

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 HOUSE BILL 2992

By: BigHorse

4
5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to environment and natural resources;
8 creating the Centennial State and Tribal Cooperative
9 Watershed Management Task Force; providing for
10 membership; providing for vacancies, quorum, chair,
11 meetings, staffing, and travel reimbursement; stating
12 duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to
13 file a report by certain date; providing for
14 noncodification; and declaring an emergency.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be
17 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

18 A. There is hereby created, to continue until December 31,
19 2009, the Centennial State and Tribal Cooperative Watershed
20 Management Task Force.

21 B. The Task Force shall consist of sixteen (16) members as
22 follows:

23 1. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint
24 two members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives;

2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint two
members of the State Senate;

1 3. The Governor shall appoint six members who represent six of
2 the federally recognized Indian Tribal Governments in the state;

3 4. The Executive Director of the Department of Environmental
4 Quality or a designee;

5 5. The Secretary of Environment or a designee;

6 6. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board
7 or a designee;

8 7. The Director of the Department of Wildlife Conservation or a
9 designee;

10 8. The Secretary of Agriculture or a designee; and

11 9. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Conservation
12 Commission or a designee.

13 C. 1. Members shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing
14 authorities. A vacancy on the Task Force shall be filled by the
15 original appointing authority.

16 2. Appointments to the Task Force shall be made by August 1,
17 2008.

18 3. A majority of the members of the Task Force shall constitute
19 a quorum. A majority of the members present at a meeting may act
20 for the Task Force.

21 4. The Executive Director of the Department of Environmental
22 Quality or designee shall serve as chair of the Task Force.

23 5. The chair of the Task Force shall convene the meetings of
24 the Task Force and shall determine a schedule of meetings. The

1 first meeting of the Task Force shall be called no later than
2 October 1, 2008.

3 D. 1. Staff of the Department of Environmental Quality shall
4 serve as primary resource staff for the Task Force.

5 2. The Task Force may use the expertise and services of the
6 staffs of the State Senate and the Oklahoma House of Representatives
7 and may, as necessary, seek the advice and services of experts in
8 the field as well as other necessary professional and clerical
9 staff.

10 E. All departments, officers, agencies, and employees of this
11 state shall cooperate with the Task Force in fulfilling its duties
12 and responsibilities including, but not limited to, providing any
13 information, records, or reports requested by the Task Force.

14 F. Members of the Task Force shall receive no compensation for
15 their service, but shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

16 1. Legislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed
17 for necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their
18 duties in accordance with the provisions of Section 456 of Title 74
19 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

20 2. Nonlegislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed
21 by their appointing authorities or respective agencies for necessary
22 travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in
23 accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

24

1 G. It shall be the duty of the Task Force to formulate
2 recommendations related to:

3 1. The adoption of cooperative water quality, use, and
4 management standards on a watershed basis for the state; and

5 2. The development of a model cooperative watershed management
6 agreement between the state and tribes.

7 H. The Task Force shall file a report of its recommendations,
8 including recommendations for any resulting legislation, with the
9 Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President
10 Pro Tempore of the Senate by December 31, 2009.

11 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
12 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
13 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
14 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

15

16 51-2-9227 KB 01/07/08

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24