

Spring Creek Coalition Board Meeting
Minutes – July 20, 2023

Present were members, Beth Rooney, Bill Chambers, Chris Beckwith, David Martinez, Karen Harris, Karen White, Mike Appel, and Angela Brazeal. Absent were Travis Fite and Sandy Whitekiller

Meeting began at 6:02 pm

1. Lawsuit Update – B. Chambers:

- a. The new hearing date for the court case is Friday, August 25th at 1:30pm in Jay.
- b. Beth will ask Pam Kingfisher to announce on relevant Facebook pages to request people to attend to show support for our case.
- c. A discussion of the implications of the lawsuit was held, with members discussing what we can realistically expect the state to do/enforce in the case of a win. Christ Beckwith mentioned that the state of OK can appeal a summary judgement even if the case is won in our favor, but we can ask to have permits suspended during the appeal process. Chris asked to see a copy of our initial complaint that was filed. Also discussed were next steps if we lose the case, including filing an appeal (to EPA) and going to trial. Another lawsuit against the poultry industry's pollution in northeastern Oklahoma was filed by Attorney David Page, and seeking damages.

2. Approval of June minutes will be held until the August meeting so revisions can be made.

Committee Reports/Old Business

3. Treasurer's Report – B. Rooney:

Beginning balance \$33,555.75
Tulsa connect. -\$5.00
I&E law firm. -\$693.70
Quick Print. -\$56.98
Water Testing. -\$667.80
Ending Balance. 32,132.27

4. GIS System – D. Martinez:

- a. David Martinez reached out to the OCC, but they are out of the office and not returning calls. Water quality staff are only in the office on Wednesdays.
- b. David will inquire about samples collecting in the past and request that they do additional testing. He will also inquire about the existence of new results that may be available but have not yet been posted online.

5. Open for Discussion and New Business

- a. D. Martinez inquired if the board members need to revisit the lawsuit goals again.
- b. C. Beckwith received a response from Kelly Bostian (the freelance ecology reporter) regarding HB 2053. He stated that there has been a push by the state AG office to file stays on permits. Also, it is Kelly's opinion that the language regarding 'frivolous lawsuits' in HB 2053 has been amended to the extent that it should not pose a barrier or concern for persons/agencies wishing to file suits.
- c. K. Harris concurred, stating that at the last OCC meeting she attended, she spoke with Christina, with the Environmental Law Group, who also said the bill in its final draft will not change anything.
- d. Upcoming dates
 - i. 9/23 water monitoring
 - ii. Road clean-up dates for our new "Adopt-a-Road" not yet determined. M. Appel will arrange. It was noted that our annual road clean-up with Cedar Crest at Cooper's Bridge and King's Curve is held the 1st Saturday in November
 - iii. Also need to plan the annual meeting.

e. B. Chambers received a request by a group making a story about the impact of poultry houses to interview members of SCC. The group offered to make a donation to the SCC as thanks for our time. Bill asked Mike Appel if he and Emily would be willing. He also asked Beth Rooney and will ask Pam Kingfisher.

6. Karen White motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 pm. Motion was seconded and passed.

Minutes prepared by Karen White, SCC Secretary