

**Ash Creek Water Control District
Board of Directors
REGULAR MEETING**

**Thursday, March 2, 2023
7:00 A.M.**

MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of minutes:
 February 2, 2023 – Regular Meeting
4. Audience Comments
5. Director Comments
6. Reports
 - A. Finance
 - a. Monthly Report
 - B. Phone
 - C. Nutria
 - D. Engineer's Report
 - E. Subcommittee Report: Outreach
 - a. Activity Log
7. Unfinished Business
 - A. Legislative Advocacy
8. New Business
 - A. 2023 Election
9. Miscellaneous Business/Information Items
 - A. Correspondence
 - B. Task Log
10. Adjourn

Notice of Regular Meeting

The Board of Directors of Ash Creek Water Control District will hold a Regular Meeting at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 2, 2023. The meeting will be conducted via video conference. To provide comments in advance or to get videoconference attendance information, email the District Secretary at DistSec@ashcreekwcd.com, no later than 5:00 pm, March 1, 2023.

**Ash Creek Water Control District
Board of Directors
REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, February 2, 2023

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom by Chair Dan Farnworth.

2. Roll Call. Board Present: Dan Farnworth, Madeline Fisher, Ed Matteo, Roger Weber, Andrea Melendy, Mancil Russell, Donna Schuyler, Tom Wilson

Others Present: Karin Johnson, Clerk; Todd Whitaker, Engineer; Jennifer Ward, City of Dallas

3. Approval of minutes:

January 19, 2023 – Special Meeting. Ed moved to approve minutes as submitted; Mancil seconded. Motion passed by all present.

January 5, 2023 – Regular Meeting. Madeline – under Engineers report: Item D, grammar correction. (Will look at.) Also, the name of the book is Where the Fish Live and Breathe by Dan Gorman. Under New Business, item D. it should be Riddell Road. Tom moved to approve the minutes with the corrections; Mancil seconded. Motion passed by all present.

4. Audience Comments.

A. Jennifer Ward, City of Dallas Parks & Recreation introduced herself. Dallas has designated the area around the old mill site as an urban renewal district. They have hired a consultant and are in the planning stages for what it could look like if redeveloped. She is informing the district as Ash Creek factors into whole plan – not just flooding issues, but aesthetics as well (trails, etc).

(Todd arr 7:09 am)

Jennifer explained how the creek had been submerged in past (through culverts, etc) and the channel could potentially be restored; we may have an interest, as creek would no longer be constrained by the infrastructure. (Jennifer restated her comments for Todd) Todd/Jennifer discussion of potential project participation, projects. Mancil asked for definition of trail. Jennifer said the preliminary idea – depends on funding and nature of site. It would be similar to Rickreall Creek trail, which is mostly paved, 12' wide. If a creek system trail was established along Ash Creek/Rickreall Creek they would want continuity. It is paved for bicycles and mobility devices as well as for pedestrians. Madeline asked if would be lighted; Jennifer said they do downtown, but generally do not, to encourage natural wildlife, discourage human wildlife. Dan noted that the thing that concerns district is reducing damage from floods – the ability of the ground to absorb water, and not get to the creek too fast. Todd said whatever would be done

would be an improvement; the site was built before standards, new development would reduce impervious surfaces, reduce increased flow. We will need to look at the entire picture, upstream and especially downstream.

5. Director Comments

A. Mancil reported the bucks have lost their horns.

B. Madeline reported: precipitation was 5.25" in January. On the 21st they had 21 students and 2 professors participating in the ivy pull. No impoundment at this time. Precipitation last year was 4.73".

D. Dan reported that he read the other day, that Rome is having trouble with nutria; one of their experts stated one of ways to reduce them is to get rid of garbage in the streets.

Another good reason for us to install garbage cans. Tom asked, Ed answered what nutria eat. Andrea noted we have a new sign for the can at Inspiration Garden.

6. Reports

A. Finance

a. Monthly Report. Andrea reported (copy attached to packet):

Cash in Bank – LGIP: \$409,673.32; PTB: \$5,167.19

Checks: #2258 \$174.80, Ascension Accounting; #2259 \$600.00, Streamline; #2260 \$52.00, Copy Cats. Tom noted for Jennifer that we often find ourselves in need of projects that work within our mission. Dan noted that Zoom has raised prices by \$1.00 per month.

Madeline asked if everyone saw the article in the I-O by Anne Scheck about Ash Creek.

b. RILOA update. Karin erroneously entered the total revenue for both years, instead of just the fiscal year ending 2022. She sent an amended report to the SOS and it was accepted.

B. Phone. Mancil reported we had one message re: US Census Finance Survey. Karin noted this is a non-mandatory report and has not been able to work on it as of yet.

C. Nutria. Ed summarized the report (copy attached to packet)– 3 were caught, all in old town. There are at least another 7 at the creek near Log Cabin street.

D. Engineer's Report. Todd reported:

- 1) He received a call from Adam Stennet re: schedule for winter drone flight. Expect it to be done within the next month.
- 2) Plant identification via drone? Todd said it is just visual; some potential technology may be coming, not here yet. Other challenge – the need to look for invasive species when the foliage is on, but then can't see for foliage on trees. Dan noted a vegetation survey was just done; are in early stages of being able to identify via drone; had some success, but several problems due to season, time of day. Discussion.

- 3) Dan asked about complete cleanout of creek, finding obstructions, etc. Future project?
Todd noted that what the purpose of the winter drone flight will show, is if/where obstructions are. We want to look at those that will hold back water, cause flooding.
Discussion.

E. Subcommittee Report: Outreach

a. Activity Log. Tom reported they sent a copy of the mailer to the board. He wants to send out another, this with information regarding the Emerald Ash Borer. Don't have information yet about the birdwalk, it will probably be in May. If we want to go to another Saturday market event, it would tie in. Took information from the website, put onto mailer; need to make a few edits and can have it out by the end of the month. Discussion; also reach out to potential members. The Board would like to see representation for areas outside Monmouth-Independence.

7. Unfinished Business

A. Legislative Advocacy. Dan – no report.

8. New Business

A. 2023 Election. Karin summarized information from Polk County Clerk's Office on running for board positions.

B. Dan – Vegetation Study. Bryan Dutton and team carried out a study on the ground and via drones. Presented information to the board in December and again January 19th. It follows up with what Todd reported. We achieved some results that are valuable for us, some not so. The ground study was very small, cost about \$3,000 – it could give us an idea how much a survey of the entire creek could cost. Was valuable information received from ground study; discussion of information needed for invasives, etc, and how to get it.

9. Miscellaneous Business/Information Items

A. Correspondence. US Census Finance Survey. Already discussed under Phone report. Other correspondence from WHA – OSHA 300.

B. Task Log. No new items.

Madeleine asked if we need to contact Bryan; Dan said he will contact us.

10. Adjourn. Mancil moved to adjourn; Ed seconded to adjourn; motion passed by all present.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 am

ACWCD Board of Directors Tracking Log 2022-23

Project	Assigned	Person Assigned	Status		Comments
			Pending	Completed	
Buy laptop	05/07/2020	Karin	x		Purchase laptop & Office 365
Website, records	11/04/2021	Karin/Tom/Andrea			Go to storage unit/Karin to put agenda packets & minutes on website
Take old laptop to Tom	11/04/2021	Karin			
Vegetation survey	12/2/2021	Board	x		Report reviewed 01-19-2023
Update Policy Manual	01/06/2022	Board			Ongoing
Outreach subcommittee	06/02/2022	committee	x		ONGOING
File Report in Lieu of Audit	9/1/2022	Karin		x	File no later than Sept 30th
Create Outreach Comm. Activity Log	9/1/2022	Tom	x		Ongoing
Associate Directors, add'l information	12/1/2022	Tom		x	Not applicable to our district
Legislative Advocacy	10/6/2022	Dan	x		Future meeting discussion
Correct RILOA	1/5/2023	Karin		x	Amended report filed with state; closed 01/20/2023
Approved minutes to Tom for website	1/5/2023	Karin	x		