, they are current on all payments.

#### **Estimated Project Costs**

Construction:	\$3,600,000
Contingencies	255,000
Engineering – Planning, Design, and Construction	50,000
Engineering – Inspection	65,000



Legal Fees	30,000
Administrative	0
Capitalized Interest during Construction	0
Issuance fee (3%)	0
Total Estimated Capital Cost:	\$4,000,000

### **Executive Director's Recommendation**

Recommend the commission approve a loan in an amount up to \$4,000,000 from the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund.

In addition, authorize the executive director of the commission the discretionary authority to increase the amount of financial assistance to the applicant for bid overruns by an amount up to 10% of the commission funding amount (\$400,000) without returning to the commission for approval. Such increase in financial assistance shall be granted only after consultation with the commission chairman. Any financial assistance increases pursuant to this section shall be reported to the commission in its entirety at the next regularly scheduled commission meeting.

If approved, the executive director will establish any necessary combined annual borrower rates and additional terms and conditions including the requirement to establish and maintain a depreciation reserve fund.

### **H2Ozarks**

**Newton, Searcy, Marion, Baxter, Boone, Madison, Pope, Stone & Van Buren County**

### **Project Description**

H2Ozarks, formerly known as Ozarks Water Watch (OWW), has applied as a managing organization for the Septic Tank Remediation Pilot Program and funding for septic tank remediation within the Buffalo River Watershed. The proposal is for management and remediation over a three-year period.

The purpose of this pilot project is to improve and protect water quality in three targeted watersheds while assisting residents in remediating their failing onsite septic systems. By participating and meeting all necessary requirements in this program and depending on their household income, residents in the targeted watersheds will be eligible to receive some financial assistance, not to exceed \$30,000, in the form of grant/loan as reimbursement for repair or replacement of a failing septic system (as long as funding is available).

The managing organization will be responsible for:

- Determining homeowner eligibility and income status,
- Reviewing homeowner application to ensure all program requirements are met,
- Issuing notice to proceed to homeowner based on approved application,
- Receiving and reviewing all contractor signed final invoices,
- Submitting permits, construction invoices and pay requests to NRD,
- Obtaining notarized Deeds of Trust and Promissory notes,
- Filling Deed of Trust,
- Accepting loan installments until loan is repaid,

- Filing notarized deeds of release and remitting to homeowner, and
- Revolving loan receipts into future loans/grants.

Many people within the Upper White River/Beaver Lake and Buffalo River Watershed are living in areas which are not served by municipal sewers. Wastewater treatment is accomplished using septic systems. Considering that regional soils are generally rocky and thin, conventional septic systems consisting of a septic tank and drain field are often ineffective and can pose a water quality hazard. In addition, when not maintained, even a functioning septic system can eventually fail and leach contaminants into the ground and directly into water sources. This pilot program has focused on providing resources and information to existing homeowners for replacement of old, failing septic systems and promote proper maintenance of existing systems through a grant/loan program.

The Buffalo River Watershed is located primarily in Newton, Searcy, and Marion counties, but also includes parts of Baxter, Boone, Madison, Pope, Stone, and Van Buren counties. The main stem, Buffalo River, is a National River; this and two tributaries, Richland Creek and Falling Water Creek are designated as Extraordinary Resource Waters; Buffalo River and Richland Creek are also designated as Natural and Scenic Waterways. Designated uses in the watershed include primary contact recreation; secondary contact recreation; domestic, industrial, and agricultural water supplies; and fisheries. Buffalo River and Big Creek are on the State's list of impaired waterbodies for pathogens and/or dissolved oxygen (2018).

For Homeowners: Financial assistance will be offered to homeowners who are deemed in need of a septic system replacement by the Arkansas Department of Health. Assistance will be in the form of a grant and/or 0% interest loan depending on the income of the homeowner.

The homeowner will be responsible for:

- Hiring a qualified licensed installer and, if needed, a soil scientist,
- Acquiring three quotes from licensed installers,
- Meeting all regulatory requirements,
- Providing a copy of all required paperwork including paid invoices for the service completed to the managing organization before requesting reimbursement,
- Agreeing to provide qualified operation and maintenance of the system during the project period,
- Allowing a deed of trust to be placed on the property to secure the loan portion of the reimbursement award, and
- Supplying documents needed to establish ownership of property, proof of identity, and proof of income.

### **Watershed Impacts**

When properly maintained and operating correctly, septic systems remove many pollutants and provide some measure of protection for human health and the environment. However, as rural populations continue to grow and aquifers exhaust their ability to dilute wastes from ever-increasing numbers of septic tanks, water quality can deteriorate.

Septic systems can be a contributor to the many sources of nutrients in groundwater and surface water. Nutrient enrichment, or eutrophication, is the over-fertilization of surface waters by



nitrogen and phosphorus. Nutrient enrichment can cause a host of negative ecological effects on streams and lakes, including loss of water clarity, proliferation of aquatic weeds, algae blooms, and drop-offs in dissolved oxygen (a critical factor for fish and other aquatic life).

Implementation of a septic tank remediation program in the Upper White River/Beaver Lake and expanding to include the Buffalo River Watershed is likely to have a direct positive impact on water quality by reducing the potential of leaching contaminants into the ground and directly into water sources.

### **Estimated Project Costs**

The chart below includes estimated costs for the H2Ozarks to provide staff to administer a grant/loan program for septic tank remediation in the Buffalo River Watershed. The Natural Resources Division of the Arkansas Department of Agriculture will require prior approval on all promotional expenses throughout the length of the project.

Managing Organization Estimated Costs (Buffalo River Watershed)	Estimated Budget	
Personnel		
Personnel*	\$190,500.00	
Benefits, Payroll Taxes, & Indirect Expenses (30%)	57,000.00	
Promotional - (Requires NRD approval prior to expending funds)		
Promotional Supplies (design and printing)	20,000.00	
Office Supplies (computer, business printer, etc.)	5,000.00	
Mileage (assuming 5,000 miles at \$0.54/mile for three-year period)	5,900.00	
Estimated Managing Organization Budget (three-year period)		\$278,400.00

### **Executive Director's Recommendation**

Recommend the Commission approve an amount up to \$278,400 in a grant to H2Ozarks from the Water Development Fund. In addition, recommend expanding the scope of the previously approved construction funding from the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund to include the Buffalo River Watershed.

If approved, the Executive Director will establish any necessary combined annual borrower rates and additional terms and conditions including the requirement to establish and maintain a depreciation reserve fund.

## **City of Melbourne**

### **Izard County**

#### **Project: Funding for Water Meter Installation**

##### **Project Description**

Melbourne originally applied for a loan to purchase and install master meters for zoning and leakage monitoring. The original project's bids came in higher-than-expected which led Melbourne to downsize the original project. In addition, the city discovered that the existing boxes and meter box setters needed replacement which had to be addressed with the original project funding. At this time, Melbourne is requesting funding to install the master meters, meters, and related parts for the additional 150 customers that were not included in the original project.

##### **Project Financial Information**

The current monthly city and rural water bills for Melbourne are \$25.00 and \$34.80 based on 4,000 gallons of usage, respectively. Melbourne will be required to increase their water rates by 32%, which equates to \$33.00 and \$45.94 for a 4,000-gallon bill for city and rural water, respectively. Should it be determined during the term of this loan that the rates are not sufficient in covering required debt service along with operation and maintenance costs, Melbourne will be required to increase rates. The current three-year (2017-2019) average Median Household Income (MHI) provided by UALR for Melbourne is \$38,790. Melbourne listed their water customer base for this project at 1,769. Melbourne currently has 5 loans with ANRC and are current.

##### **Estimated Project Costs**

	Total Cost Estimate
Construction:	\$122,750
Contingency (9.98%)	12,250
Engineering: Planning	0
Engineering: Construction	0
Inspection	0
Legal	0
Issuance fee (3%)	4,050
Total Estimated Capital Cost:	\$139,050

##### **Executive Director's Recommendation**

Recommend the commission approve a loan in an amount up to \$139,050 (Includes 3% fee of \$4,050) from the Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste Management Systems Fund.

In addition, authorize the executive director of the commission the discretionary authority to increase the amount of financial assistance to the applicant for bid overruns by an amount up to 10% of the commission funding amount (\$13,905) without returning to the commission for



approval. Such increase in financial assistance shall be granted only after consultation with the commission chairman. Any financial assistance increases pursuant to this section shall be reported to the commission in its entirety at the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting.

If approved, the Executive Director will establish any necessary combined annual borrower rates and additional terms and conditions including the requirement to establish and maintain a depreciation reserve fund.

## **City of Mountainburg Crawford County**

### **Project: Cultural Resources Survey for Proposed North Central Crawford County Water System**

#### **Project Description**

This funding application is for planning and development expenses limited to conceptual engineering, a cultural resources survey, required public notice and advertisement fees, water plan compliance review fees, and postage expenses. Expenses that are excluded from this funding request include the following: preliminary engineering, engineering design, engineering construction management and inspection, construction, contingencies, legal fees, bid phase advertisements, and regulatory review fees.

The area for the proposed potable water system improvements is located in the north central region of Crawford County, Arkansas, and is the largest area in the County that is not presently served by potable water. Furthermore, it may be the largest unserved area of potable water in Northwest Arkansas, if not the entire state. The system would connect to the City of Mountainburg's Rackley Mountain Extension at the intersection of Kimes Tower Road, Old 88 Road, and Chester Cutoff. From there, the system would extend north along Kimes Tower Road and Freedom Road to the Washington County Line (10.3 Miles), and south along Old 88 Road to the extents of a neighboring water system (North Rudy Extension) owned and operated by the Cedarville Waterworks Public Facilities Board (7.8 Miles). The system would also extend east and west along Old 12 Cross Roads from Chester, Arkansas, to Arkansas Highway 220 (11.3 Miles). Excluding the existing Rackley Mountain System, this service area is approximately 53-square miles. This area is rural in nature and is used for residential and minor agricultural purposes including livestock and pastureland.

The goal is to extend a potable water supply to the north central region of Crawford County, Arkansas, that is currently unserved. The project will be called North Central Crawford County Water System Improvements, and anticipated a future funding application for the recommended capital improvements below:

- Installation of approximately 68-miles of water line ranging in diameter from 3 to 6-inches along County and public roads.
- A master meter connection to the existing City of Mountainburg water system. This connection will require extensive improvements to the City's existing infrastructure including the replacement of all pumps.

- Installation of three (3) water storage tanks, one (1) pump station, and several pressure reducing valves.
- A master meter connection to the existing Washington Water Authority to serve the Liberty Hill Community.
- Providing water service connection to 342 new customers

#### **Project Financial Information**

The current average monthly water for the city of Mountainburg is \$46.18 based on 4,000 gallons of usage. Mountainburg is listed their customer base as 767 and estimates 342 new customers with the proposed water system expansion.

#### **Estimated Project Costs**

Construction:	\$ 0
Contingencies	0
Engineering – Planning and Development	3,904
Legal Fees	0
Administrative	0
Capitalized Interest during Construction	0
Issuance fee (3%)	0
Other: Cultural Resources Survey	46,096
Other – Permitting	0
<b>Total Estimated Capital Cost:</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

#### **Executive Director's Recommendation**

Recommend the Commission approve an amount up to \$50,000 in a grant from the Water Development fund to the city of Mountainburg.

If approved, the Executive Director will establish any necessary combined annual borrower rates and additional terms and conditions including the requirement to establish and maintain a depreciation reserve fund.

### **Rock-Moore Public Water Authority (PWA) Independence County**

**Project: New Water Tank and Water System Improvements.**

#### **Project Description**

Rock Moore PWA is in the City of Sulphur Rock in Independence County. This proposal is to construct a new 250,000-gallon elevated water tank, a new booster pump station, water treatment plant improvements and a new 12" water line. The project will increase usable storage capacity, replace aging high service pumps, which will decrease maintenance cost and downtime. This will also improve the water system hydraulics with the addition of the 12" water line.

#### **Project Financial Information**

Based on available information, the current monthly water bill for Rock-Moore PWA is \$41.00 for residential and \$37.50 for commercial water based on 4,000 gallons of usage. Rock-Moore



PWA will be required to increase their water rates by 54%, which equates to \$63.14 and \$57.75 for a 4,000-gallon bill for the residential water and commercial water, respectively. Median Household Income (MHI) provided by UALR for Sulphur Rock, Arkansas is 38,644. The current customer base for this project is 1390. Rock-Moore PWA does not currently have an outstanding loan with ANRC.

#### **Estimated Project Costs**

Construction	\$3,200,000
Contingencies	320,000
Engineering – Planning, Design & Construction	319,870
Engineering – Inspection	192,130
Legal Fees	15,000
Administrative	5,000
Other – Geotechnical investigation for tank	10,000
Other – WWAC & EID	50,000
Estimated Capitalized Interest during Construction	150,000
Total Estimated Capital Cost:	<u>\$4,262,000</u>

#### **Executive Director's Recommendation**

Recommend the commission approve a loan in an amount up to \$4,262,000 from the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund.

In addition, authorize the executive director of the commission the discretionary authority to increase the amount of financial assistance to the applicant for bid overruns by an amount up to 10% of the commission funding amount (\$426,200) without returning to the commission for approval. Such increase in financial assistance shall be granted only after consultation with the commission chairman. Any financial assistance increases pursuant to this section shall be reported to the commission in its entirety at the next regularly scheduled commission meeting.

If approved, the executive director will establish any necessary combined annual borrower rates and additional terms and conditions including the requirement to establish and maintain a depreciation reserve fund.

#### **INCREASE IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:**

Mrs. Debby Dickson presented staff recommendations for the referenced project below requesting an increase in financial assistance from the Arkansas Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF), the Arkansas Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF), and the Water Development Fund (WDF).

#### **East End Improvement District No. 1 Saline County**

**Project: Additional Funds for Construction of Water Storage Tank & Rehab on Existing Water Storage Tanks**

### **Project Description**

The Commission previously approved an amount up to \$2,650,000 from the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund at the January 2021, commission meeting. Due to the fluctuating economy market prices continue to escalate since Commission approval of the original loan. The requested \$500,000 in additional funds will offset the escalating market, allow for the award of contract 2 and allow completion of the original scoped project. Originally, East End Improvement District No. 1 is requesting funding to construct a new 750,000-gallon water storage tank and install a 12" water line. This funding request will also include the installation of new altitude valves on East End's two existing water tanks.

### **Project Financial Information**

The current average monthly water bill for East End Improvement District No. 1 is \$20.25 monthly based on 4,000 gallons of usage. East End Improvement District No. 1 will be required to raise rates to \$22.48 per 4,000 gallons of usage. With the additional funds requested East End Improvement District #1 will be required to raise rates by another \$0.81 for a total increase of \$3.04, or 15%. The current three year (2017-2019) average Median Household Income (MHI) provided by UALR for the Town of Little Rock is \$49,968. East End Improvement District No. 1 is listed the customer base for this project at 2,297.

East End Improvement District No. 1 has one loan with ANRC and is current on all payments and audit requirements.

### **Estimated Project Costs**

	Previously Approved DWSRF Funds (Grant)	Additional Funding	Total Cost Estimate
Construction	\$2,100,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$2,600,000.00
Contingencies:	136,000.00	0.00	136,000.00
Engineering – Planning, Design and Construction	161,000.00	0.00	161,000.00
Engineering – Inspection	84,000.00	0.00	84,000.00
Issuance Fee (3%)	79,500.00	0.00	79,500.00
Legal	25,500.00	0.00	25,500.00
Other: Additional Engineering Fee	64,000.00	0.00	64,000.00
Total Estimated Capital Cost	\$2,650,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$3,150,000.00

### **Executive Director's Recommendation**

Recommend the Commission approve an amount up to \$500,000.00 in a loan to the East End Improvement District No. 1 from the Arkansas Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund.

In addition, recommend waiver of Rule section 1507.1 of the safe drinking water program. The applicant is a viable non-profit water provider and the amount of assistance provided will not materially impact the amount of funds available to pledge for leveraging the DWSRF, should the need arise. Therefore, we recommend waiving the requirement that this applicant be a political sub-division of the state.



Furthermore, authorize the executive director of the commission the discretionary authority to increase the amount of financial assistance to the applicant for bid overruns by an amount up to 10% of the commission funding amount (\$315,000 without returning to the commission for approval. Such increase in financial assistance shall be granted only after consultation with the commission chairman. Any financial assistance increases pursuant to this section shall be reported to the commission in its entirety at the next regularly scheduled commission meeting.

If approved, the Executive Director will establish any necessary combined annual borrower rates and additional terms and conditions including the requirement to establish and maintain a depreciation reserve fund.

### **McLean Bottoms Levee and Drainage District #3**

#### **Logan County**

#### **Project: Additional funds for Levee Repair**

##### **Project Description**

The commission previously approved funding from the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management utilizing the Governor's Emergency Funding for the purpose of rebuilding the breached sections and repair to additional sections of the levee to the original design grades. The McLean Bottoms Levee is active in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Rehab and Inspection (RIP) Program and all costs associated with the repair other than legal fees and easement acquisition will be funded by the USACE.

In May 2019, the Arkansas River overtopped the McLean Bottoms Levee which led to a full levee breach of a 440-foot-wide section. Two additional sections of the levee were also breached. The McLean Bottoms Levee protects 60 residences. During the flood, five homes were damaged beyond repair along with eight other structures.

##### **Project Financial Information**

No financial information was provided for the district at the time of the original application. However, the district provided a bank statement showing a current balance of \$2,215.06 with this request for additional funds.

##### **Estimated Project Costs**

	Previously approved	Additional Funding	Total Cost Estimate
Real Estate Costs and Legal Fees	\$91,000	0	\$91,000
Construction	0	350,000	\$350,000
Issuance fee (3%)	0	10,500	\$10,500
Total Estimated Capital Cost*:	\$91,000	\$360,500	\$451,500

\*\$3,833,918 in additional funding will be provided by USACE

### **Director's Recommendation**

The Staff recommends that the Commission approve an amount up to \$360,500 (includes 3% fee of \$10,500) in a loan from the Water Development Fund. This funding is contingent on the district's agreement to fully fund and maintain the levee in the USACE RIP program.

In addition, authorize the executive director of the commission the discretionary authority to increase the amount of financial assistance to the applicant for bid overruns by an amount up to 10% of the total commission funding amount (\$45,150) without returning to the commission for approval. Such increase in financial assistance shall be granted only after consultation with the commission chairman. Any financial assistance increases pursuant to this section shall be reported to the commission in its entirety at the next regularly scheduled commission meeting.

If approved, the executive director will establish any necessary combined annual borrower rates and additional terms and conditions including the requirement to establish and maintain a depreciation reserve fund.

### **Northwest Arkansas Conservation Authority Benton County**

#### **Project: Additional Funds for Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements**

#### **Project Description**

The commission previously approved an amount up to \$55,000,000 as a loan from the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund at the March 2021, commission meeting. Based upon the Bureau of Labor Statistics price indexes, prices for products and services soared nearly 20% in 2021 alone. This excludes increases in labor costs. Prices have continued to increase in 2022. That being said, assuming a worst-case high cost of \$65 million for construction, adding additional costs for geotechnical, legal, filter pilot testing, design services, bidding services, construction services, and an unforeseen allowance of nearly \$2 million, the total project cost is currently estimated at \$75 million.

The Northwest Arkansas Conservation Authority (NACA) was created to accommodate regional growth in Northwest Arkansas. Member cities include Bentonville, Rogers, Springdale, Centerton, Cave Springs, Highfill, Lowell and Tontitown. Currently, wastewater is received from Bentonville, Tontitown, and Elm Springs, with most of the flow from Bentonville. Bentonville is discussing the need to phase and divert more flows to NACA, and Cave Springs has received funding from the commission to decommission their treatment plant and send flow to NACA. Population in the region continues to grow at an annual average rate of 2.6% and NACA's wastewater treatment facility is nearing its designed treatment capacity.

This loan is contingent upon NACA's ability to generate approximately \$1,312,808 in additional revenue to service the debt for this loan.

NACA is requesting funding to make modifications and upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant to increase the average daily designed treatment capacity from 3.6 million gallons per day (MGD) to 7.2 MGD (including peak flows of 18 MGD), expanding the influent pump station, new



primary clarifier, additional screening and grit removal, new mixing and splitter box, additional process trains, new final clarifier splitter box, additional final clarifiers, expanded return sludge pumping station, additional chemical storage, additional filtration, additional ultraviolet disinfection, Class B solids improvements with new aerobic digesters, additional dewatering within the existing dewatering building, new maintenance facility, new backup power generation, and other modifications and upgrades necessary to increase the treatment capacity.

### **Project Financial Information**

NACA will be required to make adequate rate adjustments to fund the additional debt service requirements. The current three year (2015-2017) average Median Household Income (MHI) provided by UALR for the City of Bentonville is \$75,882. NACA listed the customer base for this project at 4 communities. However, the City of Bentonville has approximately 17,000 sewer customers with approximately 40% of those customers tied to NACA. The City of Tontitown has approximately 726, the City of Elm Springs has approximately 334, and the City of Bethel Heights has approximately 683 all utilizing NACA to treat wastewater.

NACA has five outstanding loans with ANRC and is current on all payments and audit requirements.

### **Estimated Project Costs**

	Previously Approved	Additional Funding	Total Cost Estimate
Construction:	\$48,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$68,000,000
Geotechnical	40,000	0	40,000
Task 1 – Project Management & Administration	111,000	0	111,000
Task 2 – Preliminary Design	1,014,000	0	1,014,000
Task 3 – Final Design	2,266,000	0	2,266,000
Task 4 – Contractor Pre-Qualifications & Bidding Services	158,000	0	158,000
Task 5 – Construction Administration	1,255,000	0	1,255,000
Task 5 – Construction Observation	1,598,000	0	1,598,000
Task 6 – Training, Operations & Maintenance Manual	150,000	0	150,000
Legal & Geotechnical	38,000	0	38,000
Unforeseen Allowance	370,000	0	370,000
Total Estimated Capital Cost:	\$55,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$75,000,000

### **Executive Director's Recommendation**

Recommend that the Commission approve an amount up to \$20,000,000 in a loan to Northwest Arkansas Conservation Authority from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

In addition, authorize the executive director of the commission the discretionary authority to increase the amount of financial assistance to the applicant for bid overruns by an amount up to 10% of the total commission funding amount (\$7,500,000) without returning to the commission for approval. Such increase in financial assistance shall be granted only after consultation with the commission chairman. Any financial assistance increases pursuant to this section shall be reported to the commission in its entirety at the next regularly scheduled commission meeting.

If approved, the Executive Director will establish any necessary combined annual borrower rates and additional terms and conditions including the requirement to establish and maintain a depreciation reserve fund.

## **SEARCY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

### **White County**

#### **Purpose: Additional Funds Wastewater System Rehabilitation**

#### **Project Description**

The commission previously approved an amount up to \$4,000,000 as a loan from the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund at the November 2019 commission meeting. When this project was bid the low bid came in at \$4,643,646. There has since been some additional work done to the project so that the additional funds requested are to cover the original bid over the original approved loan plus the additional necessary work added to the project.

1) Sanitary Sewer Repairs and Rehabilitation – Phase 1: Sewer rehabilitation and repair work in Basin 7 of Searcy’s sewer collection system will be designed and constructed to mitigate Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs). This rehabilitation and repair work will be performed by a qualified contractor or contractors and is typically accomplished by using several different techniques, including but not limited to, open cut, pipe bursting, cured in place pipe (CIPP) lining, jack and bore, tunneling, internal and external point repairs, chemical foam treatment and manhole repairs and replacement. For mainlines that cannot be cleaned by Searcy Water Utilities’ own equipment and staff, those lines will be included as part of the contractors’ scope of work.

2) Pioneer Acres Gravity Sewer Interceptor: Design and construction of a new 3,530 feet long 10” diameter gravity interceptor that removes the need for pumping and associated operation and maintenance costs of Searcy’s oldest lift station (Pioneer Acres Lift Station).

#### **Project Financial Information**

The current monthly water bill for the Searcy Board of Public Utilities based on 4,000 gallons of usage, is \$22.75 (residential). Searcy Board of Public Utilities was not required to raise rates to service the proposed loan, including 110% loan coverage. Searcy Board of Public Utilities will need to generate additional revenue of approximately \$57,927. The current three year (2015-2017) average Median Household Income (MHI) provided by UALR for Searcy Board of Public Utilities is \$40,524. Searcy Board of Public Utilities listed the customer base for project at 7,892.

Currently, Searcy Board of Public Utilities Inc has one loan with ANRC.

#### **Estimated Project Costs**

	Previously Approved	Additional Funding	Total Cost Estimate
Construction:	\$3,130,000	\$950,000	\$4,080,000
Contingencies:	300,000	0	300,0000
Engineering – Planning, Design & Construction	300,000	0	300,000
Engineering – Inspection	250,000	0	250,000



Legal Fees	20,000	0	20,000
Administrative	0	0	0
Capitalized Interest during Construction	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Total Estimated Capital Cost:	\$4,000,000	\$950,000	\$4,950,000

### **Executive Director's Recommendation**

The Staff recommends that the Commission approve an amount up to \$950,000 in a loan to the Searcy Board of Public Utilities from the Arkansas Clean Water State Revolving Loan fund. The repayment schedule will not exceed twenty (20) years or the life of the project, whichever is less.

If approved, the Executive Director will establish the combined annual borrower rate and additional loan terms and conditions including the requirement to establish and maintain a depreciation reserve fund.

### **DE-OBLIGATION OF FUNDS:**

Mrs. Debby Dickson reported on the below referenced funds to be de-obligated from the Water Development Fund (WDF), the Arkansas Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF), and the Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste Fund (WSSW).

#### **Carthage (01246-WDF-G) \$289,698.53**

De-obligate funds in the amount of \$289,698.53 that were approved in August 2019 from the Arkansas Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF). Emergency project is complete.

#### **Dermott (01239-DWSRF-L) \$21,624.87**

De-obligate funds in the amount of \$21,401.72 that were approved in July 2019 from the Arkansas Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF). Project is complete.

#### **El Dorado (01377- CWSRF-L) \$44,720,977.00**

De-obligate funds in the amount of \$44,720,977.00 that were approved in March 2022 from the Arkansas Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF). Declined funding, seeking grant funding.

#### **Jennette (01373-WSSW-G) \$100,000.00**

De-obligate funds in the amount of \$100,000.00 that were approved in January 2022 from the Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste Fund (WSSW). Declined funding, using alternate funding source.

#### **Jennette (01374-WSSW-L) \$103,000.00**

De-obligate funds in the amount of \$103,000.00 that were approved in January 2022 from the Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste Fund (WSSW). Declined funding, using alternate funding source.

#### **North Little Rock (01068-CWSRF-L) \$10,812,127.00**

De-obligate funds in the amount of \$10,812,127.00 that were approved in May 2016 from the Arkansas Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF). Project is complete.

**Perry County (00500-ADEM-G) \$69,490.88**

De-obligate funds in the amount of \$69,490.88 that were approved in January 2020 from the Arkansas River Emergency Levee Assistance - Levee Mitigation Fund. Project is complete.

**Runyan Sewer Improvement District #211 (01319-CWRLF) \$197,947.59**

De-obligate funds in the amount of \$197,947.59 that were approved in March 2018 from the Arkansas Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund. Project is complete.

**ACTIVITY REPORTS**

Activity reports were presented by Amanda Mathis, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); Debbie Moreland, Arkansas Association Conservation Districts (AACD); Dr. Mike Daniels, U of A Cooperative Extension Service; and Bailey Taylor, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ).

**OTHER**

Chairman Reaves recognized and congratulated Commissioner Bill Poynter on being reappointed to the Commission. Mr. Reaves also pointed out that the next commission meeting will be held on August 11, 2022, in conjunction with AACD at the Wyndham Riverfront in North Little Rock.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the commission unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting.



Chris Colclasure  
Director

8/26/22  
Date