

**Minutes of the
ARKANSAS NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
August 28, 2009**

A telephonic meeting of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission was held Friday, August 28, 2009, at 1:00 p.m., in the Director's office at the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, 101 East Capitol, Suite 350, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Robert White; Vice-Chairman Daniel Bryant, Alec Farmer, David Feilke, Corbet Lamkin, Neal Anderson, Jerry Mitchell, Ann Cash; and Sloan Hampton.

Staff members participating included: Randy Young, Executive Director; Jon Sweeney, Deputy Director/Chief Engineer; Earl Smith, Chief, Water Resources Management Division; Mark Bennett, Chief, Water Resources Development Division; Dave Fenter, Marketing Manager, Water Resources Development Division; Darla Brooks, Financial Programs Manager; Lori Scott-Nakai, Public Affairs; and Carla Hill, Administrative Assistant.

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

A list of guests is attached to the minutes.

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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

Upon motion by Dr. Lamkin, second by Mrs. Cash, the Commission approved the following recommendations:

ARKANSAS RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION (LONOKE COUNTY) (WSSW) Up to \$30,900.00

PURPOSE OF FUNDS: *To purchase a trailer mounted sewer camera unit to assist sewer systems with sewer line maintenance.*

The Commission approved a grant in an amount up to **\$30,900.00** for the Arkansas rural Water Association from the Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Fund. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$900.00 is to be retained by the Commission.

FRANKLIN/SEBASTIAN PUBLIC WATER AUTHORITY (WSSW) Up to \$206,000.00

PURPOSE OF FUNDS: *To assist with preliminary expenses associated with development of the Franklin/Sebastian project.*

The Commission approved a loan in an amount up to **\$206,000.00** for Franklin/Sebastian Public Water Authority from the Water, Sewer & Solid Waste Fund. This loan is for five (5) years or until permanent financing is available. No interest will be charged on the loan. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$6,000.00 is to be retained by the Commission.

JACKSONVILLE (PULASKI COUNTY) (WSSW)

Up to \$41,200.00

PURPOSE OF FUNDS: *To upgrade existing pump station to serve Valentine/Wooten Road area.*

The Commission approved a grant in an amount up to **\$41,200.00** for Jacksonville from the Water, Sewer and 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 and determination by the Executive Director that the Valentine/Wooten Road Project will likely be successfully completed.

SOUTH PIKE COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES BOARD (WSSW)

Up to \$75,190.00

PURPOSE OF FUNDS: *To complete the previous funded water project including payment of connection fee to Murfreesboro.*

The Commission approved a grant in an amount up to **\$75,190.00** for South Pike County Public Facilities Board from the Water, Sewer & Solid Waste Fund. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$2,190.00 is to be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the Board establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

PRAIRIE COUNTY (WDF)

Up to \$18,025.00

PURPOSE OF FUNDS: *To repair drainage system near Tollville causing damage to Lawman, Clayton and Toll Roads.*

The Commission approved a grant in an amount up to **\$18,025.00** for Prairie County from the Water Department Fund. An administrative fee in an amount up to \$525.00 is to be retained by the Commission. Approval is contingent upon the County establishing and maintaining a depreciation reserve fund.

BUFFALO ISLAND REGIONAL WATER DISTRICT (CRAIGHEAD COUNTY) (DWSRF)

Up to \$6,000,000.00

PURPOSE OF FUNDS: *To develop a 500-gpm well; to construct a 400,000 gallon, elevated water storage tank and a 200,000 gallon elevated storage tank, a 500-gpm water treatment facility, and to install new trunk lines to distribute the water from the proposed well and treatment facility throughout the existing system.*

On December 11, 2007, the Commission approved \$6,000,000.00 in funds for Buffalo Island Regional Water District from the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund.

The Commission approved **\$2,000,000.00** of that **original** amount in the form of principal forgiveness. The administrative fee of three percent (3%) is to be waived. The loan repayment schedule will not exceed thirty (30) years. Approval of principal forgiveness is contingent upon the availability of ARRA funding.

COTTON PLANT (WOODRUFF COUNTY) (DWSRF)

Up to \$1,750,000.00

PURPOSE OF FUNDS: *Rehabilitation of water distribution system to reduce the high water losses within the system.*

The Commission approved loan funds in an amount up to **\$1,750,000.00** of which **\$1,500,000.00** will be in the form of principal forgiveness for the City of Cotton Plant from the Arkansas Drinking Water State

Revolving Loan Fund in accordance with the established funding priorities. The loan repayment schedule will not exceed twenty (20) years. The Executive Director will set the combined annual borrower rate and loan terms. Approval is contingent upon the availability of ARRA funding.

EAST PRAIRIE COUNTY WATER ASSOCIATION (DWSRF)

Up to \$600,000.00

PURPOSE OF FUNDS: *Water treatment plant improvements.*

The Commission approved loan funds in an amount up to **\$600,000.00** of which **\$240,000.00** will be in the form of principal forgiveness for East Prairie Water Association from the Arkansas Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund in accordance with the established funding priorities. The loan repayment schedule will not exceed twenty (20) years. The Executive Director will set the combined annual borrower rate and loan terms. Approval is contingent upon the availability of ARRA funding and upon the Water Association converting to a public body. Upon such conversion, the financial assistance provided shall be transferred to the public body.

SMACKOVER (UNION COUNTY) (DWSRF)

Up to \$900,000.00

PURPOSE OF FUNDS: *Water system improvements including a new storage tank.*

The Commission approved loan funds in an amount up to **\$900,000.00** for the City of Smackover 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 availability of ARRA funding.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS EXPERIMENT STATION (CWSRF)

Up to \$300,000.00

PURPOSE OF FUNDS: *To purchase equipment used in the Discovery Farm Program benefiting water quality.*

The Commission approved loan funds in an amount up to **\$300,000.00** of which the total amount will be in the form of principal forgiveness for the University of Arkansas Experiment Station from the Arkansas Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund in accordance with the established funding priorities. Approval is contingent upon the availability of ARRA funding.

LITTLE ROCK (PULASKI COUNTY) (CWSRF)

Up to \$300,000.00

PURPOSE OF FUNDS: *To develop wetlands near the Clinton Presidential Library Park.*

The Commission approved loan funds in an amount up to **\$300,000.00** of which the total amount will be in form of principal forgiveness for the City of Little Rock from the Arkansas Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund in accordance with the established funding priorities. Approval is contingent upon the availability of ARRA funding.

SILOAM SPRINGS (BENTON COUNTY) (CWSRF)

Up to \$4,000,000.00

PURPOSE OF FUNDS: *To pay for additional costs associated with the construction of a new wastewater treatment plant to meet new stringent effluent limits.*

The Commission approved loan funds in an amount up to **\$4,000,000.00** of which the total amount will be in the form of principal forgiveness for the City of Siloam Springs from the Arkansas Clean Water State

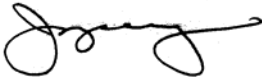
Revolving Loan Fund in accordance with the established funding priorities. Approval is contingent upon availability of ARRA funding.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Young was pleased to announce the election of Mr. Sonny Jones to the National Association of Conservation Districts' South Central Region Board at its meeting in August.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



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

October 13, 2009

Date