

# ***Lake Conway Advocacy Group Meeting***

## ***Meeting Overview***

September 23, 2009

### **I. Call to order**

**Jim McKenzie** called to order the first meeting of the **Lake Conway Advocacy Group** at **9:35 a.m.** on **September 14, 2009** in **Faulkner County Natural Resource Center, Conway, Arkansas.**

### **II. Attendees Introduction**

Jim McKenzie conducted an introduction of attendees along with a sign in. The following persons were present:

Jim McKenzie – MetroPlan  
Marsha Guffey - MetroPlan  
Mark Oliver – Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC)  
Tom Bly – Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC)  
Matt Mourot – Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC)  
Keith Stephens - Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC)  
Matt Horton - Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC)  
Amanda Edwards - Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC)  
Hayden Baldwin – Lake Conway Home Owner’s Association (LCHOA)  
Richard Collins – Retired Professor  
Charles McGrew – Arkansas Dept. of Health (ADH)  
Bobby Edwards – Rogers Estates Resident  
Nick Ruffin – Rogers Estates Resident  
Dan Flowers – Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD)  
Frank Vozel – Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD)  
Brooks Booher - Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD)  
Earl Smith – Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC)  
Mayor Randy Holland – Mayor of City of Mayflower  
Bill Beall – Lake Conway Citizens Advisory Committee (LCCAC)  
Preston Scroggins – Faulkner County Judge  
Sarah DeVries – Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)  
Sarah Clem – Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)  
Sarah Pavan - Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)  
Jim Malcolm – FTN Associates (FTN)  
Dennis Ford – FTN Associates (FTN)  
State Representative Jane English  
Sherman Smith – Pulaski County  
Buddy Wilcox – Lake Conway Property Owner  
Mark Spitzer – Lake Conway Homeowners Association (LCHOA)

Shawn Bates – UCA Student  
Jim Fugatt - Lake Conway Homeowners Association (LCHOA)

### **III. Meeting Overview from September 14, 2009 Meeting**

There were no objections or changes to the last meeting (July 1, 2009) overview submitted.

### **IV. Updates**

#### **a) AHTD analysis of hydraulic choke points:**

- There were no significant findings.
  - i. Most significant finding is the Highway 89 Bridge is a choke point (natural hill) which contributes just a few inches during flood events
- It was noted that 5 year flood events of the Arkansas River would cause flooding of Grassy Lake Road.

#### **b) AGFC reported on Mercury Issues**

- Lake Conway was tested in 2008
- The results indicated that the mercury levels were below the EPA action limits on fish in Lake Conway

#### **c) Water Level Management Committee**

- No changes can be made to the Water Level Management Plan until Grassy Lake Road issues are resolved or if a hydrology report indicates otherwise
- If Grassy Lake Road is raised, all spillway gates can be opened immediately during rain events. Along with the possibility of allowing AGFC to hold the lake at normal pool year round to enhance fish productivity and angler access
- Bobby Edwards provided figures for construction of an approximately 4800ft earth and dam with 1500ft of concrete spillway. The estimated cost was 2.2 million dollars
- AGFC reported on progress of Grassy Lake
  - i. AGFC WMD is in the process of reacquiring the old road bed ROW near the old bridge over Palarm creek to use as a mitigation site for the WRP acreage that will be lost if the proposed road is funded. Faulkner County is working with us

at this time to resolve the issue. Mitigation may begin as early as this spring unless the old ROW is needed for access for hauling fill material across the creek. If that is the case, mitigation will be completed after the road is completed.

- d) Jim McKenzie reported that elected officials associated with Lake Conway discussed the various issues on the board trip to Colorado. The consensus of the officials was that the associated jurisdictions needed to develop common standards through a comprehensive watershed management plan.
- e) FTN gave a presentation on Lake Conway and Lake Conway watershed study
  - FTN stated that there is funding available from private industry to help offset cost of the watershed study
- f) USACE was scheduled to give presentation on H-H watershed study but was not present

#### **V. Identify Stake Holders & What's Next**

- a) **Grassy Lake Road**
  - Dan Flowers (AHTD) will be in charge of plans, specs, bidding and inspections
  - Judge Preston Scroggins committed \$100,000 to the project
- b) **Lake Conway**
  - AGFC to head committee to investigate funding sources for Lake Conway watershed study
  - AGFC scheduled LCAG Watershed Study Funding Committee on September 22, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at Conway City Hall
- c) **Land Development and Watershed**
  - Developing the land development plan for the Lake Conway watershed will depend somewhat on the recommendations of the watershed study. Meanwhile, Metroplan staff will be collecting examples of best practices, regulations from other areas with similar problems, to be utilized in as needed.

Next Meeting LCAG Meeting scheduled for **Thursday October 22 at 9:30**, at the Faulkner County Natural Resource Center, 110 S. Amity Road in Conway. [This date was later changed to October 29<sup>th</sup>, due to schedule conflicts.]

#### **VI. Adjournment**

**Jim McKenzie** adjourned the meeting at **10:50 a.m.**

Minutes submitted by: Amanda Edwards