

July 2026 Monthly Meeting Minutes

July 15, 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	doody.laura@epa.gov	202-938-4467	
EPA Regional TA Coordinator/Project Officer	Jessica Fry	fry.jessica.l@epa.gov	214-665-8308	
Contractor's Project Managers	Kevin Schmidt, P.E. (ERG)	kevin.schmidt@erg.com	760-213-2074	Yes
	Kevin Stockton (ERG)	kevin.stockton@erg.com	720-789-8050	Yes
	Jenny Dodd (ERG)	jenny.dodd@erg.com		
	Joslyn Townsend (AECOM)	joslyn.townsend@aecom.com	417-766-8579	Yes
Contractor's Technical Leads	Scott Belz (AECOM)	scott.belz@aecom.com	216-404-8079	Yes
	Esther Kaufman (AECOM)	esther.kaufman@aecom.com		
	Katrina Galloway (AECOM)	katrina.galloway@aecom.com		Yes
	Lars Allebrink (AECOM)	lars.allebrink@aecom.com		Yes
	Kevin Alspach (AECOM)	Kevin.Alspace@aecom.com		Yes
Community Points of Contact	Michael Salentine	maswastewater@gmail.com	870-421-0842	Yes
	Bill Stahlman (resigned)	bstahlman@cityofbullshoals.org	870-321-4087	
	Susan Walling	swalling@cityofbullshoals.org	870-445-4775 (city office)	
	Mike Howell (City Council)	mhowell@cityofbullshoals.gov	870-706-4205	Yes
	Travis Fancher	tfancher@cityofbullshoals.gov	870-506-1161	Yes
	Russel Meinking	rmeinking@cityofbullshoals.gov	870-506-1120	Yes
	Ed Martin	edmartin712@gmail.com	870-421-9943	Yes
Additional Community Contacts [AR Division of Environmental Quality]	Sarah Pierce	sarah.pierce@arkansas.gov	501-682-0664	
	Tiana Toups, Enforcement Analyst	tiana.toups@arkansas.gov	501-682-0699	Yes
Funding Agency [AR Dept of Agriculture]	Debby Dickson	debra.dickson@arkansas.gov	501-682-0548	
TA Provider: Southwest Environmental Finance Center (SWEFC)	A.J. Barney	ajbarney1@unm.edu	--	Yes
	Dawn Nall	dnall@unm.edu	--	
	Tammy Huynh	thhuynh@unm.edu	--	

	Eva Schwendimann	eschwend@unm.edu	--	Yes
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II. Updates to Previous Meeting Action Items

- Outstanding
 - SWEFC and Bull Shoals to meet to discuss smoke testing and CCTV support
- Completed
 - AECOM outlined alternatives for PER transmission line replacement and list of assumptions to review with Bull Shoals – see discussion below.

III. Workplan and Timeline:

Below is the anticipated timeline for the main project tasks/deliverables.

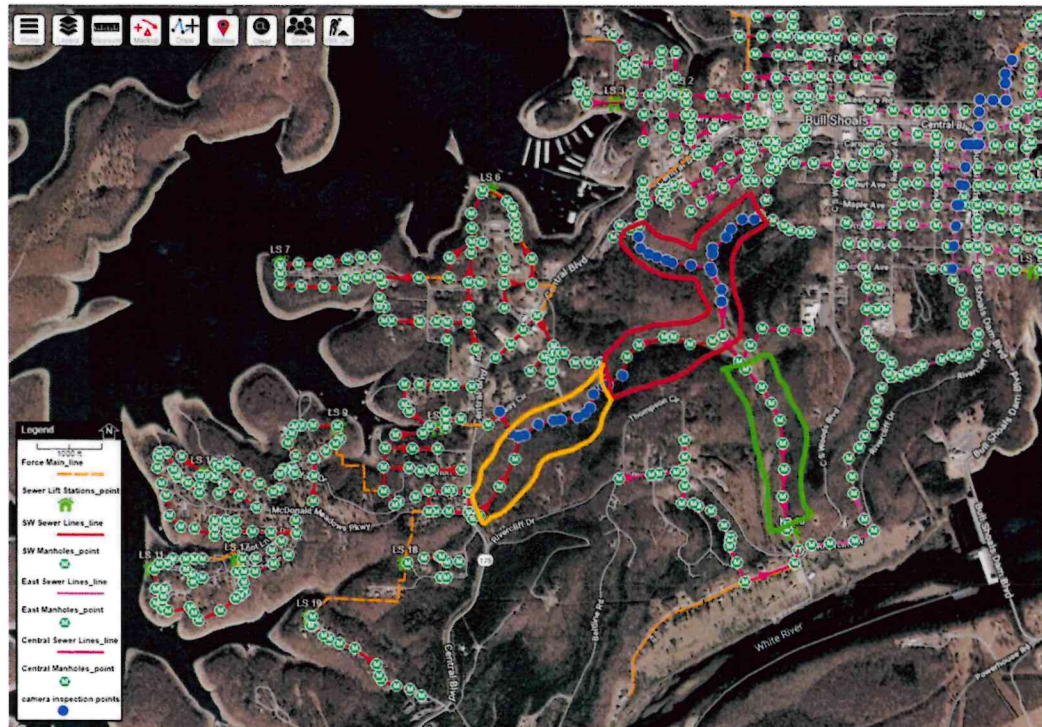
Task / Deliverable	Lead TA Provider	Anticipated Completion Date	Completion Date
1. Kick-Off Meeting	ERG Team	April 2026	April 22, 2026
2. Meeting to discuss alternatives and assumptions	ERG Team	July 2026	
3. Develop alternatives and cost estimating	ERG Team	August 2026	
4. Draft PER	ERG Team	TBD	
5. Final PER	ERG Team	TBD	

IV. Field Investigations

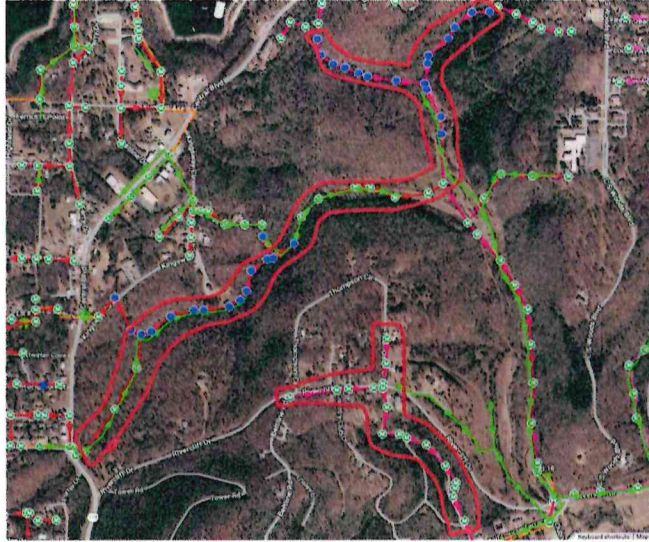
- Any updates on SWEFC support for smoke testing / CCTV?
 - No major updates, SWEFC is available to assist. SWEFC also has a CCTV camera on order.
 - Asset management software can be used for smoke testing or CCTV data.
 - SWEFC will set up follow up meeting to go over how to use the software.
- Has Bull Shoals purchased their own CCTV equipment?
 - Camera should arrive soon, should have been shipped today.
- Update on clearing efforts along transmission lines to reestablish access to this area.
 - No current efforts, will be included in PER as part of each repair / replacement alternative.

V. Alternatives Evaluation

- Alternatives scope focused on transmission line pipe replacement for PER
- Propose to not include any repairs to areas beyond the transmission line corridor for the purposes of the PER.
 - Repairs / replacement of the priority areas flagged in the Flow Monitoring Report would not be included.
- Data request from Bull Shoals:



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- The red area is the area we defined for repair alternatives during the last progress meeting (6/17/2026). However, in a previous meeting you also called out the orange area as a problem area, extending all the way to Central Blvd north of Rivercliff Drive. Should our area of evaluation include this orange area as well as the red?
 - Answer from Mike: Both the red and orange sections are likely problem areas and should be included in the evaluation. It may be helpful to consider these as Phase 1 and Phase 2.
 - Reviewed area for scope of replacement in attached “Sewer Replacement Extents.pdf”.
 - Bull Shoals requested adding one additional area west of the blue area in the attached pdf. The red and yellow areas in the pdf were agreed upon to be the scope of repair / replacement areas be included in the PER. Also circled in red below on aerial image.
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- For the alternatives in the PER, what assumptions can be made on clearing efforts / establishing road access to these areas?
 - AECOM has a few photos from pole camera (blue dots above) of manholes in these areas and can use this.
 - Will assume majority of the area needs extensive clearing efforts. Bull Shoals can provide comment on if any areas need less clearing.
- What is the pipe material for the red and orange areas? Clay pipe, ductile iron?
 - Answer from Mike: The pipe material for those lines is most likely ductile iron or truss pipe.
 - Kevin reviewed pole camera and appears the majority is truss pipe. AECOM will assume truss pipe for our PER evaluations.
- The green area is where you noted that the sewer line had been replaced approximately 6 years ago. I assume this was done during your treatment plant upgrades. Do you have any record drawings from that repair? We are specifically looking for any data collected that would document the condition of the pipe repaired. For example, had it collapsed or completely failed in any areas? Was there any documentation for cracks, root intrusions, etc. that was collected? This information would help us make assumptions for the condition of the pipe in the red / orange areas.
 - Answer from Mike: Unfortunately, I am not aware of any records that were kept for the repairs in the green area.
 - Bill: Would Halff engineering have these prints? My understanding they were the engineering group during those repairs. Julian Brown is contact.
 - Joslyn sent an email to Julian on 6/30 and has not heard back.
 - Update: Joslyn spoke on the phone with Julian this morning. He is going to look through the archives to see if he can find any information, but he remembered the project being focused on the treatment plant, a few lift stations, and a portion of forcemain, not necessarily any gravity line work.
 - Mike has number for contractor who did repair work, he will send.

- The sewer as built sent last month include sheets 4 – 104. Do you have sheets 1-3? We are looking for general notes of construction and pipe material information.
 - Answer from Mike: I have reviewed all of my sewer as-built records, and unfortunately, none of them include sheets 1–4.
- Alternative A: Do nothing
 - Discuss implications of no action from sewer treatment plant overflows, permit violations, public health, etc.
- Alternative B: Pipe Repair
 - Would include a combination of pipe bursting, slip lining, CIPP, and open cut.
 - Selection of which method to use is dependent on condition of the pipe and typically done after CCTV.
 - CIPP will be most restrictive of the existing pipe condition, but cheapest
 - If existing pipe is truss, which it appears to be based on some of the pole camera pictures, CIPP is not an option. The heat from the CIPP curing would melt the pipe.
 - Pipe Bursting is less restrictive, but more sensitive to pipe alignment (not great with bellies or curves).
 - Question from Bull Shoals: can pipe bursting stretch between more than one manhole?
 - Answer: Yes it is possible to span manholes, but it depends on pipe alignment and lengths between manholes. AECOM will include these restrictions / assumptions in the PER.
 - A possible way to resolve this issue without all the information would be to issue an RFP for a design – build contract or similar early contractor involvement where line investigation is part of the scope. It could also include different repair or replacement options such as:
 - Open cut replacement
 - Aboveground pipe install with abandonment of original lines.
 - Cured in Place Pipe lining (with or without re-rounding)
 - Pipe Bursting
 - Funding with design build
 - AR has in the past awarded for design build projects
 - Can follow up to confirm – follow up with Debbie
 - Disadvantage of this approach is less certainty with construction cost
 - Would Bull Shoals consider design – build? Yes
- Alternative C: New above ground pipe
- Alternative D: Parallel pipe – not included due to shallow bedrock; cost prohibitive.
- Bull Shoals asked if they should include an alternative for replacing pipe across the entire system, not just the priority areas outlined above.
 - Standard practice is for communities to develop master plans that prioritize areas of repair for funding purposes and for projects that are reasonable to complete within a construction season.

- Bull Shoals should use the flow monitoring study report submitted in February to start the process of prioritizing areas not included in the scope of the PER.
- PER scope area will remain the same as outlined above.

VI. Preliminary Engineering Report

- AECOM will begin developing the PER based on Alternatives listed above
- Draft PER fall / winter 2026
- Deadline to complete this project is February 2027 based on the current contract with EPA
- Bull Shoals needs PER by first week of December to be in compliance with Arkansas
- AECOM will draft a deliverable schedule for PER to share during August meeting.

VII. Open Discussion

- Bill resigned as mayor, Travis will be mayor moving forward. Bill can be removed from future meeting invitations.
- Arkansas SRF deadlines
 - Applications for SRF funding are due in August each year
 - Arkansas' SRF funds are awarded in November each year
 - A PER is not needed for applications
 - Arkansas CWSRF Priority Ranking Criteria.pdf – will send with meeting notes
- Sewer study is due November 9 – came out of compliance order – Tiana will send a copy
 - Not included in this scope, AECOM can clarify what Bull Shoals will still need to complete separately from this project.

Next Steps

- Mike will send contact information for contractor who did sewer repairs 6 years ago.
- Follow up with Debbie Dickson to confirm if Design Build is allowable approach for Arkansas funding options.
- Bull Shoals will provide any additional photos / comments on clearing efforts in area of interest.
- AECOM will draft a deliverable schedule for PER to share during August meeting.
- Tiana will send a copy of the compliance order
- AECOM will review compliance order in relation to the Sewer Study and summarize which areas will be needed to be completed by Bull Shoals separately.