

**Minutes of the  
ARKANSAS NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
November 16, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission was held Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at 9:30 a.m., at Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, 101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 350, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Mike Carter, Don Richardson, Neal Anderson, Ann Cash, Fred Fowlkes, Sloan Hampton, Jerry Hunton, Bruce Leggitt and Bill Poynter.

Staff members in attendance included: 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; Deanna Ray, Assistant General Counsel; Blake Walters, Land Resource Specialist; Cody Harrington, Land Resource Specialist; Bob Fowler, Land Resource Specialist; Jessica Wallace, Administrative Services Manager; Lori Nakai, Public Information Specialist; Debbie Dickson, Grants Coordinator; Dave Fenter, Grants Manager; Marylen Smith, Program Coordinator; Gina Wilson, Construction Finance Analyst; Jim Battreal, Geology Supervisor; Jacob Harvey, Construction Inspector; Trevor Timberlake, Engineer Supervisor; Veronica Villalobos-Pogue, Program Coordinator; Whitney Montague, Ecologist; and Carla Hill, Executive Assistant.

A list of guests is attached to the minutes.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 21, 2016**

Upon motion by Mrs. Ann Cash, second by Mr. Fred Fowlkes, the Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the September 21, 2016 regular meeting.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**- Ryan Benefield, Deputy Director

Mr. Benefield reported, at the direction of Governor Hutchinson, ANRC will be the lead agency developing a watershed management plan for the Beautiful Buffalo River Action Committee.

**Adoption of Schedule of Meetings for 2017:** Upon motion by Mrs. Ann Cash, second by Mr. Bill Poynter, the Commission unanimously approved the following schedule of dates for 2017: January 18, 2017; March 15, 2017; May 17, 2017; July 19, 2017; September 20, 2017; and November 15, 2017.

**Election of Officers for 2017:** Nominating Committee Chairman Neal Anderson recommended officers for 2017: Mr. Don Richardson, Chairman and Mr. Fred Fowlkes, Vice Chairman. Upon motion by Mr. Jerry Hunton, second by Mr. Bill Poynter, the Commission unanimously approved the recommendation.

**Status Report on Financial Assistance Programs -** Mrs. Cynthia Bearden presented the financial assistance report dated October 31, 2016. (A copy of the report, Attachment "A", is attached to the minutes.)

**WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT DIVISION** – Mark Bennett

Mr. Bennett presented staff recommendations for the referenced projects below requesting financial assistance from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF); Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF); Water, Sewer, Solid Waste (WSSW); and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (WDF).

Upon motion by Mr. Neal Anderson, second by Mr. Sloan Hampton, the Commission approved the following applications for financial assistance and change in terms of financial assistance. For the record, Mr. Bill Poynter recused himself from the Garland, Miller County, vote.

**APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:**

**AMITY (Clark County) (CWRLF-L)**

**Up to \$285,000**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: Wastewater treatment plant improvements including adding 275' of 8" force main, one manhole, one lift station & associated appurtenances.*

The Commission approved loan funds in an amount up to \$285,000 for the City of Amity from the Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund in accordance with the established funding priorities. The loan repayment schedule will not exceed thirty (30) years. The Executive Director will set the combined annual borrower rate and loan terms. Approval is contingent upon the City establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

**SOUTH PIKE COUNTY W.F.B. (Pike County) (DWSRF-PF)**

**Up to \$300,000**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: Install 2 booster stations, including duplex pumps, pneumatic tanks, controls, backup power & necessary appurtenances to operate.*

The Commission approved funds in an amount up to \$300,000 for the South Pike County Water Facilities Board from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund in accordance with the established funding priorities. The Executive Director will set the combined annual borrower rate and loan terms. Approval is contingent upon the Board establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

**GARLAND (Miller County) (WSSW-L)**

**Up to \$515,000**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: Reestablish interior levee slopes & install rock slope protection. Apply chemical herbicide & remove lily pads. Replace vertical turbine effluent pumps. Install gate & fence.*

The Commission approved loan funds in an amount up to \$515,000 for the City of Garland from the Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Fund. The loan is for up to thirty (30) years at four and one-quarter percent (4.25%) interest. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$15,000 is to be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the City establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

**GILLHAM REGIONAL W W DISTRICT (Sevier County)(WSSW-G)**

**Up to \$82,400**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: Repair & upgrades to the wastewater collection system, which will be in stages. This first stage includes refurbishing 50 manholes.*

The Commission approved grant funds in an amount up to \$82,400 for the Gillham Regional Wastewater District from the Water, Sewer & Solid Waste Fund. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$2,400 is to be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the District establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

**TULIP-PRINCETON W.A. (Grant County) (WDF-L)**

**Up to \$77,250**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: To re-coat interior and exterior of standpipe.*

The Commission approved loan funds in an amount up to \$77,250 for the Tulip-Princeton Water Authority from the Water Development Fund. This loan is for up to twenty years (20) at three and nine-tenths percent (3.9%) interest. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$2,250 is to be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the Authority establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

**TULIP-PRINCETON W.A. (Grant County) (WDF-G)**

**Up to \$77,250**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: To re-coat interior and exterior of standpipe.*

The Commission approved grant funds in an amount up to \$77,250 for the Tulip-Princeton Water Authority from the Water Development Fund. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$2,250 is to be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the Authority establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

**BANNER TOWNSHIP FACILITIES BOARD (Saline County)(WDF-G)**

**Up to \$1,681**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: Replace two 200-gallon pressure tanks.*

The Commission approved grant funds in an amount up to \$1,681 for Banner Township Facilities Board from the Water Development Fund. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$49 is to be retained by the Commission. Funds may be paid directly to Arkansas Rural Water Association for cost associated with these repairs. Approval is contingent upon the Facilities Board establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

**BRADLEY (LaFayette County) (WDF-G)**

**Up to \$231,750**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: Blast & re-coat interior of 50,000 gallon elevated storage tank. Replace water level indicator. Extend overflow pipe to the ground along with other minor repairs.*

The Commission approved grant funds in an amount up to \$231,750 for the City of Bradley from the Water Development Fund. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$6,750 is to be retained by the Commission. Funds may be managed by Arkansas Rural Water Association for costs associated with this project. Approval is contingent upon the City establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

**GUION (Izard County) (WDF-G)**

**Up to \$51,500**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: Replace bridge hangers for water line located over the White River.*

The Commission approved grant funds in an amount up to \$51,500 for the Town of Guion from the Water Development Fund. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$1,500 is to be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the Town establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

**HOWARD COUNTY (Howard County) (WDF-G)**

**Up to \$18,025**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: Install several valves in the system to be able to isolate leaks & reduce water loss.*

The Commission approved grant funds in an amount up to \$18,025 for Howard County from the Water Development Fund. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$525 is to be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the County establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

**CHANGE IN TERMS OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**NASHVILLE (Howard County) (DWSRF-L)**

**Up to \$1,100,000**

*PURPOSE OF FUNDS: Add two pumps & 2,300 lf of main to increase pressure & flow to customers and convert disinfection process from gas chlorine to hypochlorite.*

Repeal the approval of September 21, 2016 of up to \$1,133,000 to the City of Nashville from the Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Fund.

Then, approve loan funds in an amount up to \$1,100,000 for the City of Nashville from the Arkansas Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund in accordance with the established funding priorities. The loan repayment schedule will not exceed thirty (30) years. The Executive Director will set the combined annual borrower rate and loan terms. Approval is contingent upon the City establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

**CONSERVATION DIVISION** - Adrian Baber

**Appointments and Reappointments to Conservation District Boards :**

Mr. Adrian Baber presented Conservation District Board Appointments to the Commission. Upon motion by Mr. Neal Anderson, second by Mrs. Ann Cash, the Commission unanimously approved the following appointment:

**APPOINTMENT**

Dallas County  
Hot Spring County  
Hot Spring County  
Randolph County

Brenda Garrett  
Paul Harper  
Sanford Nix  
James Chester

Upon motion by Mr. Fred Fowlkes, second by Mr. Don Richardson, the Commission approved the following reappointments:

**REAPPOINTMENTS**

Sebastian County

Douglas Ellison

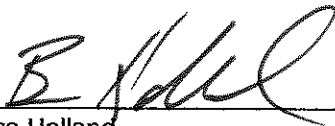
**Conservation District Activity Report** - Mr. Blake Walters, Land Resource Specialist, introduced Ms. Kim Thibodaux, Perry County Conservation District Coordinator. Ms. Thibodaux reported on raising awareness of the conservation district through the Perry County Community Garden sponsored by a USDA Urban Community Garden Grant. The seedlings are sprouted in the county school greenhouse and the working garden is maintained by nonviolent county offenders, veterans, and students. Through the sale of vegetables the garden is providing funding to support feeding elementary age students and the district garden. Gardening classes are offered by the district to students and the public.

**ACTIVITY REPORTS**

Activity reports were presented by the following: Ms. Amanda Mathis, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service; Dr. Mike Daniels, UA Cooperative Extension Service; and Mr. Scott Gain, US Geological Survey.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
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Bruce Holland  
Executive Director and Secretary

  
Date