

MINUTES OF THE EMERGENCY DROUGHT COMMISSION MEETING OCTOBER 24, 2013

NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE ON OCTOBER 18, 2013.

The Emergency Drought Commission held their initial meeting at 10:00 a.m., October 24, 2013, in the Board Room of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, 2800 N Lincoln Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. A notice of the meeting was filed with the Secretary of State and at the Agriculture Building 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Members present: Jim Reese, Secretary of Agriculture; Mike Thralls, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Conservation Commission; and J. D. Strong, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board.

Absent: None.

Others present: Steve Thompson, American Farmers and Ranchers; Teena Gunter, General Counsel, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry; and Shawn Lepard.

A quorum of the Commission was present.

Agenda

Chairman Reese read Governor Fallin's *Executive Order 2013-36* that declared drought conditions existed in five Oklahoma counties: Jackson, Tillman, Greer, Harmon and Texas. Members of the Commission discussed the parameters of the Executive Order and the necessity of laying out the framework to stay within the mission of the Executive Order.

Applications received by the Commission at the time of this meeting were from the following entities:

- City of Altus, OK
- Town of Blair, OK
- City of Clinton
- Foss Reservoir Master Conservancy District
- Town of Tipton, OK
- Jackson County Water Corporation, Warren, OK

The applications from Clinton and Foss do not meet the criteria established in Executive Order 2013-36, which states requests for "Emergency Drought Relief Funds only from public entities located, or operating, within one, or more, of the following Oklahoma counties: Texas, Harmon, Greer, Jackson, or Tillman."

An initial application deadline was set for Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. Applications should be summarized in five pages or less and should include a complete justification for the amount of assistance requested, details of any cost-share or matching funds provided by the applicant, ability of the applicant to finance the project without assistance and the implications should the applicant fail to receive funding for the desired activity or project. Any application requesting assistance to public water supply systems must include information about the system's existing water and sewer rate structure, current indebtedness and median customer household income.

Landowners interested in applying for funding should contact their local Conservation District so that the District may make their requests known to the Oklahoma Conservation Commission which will be making an application on behalf of the five counties.

At the time of the meeting, applications had been received from Altus, Blair, Foss, Clinton, Tipton and Warren Oklahoma. It was decided that prior to the next meeting, Commission members would read these applications and determine if they fell within the parameters on applications at the next Commission meeting.

Future Meetings

A motion was made by Mr. Strong, seconded by Mr. Thralls, to hold a meeting on Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. and on Wednesday, November 6, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. Both meetings will be held in the Board Room of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry.

Those voting aye: Mr. Reese, Mr. Strong, Mr. Thralls. No: None Abstentions: None. The motion passed.

Adjournment

Mr. Strong moved, Mr. Thralls seconded, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Those voting aye: Mr. Reese, Mr. Strong, Mr. Thralls. No: None Abstentions: None. The motion passed.

By _____
President

ATTEST: _____
Executive Secretary

