

September 2026 Monthly Meeting Notes

September 16, 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	
	Esther Kaufman (AECOM)	esther.kaufman@aecom.com		
	Katrina Galloway (AECOM)	katrina.galloway@aecom.com		Yes
	Lars Allebrink (AECOM)	lars.allebrink@aecom.com		Yes
Community Points of Contact	Kevin Alspach (AECOM)	Kevin.Alspace@aecom.com		Yes
	Michael Salentine	maswastewater@gmail.com	870-421-0842	Yes
	Susan Walling	swalling@cityofbullshoals.org	870-445-4775 (city office)	
	Mike Howell (City Council)	mhowell@cityofbullshoals.gov	870-706-4205	
	Travis Fancher	tfancher@cityofbullshoals.gov	870-506-1161	Yes
	Russel Meinking	rmeinking@cityofbullshoals.gov	870-506-1120	
Additional Community Contacts [AR Division of Environmental Quality]	Ed Martin	edmartin712@gmail.com	870-421-9943	Yes
	Sarah Pierce	sarah.pierce@arkansas.gov	501-682-0664	
Funding Agency [AR Dept of Agriculture]	Tiana Toups, Enforcement Analyst	tiana.toups@arkansas.gov	501-682-0699	Yes
	Debby Dickson	debra.dickson@arkansas.gov	501-682-0548	Yes
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

II. Updates to Previous Meeting Action Items

- Outstanding
 - Bull Shoals will contract with a consulting / engineering firm to provide the SSES. Bull Shoals may also want to consider reaching out to Arkansas to see if they would consider granting an extension to the deadline. (November 9)
 - Bull Shoals will follow up with Rosetta Construction on data request.
- Completed
 - AECOM drafted an outline of alternatives and costs estimates for PER.

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	July 15, 2026
3. Develop alternatives and cost estimating	ERG Team	August and September 2026	
4. Alternatives Review Meeting	ERG Team	September 2026	
5. Draft PER	ERG Team	November 2026	
6. Final PER	ERG Team	December 2026	

IV. Alternatives Evaluation

- Was Bull Shoals able to contact Victor Rosetta about work done by Rossetta Construction in 2019 / 2020?
 - Bull Shoals was unable to contact Rossetta Construction.
- Alternative A: Do nothing
 - Discuss implications of no action from sewer treatment plant overflows, permit violations, public health, etc.
- Alternative B: Pipe Repair
 - Will include land clearing for access, CCTV, and any additional survey.
 - Will include a combination of pipe bursting and open cut.
 - Bull Shoals asked about including CIPP as a pipe repair option. They spoke to a vendor that stated they could perform CIPP on truss pipe. Bull Shoals will provide vendor information.
 - AECOM typically does not recommend CIPP with truss pipe because of a significant risk of melting and/or buckling pipe. CIPP cures at temperatures around 270 deg (regardless of methods of curing), which would reduce the strength of the host pipe and put it at risk for buckling in the future depending on pipe loading conditions.
 - AECOM will analyze potential loading on pipe to determine the feasibility of this option. The PER writeup will include language for CIPP of truss pipe and assessment of risk with loading conditions.

- Alternative C: New above ground pipe
 - Will include land clearing for access and survey.
 - Will include insulation and heat tracing.
- Environmental Impacts
 - Wetland extents – Bull Shoals noted that this is a golf course and does not believe it is a wetland
 - Wetland extents were taken from the Nation Wetland Inventory. The US Army Corps of Engineers states that wetlands are categorized based vegetation, soil and hydrology. Likely survey would need to confirm the species present in the area to evaluate whether or not it is a wetland.
 - Tiana noted that Arkansas does require mitigation and there would be specific permit requirements if the area is designated as a wetland.

V. Preliminary Engineering Report

- AECOM will present summary of alternatives and assumptions.
- Assumptions:
 - Pipe bursting vs open cut: first assumption is based on alignment. Condition of the pipe will also impact ability to utilize pipe bursting, so an assumption will have to be made on the percentage of the pipe that is in good enough condition for pipe bursting.
 - Is any Geotech data available?
 - Bull Shoals does not know of any
 - AECOM will reach out to Julian Brown with Halff Engineering to ask if they have any boring information

VI. Open Discussion

- Katrina will be primary point of contact for AECOM while Joslyn is on maternity leave this fall. Joslyn will plan to seal the PER in January when she returns from leave.
- SWEFC received CCTV equipment and is available to provide CCTV support for PER.
 - Land clearing to access sewer lines will be incorporated in alternatives for the PER.
 - Bull Shoals will complete smoke testing around the city. CCTV assistance from SWEFC will be available next month. CCTV data will be limited due to access restraints and may be prioritized in external areas in the city and not the trunk lines included in the PER.
 - Bull Shoals CCTV has 500 ft of cord, not long enough to video the sewer lines included in the PER due to access restraints. SWEFC thinks they have similar cord length.
 - There is therefore no need to wait on CCTV for PER development, but SWEFC can help Bull Shoals outside the scope of this project with CCTV of other areas.
- Water Sewer Treatment Facility Grant (WST Grant)
 - This is the first year it is available - \$25M available for first year.
 - Could be ready to apply for the next cycle for design and planning
 - Some percentage (1-3%) of this can go to design only, the rest is for construction ready projects
 - Recent deadline was last Friday. 190 applications for \$350M received last Friday
- Project Priority List (PPL)



Water Technical Assistance

- Bull Shoals can apply to be on the PPL now and use an estimated cost. Cost can be updated at any time. PPL is published approximately every 3 months.
- PPL cost should include price for planning, design, construction, etc. If Bull Shoals plans to phase project, then separate costs, but besides that, all combined in a single one cost.
- Forms and information: [Water and Wastewater Funding - Arkansas Department of Agriculture](#)
 - <https://agriculture.arkansas.gov/natural-resources/water-development/water-and-wastewater-funding/>
- PPL lists and form to apply: [Project Priority Lists, Intended Use Plans, and Reports - Arkansas Department of Agriculture](#)
 - ([Project Priority Lists, Intended Use Plans, and Reports - Arkansas Department of Agriculture](#))
- WWAC form: [WWAC-PreApp-with-instructions-FINAL-5.pdf](#)
 - ([WWAC-PreApp-with-instructions-FINAL-5.pdf](#))
- Debra can help provide direction to Bull Shoals with the WST Grant or PPL applications
 - There are other TA providers that can help with filling out applications if beyond scope of this project or SWEFC funding. Debra can provide contacts
- Bull Shoals would like AECOM to propose to help with SSES
- AECOM to send Bull Shoals how we can support for their other needs outside of this project scope – SSES, design, etc.

Next Steps

- AECOM will continue developing alternatives and cost estimates for inclusion in the PER.
- AECOM will reach out to Halff Engineering to request geotechnical data