Save Our Water Lake Eufaula Group Invites Corps of Engineer Officials to Address Citizens at March 9th Meeting

Save Our Water Lake Eufaula invites U.S. Army Corps of Engineer Officials to the March 9th meeting to address proposed legislation and current lake conditions.

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(Eufaula) – The Save Our Water Lake Eufaula Citizens Group (SOWLE) has invited U.S. Army Corps of Engineer Officials to the next SOWLE meeting, scheduled for Thursday, March 9th at 7 p.m. at the Eufaula High School Auditorium, First and Woodland, Eufaula.

The Corps Officials who have been invited from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Tulsa District Office which oversees the Lake Eufaula Project include: John Roberts, P.E., Deputy District Engineer for Project Management; Billy Banks, Chief of Operations Division; and Earl Groves, Assistant Chief of Operations Division. The local Lake Manager, Jeff Knack will also be in attendance.

"The reason we have requested these particular Corps representatives to be present is because we believe it is important for the people who are directly affected by Corps decisions on Lake Eufaula to have a chance to hear from the people who make and enforce those decisions. We also believe it is important for the citizens of the Lake Eufaula area and all of Oklahomans to have a chance to ask them questions directly, "said Save Our Water Lake Eufaula Chairperson Karen Weldin.

"These Corps representatives have reviewed the Federal legislation we are proposing and we want them to be there when we present our recommendations to the public. There needs to be a chance with the public present, for everyone to talk about the issues that led up to our recommendations," Weldin said. "The current lake conditions and concerns on a Federal level are primarily about hydropower generation and the lack of voice of the people. We need to discuss these subjects with the Corps present."

"The Corps of Engineers reacted to our proposed Public Bill and submitted their own proposed legislation after we submitted ours to Washington, " Weldin went on to say. "They need an opportunity to explain to the people their proposed legislation as well."

This meeting will be coming one week after U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Tulsa District, Colonel Miroslav Kurka conducted a meeting by invitation only of selected stakeholders in the area.

Save Our Water Lake Eufaula Legislative Committee will present a summary of the proposed legislation and Charter they have sent to Senator James Inhofe proposing a Federal Advisory Committee for Lake Eufaula, re-establishing recreation as a stated purpose, and making specific lake management changes including raising the lake level to 587 feet msl.

The meeting is open to the public and SOWLE is encouraging all interested persons to attend. The SOWLE meetings have been averaging over 500 in attendance at their monthly meetings.

The Save Our Water Lake Eufaula Citizens Group is a group of community leaders, business owners, lake area and Oklahoma residents and concerned citizens who have come together to work to protect their water interests in Lake Eufaula.

For more information, go to www.saveourwaterlakeeufaula.com or call 918-452-3184.