



**Beautiful Buffalo River Action Committee**  
**August 21, 2018**  
**ADEQ Commission Room**  
**2:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:**

- **Becky Keogh**, Director, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
- **Bruce Holland**, Executive Director, Arkansas Natural Resources Commission
- **Dr. Nathaniel Smith**, Director, Arkansas Department of Health
- **Matt McNair**, Arkansas Parks and Tourism, Project Officer/Environmental Review Coordinator, for APT Director Kane Webb
- **Joe Fox**, Arkansas Forestry Commission, for Arkansas Agriculture Department Secretary Wes Ward
- **Shelby Johnson**, State GIS Officer, Arkansas Geographic Information Office

**Members Absent:**

- **Pat Fitts**, Director, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

**Invited Guests:**

- **Dr. Nicole Hardiman**, Executive Director, Illinois River Partnership
- **Tate Wentz**, Ecologist Coordinator, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

**WELCOME**

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**Bruce Holland** provided welcome remarks.

**AGENCY REPORT OUTS**

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**Joe Fox – Arkansas Agriculture Department**

- In attendance for AAD Secretary Wes Ward
- The feral hog task force will be working under a MOU beyond the original June 30 end date
- New online form available for citizens to report feral hogs
- AAD has plans to put out a feral hog eradication handbook with NRCS
- Feral hog public survey with the Extension Service and UALR is ongoing

**Shelby Johnson – Arkansas Geographic Information Office**

- GIS is in the process of organizing high resolution data reported on last meeting

### **Becky Keogh – Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality**

- ADEQ has released the draft 2018 303(d) list and held a public meeting on August 17th—public comments may be submitted through September 10th
- ADEQ has received all funding from AGFC and ADH to fund a crooked creek monitoring station as part of the ongoing Mill Creek source tracking study
- Proposal to task the BBRAC executive subcommittee with developing a plan and priorities to be focused on for the upcoming year

### **Dr. Nate Smith – Arkansas Department of Health**

- Dr. Laura Rothfeldt is joining the feral hog working group, will replace Dr. Sue Weinstein

### **Matt McNair – Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism**

- In attendance for APT Director Kane Webb

## **EXECUTIVE DISCUSSION**

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### **Approval of June 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

- **Nate Smith** motioned to approve the minutes. **Becky Keogh** seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved with no discussion or questions.

### **Approval of 2018 Fourth Quarter Meeting Date**

- The third quarter meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. on November 13th, 2018.

## **ILLINOIS RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN SUCCESSES**

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### **Dr. Nicole Hardiman, Executive Director, Illinois River Watershed Partnership**

- Dr. Nicole Hardiman provided a presentation on the history, purpose, structure, decision making, funding, and programming of the Illinois River Partnership.
- Members asked questions and discussion followed.

## **HISTORY OF FILAMENTOUS ALGAE IN THE BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER**

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### **Tate Wentz, Ecologist Coordinator, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality**

- Tate Wentz provided a history of filamentous algae studies in the Buffalo River and an overview of current and future studies.
- Members asked questions and discussion followed.

## **CONCLUSION**

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- **Bruce Holland** provided closing remarks and adjourned the meeting