

## June 2026 Monthly Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2026

Community Name: Bull Shoals, AR

EPA Region: 6

Meeting notes in blue text

### I. Attendees Invited

| Role                                                                       | Name                             | Email                                                                              | Phone Number               | In Attendance? |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| EPA COR/ Technical Project Lead                                            | Laura Doody                      | <a href="mailto:doody.laura@epa.gov">doody.laura@epa.gov</a>                       | 202-938-4467               |                |
| EPA Regional TA Coordinator/Project Officer                                | Jessica Fry                      | <a href="mailto:fry.jessica.l@epa.gov">fry.jessica.l@epa.gov</a>                   | 214-665-8308               |                |
| Contractor's Project Managers                                              | Kevin Schmidt, P.E. (ERG)        | <a href="mailto:kevin.schmidt@erg.com">kevin.schmidt@erg.com</a>                   | 760-213-2074               | Yes            |
|                                                                            | Kevin Stockton (ERG)             | <a href="mailto:kevin.stockton@erg.com">kevin.stockton@erg.com</a>                 | 720-789-8050               | Yes            |
|                                                                            | Jenny Dodd (ERG)                 | <a href="mailto:jenny.dodd@erg.com">jenny.dodd@erg.com</a>                         |                            |                |
|                                                                            | Joslyn Townsend (AECOM)          | <a href="mailto:joslyn.townsend@aecom.com">joslyn.townsend@aecom.com</a>           | 417-766-8579               | Yes            |
| Contractor's Technical Leads                                               | Scott Belz (AECOM)               | <a href="mailto:scott.belz@aecom.com">scott.belz@aecom.com</a>                     | 216-404-8079               | Yes            |
|                                                                            | Esther Kaufman (AECOM)           | <a href="mailto:esther.kaufman@aecom.com">esther.kaufman@aecom.com</a>             |                            |                |
|                                                                            | Katrina Galloway (AECOM)         | <a href="mailto:katrina.galloway@aecom.com">katrina.galloway@aecom.com</a>         |                            | Yes            |
| Community Points of Contact                                                | Michael Salentine                | <a href="mailto:maswastewater@gmail.com">maswastewater@gmail.com</a>               | 870-421-0842               | Yes            |
|                                                                            | Bill Stahlman                    | <a href="mailto:bstahlman@cityofbullshoals.org">bstahlman@cityofbullshoals.org</a> | 870-321-4087               |                |
|                                                                            | Susan Walling                    | <a href="mailto:swalling@cityofbullshoals.org">swalling@cityofbullshoals.org</a>   | 870-445-4775 (city office) | Yes            |
|                                                                            | Mike Howell (City Council)       | <a href="mailto:mhowell@cityofbullshoals.gov">mhowell@cityofbullshoals.gov</a>     | 870-706-4205               | Yes            |
|                                                                            | Travis Fancher                   | <a href="mailto:tfancher@cityofbullshoals.gov">tfancher@cityofbullshoals.gov</a>   | 870-506-1161               | Yes            |
|                                                                            | Russel Meinking                  | <a href="mailto:rmeinking@cityofbullshoals.gov">rmeinking@cityofbullshoals.gov</a> | 870-506-1120               | Yes            |
|                                                                            | Ed Martin                        | <a href="mailto:edmartin712@gmail.com">edmartin712@gmail.com</a>                   | 870-421-9943               | Yes            |
| Additional Community Contacts [Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality] | Sarah Pierce                     | <a href="mailto:sarah.pierce@arkansas.gov">sarah.pierce@arkansas.gov</a>           | 501-682-0664               |                |
|                                                                            | Tiana Toups, Enforcement Analyst | <a href="mailto:tiana.toups@arkansas.gov">tiana.toups@arkansas.gov</a>             | 501-682-0699               | Yes            |
| Funding Agency Contact [Arkansas Department of Agriculture]                | Debby Dickson                    | <a href="mailto:debra.dickson@arkansas.gov">debra.dickson@arkansas.gov</a>         | 501-682-0548               |                |
| TA Provider: Southwest Environmental Finance Center (SWEFC)                | A.J. Barney                      | <a href="mailto:ajbarney1@unm.edu">ajbarney1@unm.edu</a>                           | --                         | Yes            |
|                                                                            | Dawn Nall                        | <a href="mailto:dnall@unm.edu">dnall@unm.edu</a>                                   | --                         | Yes            |
|                                                                            | Tammy Huynh                      | <a href="mailto:thhuynh@unm.edu">thhuynh@unm.edu</a>                               | --                         |                |

|  |                  |                                                        |    |     |
|--|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----|-----|
|  | Eva Schwendimann | <a href="mailto:eschwend@unm.edu">eschwend@unm.edu</a> | -- | Yes |
|--|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----|-----|

## II. Updates to Previous Meeting Action Items

- Outstanding
  - Bull Shoals perform smoke testing and share results with ERG / AECOM – [scope updated, no longer relevant, see below.](#)
  - AECOM review smoke testing and provide recommendations for documentation – [scope updated, no longer relevant, see below.](#)
  - Bull Shoals will provide update on timeline for clearing and generating access to the transmission line corridor for inspection efforts – [scope updated, no longer relevant, see below.](#)
- Completed
  - AECOM will propose a new pipe alignment to replace the current path through the transmission line corridor – see discussion below on defining alternatives for PER.
  - Bull Shoals provided access to Diamond Maps and blueprints for manholes
  - AECOM generated a map of the transmission line area with pipes and manholes from Diamond Maps supplemented with elevation contours and pipe / manhole invert elevations from blueprints.

## III. Workplan and Timeline:

Below is the anticipated timeline for the main project tasks/deliverables. [Field work is proposed to be removed from scope of work and instead alternatives will be developed for replacing the transmission line corridor per discussion below.](#)

| Task / Deliverable                                          | Lead TA Provider    | Anticipated Completion Date | Completion Date |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Kick-Off Meeting                                         | ERG Team            | April 2026                  | April 22, 2026  |
| <del>2. Smoke Testing Plan</del>                            | <del>ERG Team</del> | <del>May 2026</del>         |                 |
| <del>3. Smoke Testing and Field Work Summary/Analysis</del> | <del>ERG Team</del> | <del>May 2026</del>         |                 |
| <del>4. Field Investigations Plan</del>                     | <del>ERG Team</del> | <del>May 2026</del>         |                 |
| <del>5. Pre-site visit meeting</del>                        | <del>ERG Team</del> | <del>May 2026</del>         |                 |
| <del>6. Site Visit</del>                                    | <del>ERG Team</del> | <del>June 2026</del>        |                 |
| <del>7. Field Investigations Report</del>                   | <del>ERG Team</del> | <del>June 2026</del>        |                 |
| 8. Meeting to review alternatives and assumptions           | ERG Team            | July 2026                   |                 |
| 9. Develop alternatives and cost estimating                 | ERG Team            | August 2026                 |                 |
| 10. Draft PER                                               | ERG Team            | TBD                         |                 |
| 11. Final PER                                               | ERG Team            | TBD                         |                 |

## IV. Smoke Testing

- Any updates?

- Remove smoke testing from AECOM's scope of work and SWEFC can support field needs for smoke testing

## V. Field Investigations

- Update on clearing efforts along transmission lines to reestablish access to this area.
  - Did City Council make a decision between renting equipment or purchasing excavator?
    - City council doesn't want to do any work themselves for repairs / replacement of sewer. Instead they want to subcontract to professional contractors with experience in this type of work.
    - Could they hire a contractor to use a drone to look at smoke testing areas that aren't easily accessible? Possibly, but per discussion below, assumption will be made that the transmission line needs to be repaired / replaced, and therefore further testing in this area is not needed.
  - Any update on purchasing CCTV equipment?
    - Bull Shoals received approval and should be able to purchase soon
- Potential changes to field inspection scope identified last meeting. Review and discuss timeline for visits.
  - Field inspection removed from AECOM scope of work. SWEFC can still support separately. See initial updates to timeline in Section III above.
  - SWEFC can set up a separate meeting with Bull shoals to see about supporting smoke testing or CCTV field work (3 weeks out potentially to receive CCTV equipment)
- Possibility of evaluating new alternatives with [transmission line pipe replacement](#) for PER.
  - AECOM provided map of sewer elevations with ground topography along transmission line corridor: "Invert Map with Elevations.pdf".
  - Review map and discuss potential alternatives:
    - Buried vs above ground pipe
    - Locations to start / stop replacement of pipe
    - See markups in pdf attached. Red area will be the extent of replaced pipe for the alternatives in the PER.
    - Is there any reason to investigate this section of pipe more to see if any sections do not need replaced to avoid incurring unnecessary construction cost?
      - Answer from Bull Shoals: all pipes highlighted are over 50 years old and beyond useful life. They are comfortable with the assumption that the entire length discussed should be repaired or replaced for inclusion in the PER alternatives.
  - No pump stations are needed based on topography.
  - Initial alternatives to consider:
    - Pipe bursting
    - New underground pipe – throw out this alternative, it would be rock excavation the whole length and is cost prohibitive
    - New pipe above ground
  - AECOM will review alternatives and provide a summary of alternatives and assumptions during the July progress meeting

## VI. Preliminary Engineering Report

- Discuss scope modification to remove field investigation and instead evaluate alternatives for replacing sewer along transmission line corridor
  - See discussion above. AECOM will move forward with transmission line pipe alternatives and will remove field investigation from AECOM scope of work.
  - In addition to the transmission line pipe alternatives, the PER can include pricing for repairs / replacement to the priority areas flagged in the Flow Monitoring Report.
- Dawn / SWEFC can support with information on grants, loan terms, etc. for Arkansas and how that will impact costs to taxpayers. AECOM will work with SWEFC to get this information for the PER.

## VII. Open Discussion

- Project schedule (see anticipated completion dates, above)

## Next Steps

- SWEFC and Bull Shoals to meet to discuss smoke testing and CCTV support.
- By next meeting, AECOM will outline alternatives for PER transmission line replacement and list of assumptions to review with Bull Shoals.