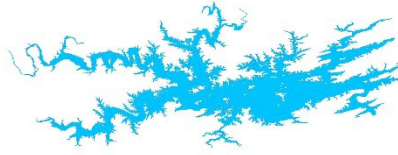


# Friends of Lake Ouachita



1424 Blakely Dam Road  
Royal, AR 71968

**MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:** Friends of Lake Ouachita Committee Minutes

**DATE:** August 5th, 2024

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:**

Stacy Sigman, Lake Manager, Lake Ouachita Field Office  
Derick Walker, Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist, Lake Ouachita  
Matt Mitchell, Supervisory Operations and Maintenance, Lake Ouachita Field Office  
Amy Shultz, Natural Resource Specialist, Lake Ouachita Field Office

**Members Present:**

Tom Butler	Ron Mayfield	Jerry Shields
Robert Cavanaugh	Bill Pell	Jo West Taylor
George Dooley	Rob Sanders	Dan Watson
Al Gathright	Shane Scott	Jerry Williams

**Approval of June 2024 Minutes:** Jo W. moved to approve the June 4th minutes, Rob S. seconded, minutes approved as written.

**Repair of Old HWY 270 Roadway:** Jerry S. shared the roadway has been patched by Montgomery County.

**2024 Lake Cleanup Plans:** Amy S. shared the cleanup has been set for September 14<sup>th</sup> to coincide with the State Park cleanup. Amy further shared the news release was sent to public affairs and they stated it would be posted on the Lake Ouachita Facebook page this week and sent to news papers prior to the event. Jo W. stated Bill B. was supposed to contact Caddo Hills School to find out a date for the student cleanup. Stacy S. shared September 10<sup>th</sup> would be the

best date that week with September 12<sup>th</sup> as a rain date for the kids. Derick S. will have rangers map the areas on the lake with the most litter. Jo W. asked if FOLO is feeding the kids as in the past at Tompkins Bend. The committee agreed to feed the students again this year. Cost last year was approx. \$500.

**Reinvestment of FOLO Funds:** Jerry S. relayed 150K (80K Owens Corning, and 70K FOLO) had been invested in CDs at Diamond Bank, Mount Ida and they are coming due August 15<sup>th</sup>. There are 7-month CD's and 20-month CD's. After some discussion, the committee decided to re-invest the funds in the 7-month CD's.

**Review of ArDot ADA Walkway Grant Requirements:** Jerry W. shared he was working with Owens Corning engineer and Jerry is working on the calculations and drawings. George D. asked how long it would take to update the plans with Owens Corning. Jerry W. estimated 6 weeks. Jerry S. shared there are many requirements ARDOT has but after reviewing, he read that non-profit organizations do not have to pay the 3% service fee for grants. Jerry further shared Tom B. had received three bids ranging from 455K to 515K for the project. The lowest bid was Steep Creek out of Conway. They also received a bid from Shaneco and Camden out of Texas which they cannot use due to being out of state contractor. Jerry stated that with the 409K grant from ARDoT, the 80K from Owen's Corning, and 100K in the FOLO account, they should have sufficient funds to complete the project without taking out any loans. The committee asked Stacy what the optimum time to work on the project due to water levels is. Stacy shared historically it has been October, November, December, but that varies depending on the weather. Jerry S. stated the contractors believed it would take 22 weeks to construct the walkway and pier. Jerry S. shared that he did not see any major problems getting the contract signed and back to them, but they will be needing a full-time employee on site with the contractors while they are working. He will send in the contract this week. Tom B. asked what else FOLO can do to be prepared. Jerry S. stated he will get the bidders information and they do not need a project lawyer. Shane S. asked if the Corps could bush hog or do a control burn in the ADA trail? Stacy S. stated the Corps will do this when they get the grant go-ahead so they can use it as part of the in-kind service requirement. Shane S. also asked if the Corps could burn brush piles east of the ADA parking lot. Stacy stated the Corps would take care of the piles.

**Corps Operations Update:** Stacy S. shared the Corps has burned piles of brush at Joplin, conducted a timber sale at Little Fir, and Derick W. stated the Corps will be re-seeding the wildflowers along the paved ADA trail. Tom B. thanked the Trail Dogs for clearing the trail east of Crystal Springs.

**Adjournment:** Jerry S. moved to adjourn, Dan W. Seconded, meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M