1. Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board was called to order by Chairman Ervin Mitchell at 9:30 a.m., on October 19, 2004, in the meeting room of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, located in offices of the OWRB at 3800 N. Classen Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The meeting was conducted pursuant to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Law with due and proper notice provided pursuant to Sections 303 and 311 thereof.

A. Invocation

Member Harry Currie gave the invocation.

B. Roll Call

**Board Members Present**
Ervin Mitchell, Chairman  
Lonnie Farmer, Vice Chairman  
Bill Secrest, Secretary  
Harry Currie  
Rudy Herrmann  
Mark Nichols  
Jack Keeley  
Richard Sevenoaks

**Board Members Absent**
None

**Staff Members Present**
Duane A. Smith, Executive Director  
Dean Couch, General Counsel  
Jim Schuelein, Chief, Administrative Services Division  
Joe Freeman, Chief, Financial Assistance Division  
Mike Mathis, Chief, Planning and Management Division  
Derek Smithee, Water Quality Programs Division  
Mary Lane Schooley, Executive Secretary
C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Mitchell stated the draft minutes of the September 14, 2004, Regular Meeting have been distributed. He said he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes unless there were additional changes.

Mr. Herrmann moved to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2004 minutes and correction of the August 10, 2004, minutes, and Mr. Nichols seconded.

AYE: Farmer, Herrmann, Keeley, Nichols, Secrest, Sevenoaks, Mitchell

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Currie

ABSENT: None

D. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Duane Smith, Executive Director, said that this is a busy time with the Governor’s Water Conference beginning today and carrying through tomorrow. He announced that the Financial Assistance Program will close a $204 million bond issue next week, and the Bond Buyer article (provided) announced the issue’s AAA rating, reflecting the Board’s diverse loan pool, significant default tolerance as a result of over collateralization from pledged loan revenues, debt service reserve fund and sound underwriting guidelines. He said that this is the highest rated bond program, and for water and wastewater infrastructure financing, it is the best program available. Jim Joseph, State Bond Advisor, said the high rating had been earned, and the Board had done a good job in overseeing these programs. Mr. Smith stated it was the long history now of the staff and Board’s administration of the programs that we are now receiving these benefits.
Mr. Smith stated the 25th Annual Governor’s Water Conference will be exciting and Mike Melton had put together a tremendous agenda with Tribal issues being discussed today, and tomorrow’s agenda will open with a new video produced by Brian Vance and Oklahoma State University that discusses Oklahoma’s Water Resources.

The Arkansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Compact Commission met on September 23-24 at Lake Dardenell in Arkansas. Dick Seybolt, Federal Chairman, will be speaking at the Water Conference. The success to talk about at the conference is the Environmental Committee developed a monitoring plan for the scenic rivers. There is agreement on the plan, however; there has not been any funding, but efforts are being made in that regard.

Mr. Smith said he spoke to the Western States Water Council in Salt Lake City on September 28. He said that his counterparts in all of the western states made presentations on water planning and he said it is amazing to find how similar the states are across the west, although Oklahoma is a little bit behind the curve and just beginning to see the issues involving endangered species issues, instream flow issues, and tribal issues that the western states have already had some experience with. He said the resounding theme is “negotiate, negotiate, negotiate” instead of “litigate, litigate, litigate”. The states have not all lost litigation, but the states have found that litigation is so expensive and so divisive that even when winning, no ground is gained.

Mr. Smith said he also spoke to the Environmental Federation of Oklahoma on “Politics and Water.” Rudy Herrmann also attended.

The Citizens for the Protection of the Arbuckle Simpson Aquifer held its annual meeting that Mr. Smith attended, and the big announcement was the victory on the lawsuit. He carefully noted that the first hurdle in a series of court action on the Arbuckle Simpson and Senate Bill 288 that required the Board to look at groundwater and surface water and the springs to protect those springs. The court did not rule that the law was constitutional, but that the Water Board was not the place to bring up constitutionality. He said that now in any protest that says the law is not constitutional, it is not the Board’s job to decide the constitutionality of the law, that is the courts’ job—the Board is to only follow the law. He said the victory for the OWRB is that it followed the law and also gives some breathing room in being able to step back and focus on the study; focus on how we are going to get along and not on how we are going to fight.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Herrmann also attended The Oklahoma Academy for State Goals Town Hall that met in Norman. The topic of the Academy this year was environment and energy; last year it was water. Last year’s Academy came out with a top priority for the recommendation of a comprehensive statewide water plan. The bill introduced last year did not get out of committee, so this year the discussion at the Academy focused in more detail on energy and environment and again, one of the priorities is a statewide water plan. The legislation will be looked at again this year but now considering those issues that were not palatable to some of the people and see if an agreeable version can be considered next year.

Mr. Smith presented to the members an update of the activities performed by staff in regard to the High Priority Programs stated in the agency’s Strategic Plan. He said an update would be presented quarterly. He encouraged the members to be involved and visit with the staff members active in the programs. He said in regard to the Comprehensive Water Plan a part of the High Priority Programs is an update of the Oklahoma Water Law. When it was initially written into the Strategic Plan, some of the dates were passed, and that is now being re-thought, and Dean Couch is writing a history of the water law and as we move forward in the comprehensive water planning effort that will be included as a piece of the water plan. Any changes recommended by citizens as part of the discussion made about the water plan, those recommendations will be taken forward to the legislature. Mr. Smith reviewed the memorandum and updated activities with the Board members.
Mr. Smith concluded his report inviting the members to the employee Chili Cookoff November 4 as part of the fundraising efforts for the State Charitable Campaign, and he introduced Mr. Monte Boyce, OWRB Comptroller, who was the recipient of the Employee of the Quarter Award in July.

Chairman Mitchell complimented Mr. Smith, Mr. Freeman and the OWRB staff on the achievement of the AAA rating on the bond issue.

2. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE DIVISION

A. Consideration of and Possible Action on a Proposed Order Approving Emergency Grant for Nicoma Park Development Authority, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma. Recommended for Approval. Mr. Joe Freeman, Chief, Financial Assistance Division, told the members the first item for their consideration today is the $99,999.00 Emergency Grant request from the Nicoma Park Development Authority located in Eastern Oklahoma County. He said about 40% of the town is currently on the town’s centralized wastewater collection system that was partially funded by the Board in the 1990s. An additional portion of the town that is on individual septic systems desires to be added to the collection system due to discharges that are occurring. In order to expand the wastewater collection system, the project will include about 2,700 linear feet of 8-inch gravity sewer line, 7 manholes, 10 service connections, 1 lift station, and related necessary construction and appurtenances. The estimated total project cost is $176,925.00, with $76,926.00 to be funded with local funds and the remaining $99,999.00 requested from the OWRB Emergency Grant fund. Staff recommended approval.

Nicoma Park Mayor Bud Green was present in support of the emergency grant request. Mr. Currie moved to approve the emergency grant request to the Nicoma Park Development Authority, and Mr. Herrmann seconded.

AYE: Currie, Farmer, Herrmann, Keeley, Nichols, Secrest, Sevenoaks, Mitchell
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

B. Consideration of and Possible Action on a Proposed Order Approving Loan for Edmond Public Works Authority, Oklahoma County. Recommended for Approval. Mr. Freeman stated that this item is a $21,999,232.00 Drinking Water State Revolving Loan request from the Edmond Public Works Authority. The project the requested loan funds are requested for a part of the Edmond Master Water Improvement Plan. This portion of the plan addresses the need for two additional one million gallon water storage tanks, two 3,000-gallon per minute pumps, two 55-gallon per minute pumps and six miles of 24” transmission line. Mr. Freeman noted provisions of the loan. Edmond has experienced rapid growth over the past several years and the water and sewer connections have increased by approximately 30 percent in just the last five years. The debt-coverage ratio stands at a strong 3.5-times. Staff estimates that by borrowing through the Board Edmond will save approximately $4 million in interest expense over the life of the loan by borrowing from the Board. Staff recommended approval.

Mr. Chris Gander, Financial Advisor with Oppenheim, and Steve Lawrence, city engineer, were present in support of the loan application. City officials were unable to attend due to a previously scheduled staff retreat.

Mr. Nichols moved to approve the loan for the Edmond Public Works Authority, and Mr. Herrmann seconded.
C. Consideration of and Possible Action on a Proposed Order Approving Loan for Guthrie Public Works Authority, Logan County. Recommended for Approval. Mr. Freeman stated that this request from the Guthrie PWA is a Drinking Water SRF loan in the amount of $2.5 million. Guthrie is requesting the loan in order to install approximately 15,000 feet of water line in the city, and an additional 9 miles of 12" line, construct a water storage tank, master meter, and a pressure reducing valve station along highway 33 to Langston University, and pay related costs of issuance. Mr. Freeman noted provisions of the loan agreement; he said that Guthrie’s water and sewer connections have increased by approximately 6% over the last ten years and their debt coverage stands at a strong 4.3-times. Staff estimates Guthrie will save approximately one-half million dollars in interest expense over the life of the loan by borrowing from the Board. Mr. Freeman noted that there have been some questions asked regarding the project, and staff has addressed the questions and feels comfortable with the loan and the project. Therefore, staff recommended approval.

Guthrie Mayor John Gummerson, other members of the city staff, Financial Advisory Rick Smith, and Doug Price, legal counsel for Langston University were present in support of the loan application.

Mr. Herrmann asked about the inquiries received; Mr. Freeman responded that some of the questions that have been made during various meetings about the project included how the agreement between Guthrie and the University could be terminated and how the indebtedness would be paid. He said the contract between the city and the university does include an exclusivity clause for the 20.5-year contract as long as the city is providing adequate and dependable water service to the university. Also, a question was raised concerning water rights, which have been reviewed by the agency’s Permitting section.

Mr. Herrmann moved to approve the loan to the Guthrie Public Works Authority, and Mr. Secrest seconded.

AYE: Currie, Farmer, Herrmann, Keeley, Nichols, Secrest, Sevenoaks, Mitchell
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

D. Status Report on the Issuance of Obligations to Provide Funding for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Programs. Mr. Freeman said this item is to update the members on the issuance of the Board’s $204.3 Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Bond Issues that will close on October 26. The bonds were marketed the previous week with a retail order period on Wednesday, and the remaining bonds were marketed to the institutional markets on Thursday. He was pleased that over 45 million of the issue sold on the retail order period. He said the Board offered for sale approximately $203 million in bonds, but actually received orders requesting $305 million in bonds, so the issue was oversubscribed by over $100 million. As a result of the aggressive sales by the underwriting team put together by the Board, Mr. Freeman said the Board will be able to offer drinking water borrowers a fixed interest rate of 3.05% for a 20-year loan, and wastewater borrowers will be offered a fixed interest rate of 2.6% over a 20-year loan. This type of interest offerings positions the Board as the most attractive source of water and wastewater financing in Oklahoma.

Mr. Freeman said that the issue received a stand-alone triple A rating from all three rating agencies: Standard & Poors, Moody’s & Fitch. With the second drinking water SRF
issue, Oklahoma is still the only state in EPA Region 6 that has leveraged its drinking water program and now the first state in the region to issue a cross collateralized drinking water/clean water SRF bond issue.

3. SUMMARY DISPOSITION AGENDA

Chairman Mitchell stated that any item listed under this Summary Disposition Agenda may, at the request of any member of the Board, the Board’s staff, or any other person attending this meeting, be transferred to the Special Consideration Agenda. Under the Special Consideration Agenda, separate discussion and vote or other action may be taken on any items already listed under that agenda or items transferred to that agenda from this Summary Disposition Agenda.

A. Requests to Transfer Items from Summary Disposition Agenda to the Special Consideration Agenda, and Action on Whether to Transfer Such Items.

There were no requests to transfer items to the Special Consideration Agenda. However, Mr. Mathis asked that item 3.F.2. temporary groundwater permit #2003-574 for Deep Fork Farms, and item 3.M., dam and reservoir plans and specifications for Cobblestone Development, both located in Oklahoma County, be withdrawn from the Board’s consideration.

B. Discussion, Questions, and Responses Pertaining to Any Items Remaining on Summary Disposition Agenda and Action on Items and Approval of Items 3.C. through 3.N.

There were no other questions pertaining to items on the Summary Disposition Agenda. Mr. Herrmann moved to approve the Summary Disposition Agenda as amended, and Mr. Currie seconded.

AYE: Currie, Farmer, Herrmann, Keeley, Nichols, Secrest, Sevenoaks, Mitchell
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

The following items were approved:

C. Consideration of Approval of the Following Application for REAP Grant in Accordance with the Proposed Order Approving the Grant:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REAP</th>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Application No.</th>
<th>Entity Name</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Amount Recommended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D. Contract and Agreements Recommended for Approval:


2. Consideration of Intergovernmental Agreement with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Arkansas River Corridor Study.

3. Consideration of Amendment to the Joint Funding Agreement with the U. S. Geological Survey for the Federal-State Cooperative Program.
4. Consideration of Amendment No. 2 to the Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Research Service for Monitoring and Evaluating Streamflow Height in the Little Washita River Experimental Watershed.

5. Consideration of Renewal Agreement with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality for Work Related to TMDL Monitoring.

6. Consideration of Interagency Agreement with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality for Work Related to TMDL Monitoring of Priority 1 & 2 Waters.

E. **Applications for Temporary Permits to Use Groundwater:**
   1. Sumner Family Partnership, Grady County, #2003-561

F. **Applications to Amend Temporary Permits to Use Groundwater:**
   1. Dewey County RWS & SWM District #3, Woodward County, #1997-683
   2. *Deep Fork Farm, L.L.C., Oklahoma County, #2003-574* Item withdrawn

G. **Applications for Regular Permits to Use Groundwater:**
   1. John E. & Regina K. Bowser, Woodward County, #2003-606
   2. Kippenberger Farms, Texas County, #2004-563
   3. Greg & Toni Grewell, Texas County, #2004-568

H. **Applications to Amend Regular Permits to Use Groundwater:**
   1. Jeff & Jeri Slatten, Beaver County, #1978-610
   2. Smith Family Trust, Woodward County, #1984-672
   3. Bob & Dian Boaldin Living Trusts, Texas County, #1997-605B

I. **Applications to Amend Prior Rights to Use Groundwater:**
   None

J. **Applications for Regular Permits to Use Stream Water:**
   1. Buyers Group Operating Co., dba Indian Springs Country Club, Tulsa County, #2000-003
   2. Bryan County RWS & SWM District #2, Bryan County, #2004-019
   3. Hobby Lobby/Crafts Etc! Properties Co., L.L.C., Oklahoma County, #2004-026

K. **Applications to Amend Regular Permits to Use Stream Water:**
   None

L. **Well Driller and Pump Installer Licensing:**
   1. **New Licenses, Accompanying Operator Certificates and Activities:**
      a. Licensee: Roderick Water Well  Operator: Larry Roderick  Activities: Groundwater wells, test holes and observation wells, Pump installation  DPC-0690 OP-1412
      b. Licensee: Leroy’s Pump Service  Operator: Dennis Leroy  Activities: Pump installation  DPC-0692 OP-1413
      c. Licensee: Tyler Pump & Irrigation  DPC-0694
M. Dam and Reservoir Plans and Specifications:
Cobblestone Development, L.L.C., Oklahoma County, DS-4-02 Item withdrawn

N. Permit Applications for Proposed Development on State Owned or Operated Property within Floodplain Areas:
1. William C. Payne, Delaware County, FP-04-08
2. City of Guthrie, Logan County, FP-04-09
3. City of Guthrie, Logan County, FP-04-10

4. QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION ABOUT AGENCY WORK AND OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST.

There were no questions of items of discussion for the Board members consideration.

5. SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

For INDIVIDUAL PROCEEDINGS, a majority of a quorum of Board members, in a recorded vote, may call for closed deliberations for the purpose of engaging in formal deliberations leading to an intermediate or final decision in an individual proceeding under the legal authority of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, 25 O.S. 2001, Section 307 (B)(8) and the Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S. 2001, Section 309 and following.

A majority vote of a quorum of Board members present, in a recorded vote, may authorize an executive session for the purposes of CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS between the public body and its attorney concerning a pending investigation, claim, or action if the public body, with the advice of its attorney, determines that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the public body to process the claim or conduct the pending investigation, litigation, or proceeding in the public interest, under the legal authority of the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act, 25 O.S. 2001, Section 307(B)(4).

A. Application for Temporary Permit to use Groundwater No. 2003-589, Doyle & Selma Foreman, Choctaw County,
1. Summary – Mr. Mike Mathis, Chief, Planning & Management Division, stated the applicant, Doyle & Selman Foreman, of Choctaw County, have requested a permit to withdraw a total of 168 acre-feet of groundwater per year, to include 20 acre-feet for irrigation and 148 acre-feet for recreation, fish and wildlife purposes. The water is to be taken from three wells located
on 80 acres of dedicated land overlying the Woodbine Formation in Choctaw County. Staff recommended approval of the application.

2. Discussion and presentation by parties. The applicant nor the protestants were in attendance.

3. Possible Executive Session. The Board did not vote to enter executive session.

4. Vote on whether to approve the proposed order as presented or as may be amended, or vote on any other action or decision relating to the proposed order.

   Mr. Nichols moved to approve the temporary groundwater permit #2003-589, and Mr. Herrmann seconded.

   AYE: Currie, Farmer, Herrmann, Keeley, Nichols, Secrest, Sevenoaks, Mitchell
   NAY: None
   ABSTAIN: None
   ABSENT: None


1. Summary – Mr. Mathis stated that the applicant has requested a permit to take and use 216 acre-feet of groundwater for washing gravel in an industrial mining operation. The water is proposed to be withdrawn from one sand lake "well" located on 108 acres of dedicated land in Sequoyah County. The land overlies the alluvium terrace deposits of Sallisaw Creek; there has not been a completed basin study, therefore, the applicant is entitled to two-acre feet of water per acre of dedicated land. Staff recommended approval of the application.

2. Discussion and presentation by parties. Mr. Mathis stated that the applicant was present; however, the protestant was not in attendance. Mr. Veston Woodall, representing the applicant, thanked the Board for the consideration of approving the permit. He said the water is not yet in use, but will be in the near future if the Board approves the permit. Mr. Currie asked if this is the only source of water that will be used for washing the sand and gravel. Mr. Woodall responded the proposed plan is there will be three pits constructed where water will be withdrawn from one pit, discharged into another pit and recycled to the third pit.

3. Possible Executive Session. The Board did not vote to enter executive session.

4. Vote on whether to approve the proposed order as presented or as may be amended, or vote on any other action or decision relating to the proposed order.

   Mr. Farmer moved to approve the temporary groundwater permit #2004-507, and Mr. Currie seconded.

   AYE: Currie, Farmer, Herrmann, Keeley, Nichols, Secrest, Sevenoaks, Mitchell
   NAY: None
   ABSTAIN: None
   ABSENT: None

C. Consideration of items transferred from the Summary Disposition Agenda, if any. There were no items transferred from the Summary Disposition Agenda.

6. PRESENTATION OF AGENCY BUDGET REPORT.

   Mr. Jim Schuelein, Chief, Administrative Services Division, began his report saying he had provided the monthly-to-budget actual report for expenditures of the fiscal year through September 30, or about 25% of the fiscal year. He said the agency is on target for incoming expenditures. There were no questions from the Board members.
Mr. Smith mentioned that the funding for the Arbuckle-Simpson study project is through the gross production tax REAP account. He said gasoline and oil prices are high meaning more money is coming into the account today than last year. He said though in order for the OWRB to get its funding, its going to have to get a lot higher than it is, and the Board may be at a shortfall. He said its not the price actually, but the projection by the state, and the state projected it to be high so that a lot of activities could be funded, and other activities will be funded first. He said it would have to be significantly higher for the Board to receive funds, so it may be in a position to request a supplement appropriation because the state revenues have increased. He said that the federal dollars are allowed to be spent first prior to receiving state dollars, so the study is going “full speed” at this point with federal funding, and if it gets to the end of the year, the federal money is spent and no state match has been made, the study will shut down.

Mr. Sevenoaks asked about the progress between the states of Arkansas and Oklahoma in regard to the .037 phosphorous limit. Mr. Smith responded that through the Secretary of Environment’s office, there is an agreement that the major point sources meet 1 mgl; however, there are still ongoing talks about the minor point sources and the growth of some of those areas is still an area of concern. On the nonpoint source side, Mr. Smith said he and concerned agencies had met with the Attorney General who indicated that unless significant concessions are made from the poultry industry, a lawsuit may be imminent so it can be said that the nonpoint source side has had less movement than the point source side. Oklahoma’s major point is that the integrators have to be responsible for the litter, and not just in helping the growers, but to admit and take responsibility for the litter.

7. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA, IF ANY.

There were no Supplemental Agenda items for the Board’s consideration.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Under the Open Meeting Act, this agenda item is authorized only for matters not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting the agenda or any revised agenda.

There were no new business items for the Board’s consideration. However, Mr. Ed Fite, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Commission, spoke to the members about the activities in northeastern Oklahoma and the progress of meeting the phosphorous limit as by the point and nonpoint sources, as well as the monitoring plan and other efforts between the states through the Arkansas-Oklahoma Arkansas River Compact Commission. He recommended that the Board at some point in the future consider giving support to the Arkansas DEQ in its approach to the next legislature to get authority for veto power over small communities for building their own wastewater treatment plant when surrounded by metropolitan areas that have capable means for providing such services.

Mr. Smith mentioned that Arkansas had announced it would be adding a certain segment of the Arkansas River and the Poteau River to the 303(d) (impaired waters) list, and he said he believed the state should investigate and if there is a problem, correct it.

Mr. Tom Buchanan, manager of the Lugert-Altus Irrigation District, was also present and he spoke to the members about the irrigation district and positive working experiences with the OWRB staff.
9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Mitchell adjourned the regular meeting of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board at 10:35 a.m. on Tuesday, October 19, 2004.

OKLAHOMA WATER RESOURCES BOARD

_______________________    _______Absent____________
Ervin Mitchell, Chairman     Lonnie Farmer, Vice Chairman

______/s/______________    ________/s/____________
Harry Currie      Rudolf J. Herrmann

______Absent___________    ________/s/______________
Jack W. Keeley     Jess Mark Nichols

______/s/______________           ________________________
Richard Sevenoaks     (Vacant)

ATTEST:

________/s/______________
Bill Secrest, Secretary

(SEAL)