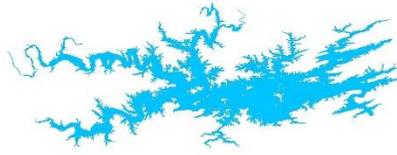


Friends of Lake Ouachita



1424 Blakely Dam Road
Royal, AR 71968

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD: Friends of Lake Ouachita Committee Minutes

DATE: September 12, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 PM by Jerry Shields

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

Eric Jenkins, Project Manager, Lake Ouachita Project Office
Stacy Sigman, Lake Resource Manager, Lake Ouachita Field Office
Amy Shultz, Natural Resource Specialist, Lake Ouachita Field Office

Guest Present: Rob Sanders

Members Present:

Alan Atkins	Robert Cavanaugh	Jerry Shields
Bill Barnes	Al Gathright	John Simpson
Tom Butler	Bill Pell	Jo West Taylor
Phillip Carr	Shane Scott	Dan Watson, Jerry Williams

Minutes: Phillip C. moved to approve minutes from June 6th meeting, and Robert C. seconded. Minutes approved as written

Committee Chair and Co-Chair Candidates: Jerry stated he sent out an email about his term as chair running out, but he didn't realize the chairman could serve 3 terms instead of 2 according to the By-laws. He asked if someone else would like to take the roll as chairman, they could do so in May, otherwise, he can remain Chair for one more term. Jerry stated they will also need to vote on a new Vice Chairman in May.

2022 Lake Cleanup Details: Jerry shared Jo W. has done a great job being chair of the cleanup committee. Jerry further shared that there would be a Beta Club group from Caddo Hills participating in the event and they would be taken to Twin Creek to work both directions of shoreline from Twin Creek. Jo W. shared the group would have to work on a weekday when they are in school. Jo W. further shared she had T-shirts for the students from Keep Arkansas Beautiful. Haley Young and Paula Jester are the teachers for the Beta Club Students. Amy S. asked if water would be provided by FOLO. Phillip C. volunteered to donate water for the event. The Saturday cleanup meeting area will be Brady Mountain Game and Fish ramp. Haley Young and Paula Jester from Caddo Hills School joined the meeting and asked if they could bring their students Thursday, September 15th to clean. They will be bringing 70 students 4th-12th grade. They will meet FOLO and the Corps at Twin Creek around 9:00 am. They are leaving Caddo Hills at 8:30 A.M. Jerry S. stated FOLO would buy food and meet at the Tompkins Bend pavilion after the cleanup to feed the students. Bill B. offered the use of two Mountain Harbor barges for the event. Shane Scott and Jerry S. volunteered to help on Thursday. Jerry shared that Derick had put together points on the lake where trash was located, and copies were given to members. Jerry asked if Derick could email him the points and maps. Tom B. stated he was bringing his boat Saturday to work the cleanup.

USACE Initiatives Overview:

-New Hot Springs Water Supply Issue: Stacy stated the Corps and FOLO members had received questions concerning the installation of the pipes from Lake Ouachita to Hot Springs and the impacts this will have on the lake. Stacy stated he had requested an expert, but she could not make the meeting, but sent a PowerPoint that Stacy and Eric had reviewed and added to. Stacy explained the process has been studied for years, and the storage agreement was approved in 2017. He explained the re-allocation of water supply is from the hydropower pool, and that the water allocation would only impact the lake level by 2.4 inches. He explained that most are comparing Lake Ouachita to Lake Meade, and while Hot Springs receives an average of 56 inches of rain annually, Lake Meade only receives 6 inches of rain annually, so there is no way to compare the two lakes. Stacy further shared the Arkansas Department of Health approved/permitted the site where the tunnel will be located, and water will travel by gravity feed 17 miles across town to the water treatment facility. Stacy shared we lose more water through evaporation than from water storage.

LOViT : Jerry stated that even through the drought, they were able to water the trees on the ADA and did not lose a tree this summer. He also shared the elevated trail walkway is slowly deteriorating and this will need to be addressed on the agenda for next year on methods to fix the problem. They will not be using yellowwood. Al G. shared they had received a maintenance contract grant on the LOViT for the last 3-4 years of 5K. They have lost the contract with the crew who normally did the maintenance but have contacted John Hackney to hire for maintenance. They will hire a crew to do all the LOViT. FOLO will pay 5K and the Walton Foundation will cover the rest of the expense. Jerry shared if FOLO was the only one paying, 5K would only cover 16 miles of trail. Jerry shared there will be a Triple Crown race October 8th, and participants will travel all the LOViT, part of the Womble, and part of the Ouachita trail.

Closing Remarks: Tom B. asked if new Grab a Bag containers were installed. Stacy stated not yet. Jerry stated he would send emails on any further details of the lake cleanup.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:10