

ARKANSAS WATERWAYS COMMISSION

Enabling Laws

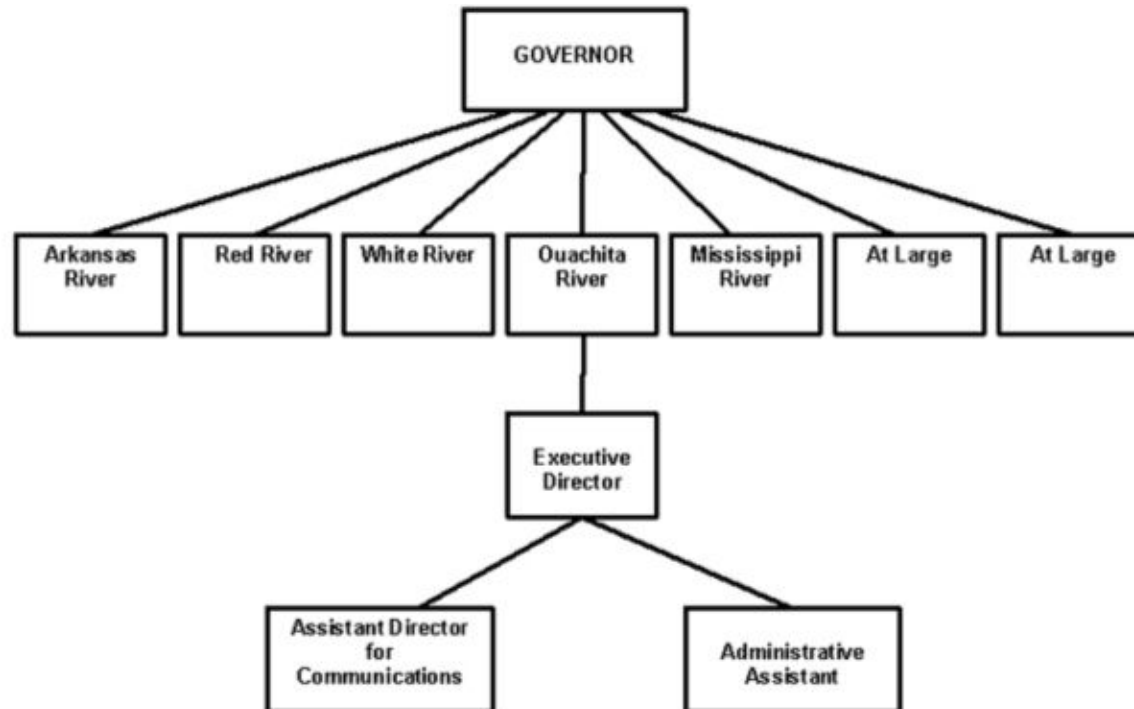
Act 73 of 2010

A.C.A. §15-23-201 et seq.

A.C.A. §15-23-901 et seq.

History and Organization

The Arkansas Waterways Commission supports the development of the navigable waterways of Arkansas. The seven member, Governor-appointed Commission was created by Act 242 of 1967. The Commission, which is funded by general revenues, is supported by a three person staff and offers services and advice to the water transportation industry by means of correspondence, participation in seminars, serving on advisory committees and boards, and providing research on specialty subjects. The Commission also supports the efforts of the Red River Valley, Arkansas Basin Development and White River Valley Associations through its States Contribution line item. The 81st General Assembly provided an Assistant Director of Communications position for the 1997-99 biennium to create an awareness of the waterways and promote the State's waterways through multi-media communications.



Agency Commentary

The Arkansas Waterways Commission is the sole state agency responsible for developing, promoting and protecting for waterborne transportation and economic development of the five commercially navigable rivers of the state: The Arkansas, Mississippi, Ouachita, Red, and White Rivers. These natural resources are under-developed and consequently, under-used, especially in comparison to the investments made by other states with which we share waterways and with which we compete for economic development. Opportunities lost for lack of funding include local economic development, transportation savings, international trade, and potential loss of federal construction and maintenance funding of navigable waterways. Competition for federal maintenance and construction funds is intense, putting at risk our rivers' annual \$800 million dollar contribution to the economy of Arkansas.

Two needs are within the state's ability to correct: 1) port infrastructure, and 2) marketing of existing resources. The infrastructure needs are addressed in Act 1546, the Arkansas Port Priorities Development Program of 2001, which has never been funded. The marketing efforts are included in the operating and maintenance budget of the Waterways Commission. Marketing successes will be measured by port development

and waterways utilization brought about through shipper awareness of capabilities, direct marketing to target industries, education of government leaders at local, state and federal levels, and education of general public.

Due to budget constraints the agency’s position of Communication Director is vacant and the agency relies in part on salary savings from that position to meet its budget. Agency personnel now consist of the Director and one Administrative Assistant.

Regular Salaries: the agency requests restoration of the Public Information Specialist position to increase public awareness of the environmental and economic value of waterborne transportation to the state. This is an increase in Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching of \$41,588 for FY12 and FY13.

Maintenance and Operations: The 2011-2013 budget represents an increase of \$6,325 for Operating Expenses and an increase in State's Contributions. The Operating Expenses increases of \$1,925 for FY12 and FY13 and the cost of State's Contributions increase of \$4,400 each year is requested to fulfill the Agency's obligation of Act 1585 of 2001 to its original amount of \$7,000.

Audit Findings

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
AUDIT OF :
ARKANSAS WATERWAYS COMMISSION

Findings	Recommendations
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A separate report for this Agency was not issued. However, financial activity for the Agency was included in the audit of the State’s CAFR for the year ended June 30, 2009.	

Employment Summary

	Male	Female	Total	%
White Employees	1	0	1	50 %
Black Employees	0	1	1	50 %
Other Racial Minorities	0	0	0	0 %
Total Minorities			1	50 %
Total Employees			2	100 %

Publications

A.C.A. 25-1-204

Name	Statutory Authorization	Required for		# of Copies	Reason(s) for Continued Publication and Distribution
		Governor	General Assembly		
Biennial Report	A.C.A §15-23-204	Y	N	200	To inform state elected officials, colleagues and other interested parties on activities, goals and accomplishments of the Arkansas Waterways Commission.

Agency Position Usage Report

FY2008 - 2009						FY2009 - 2010						FY2010 - 2011					
Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted Total	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted Total	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted Total	% of Authorized Unused
	Filled	Unfilled	Total				Filled	Unfilled	Total				Filled	Unfilled	Total		
3	2	1	3	0	33.33 %	3	2	0	2	1	33.33 %	3	2	0	2	1	33.33 %

Analysis of Budget Request

Appropriation: 085 - Arkansas Waterways Commission

Funding Sources: HUA - Miscellaneous Agencies Fund

The Arkansas Waterways Commission supports the development of the navigable waterways of Arkansas. The seven (7) member, Governor-appointed Commission was created by Act 242 of 1967. The Commission, which is funded by general revenues, is supported by a three (3) member staff and offers services and advice to the water transportation industry by means of correspondence, participation in seminars, serving on advisory committee and boards, and providing research on specialty subjects. The Commission also supports the efforts of the Red River Valley, Arkansas Basin and White River Valley Associations through the State's Contributions line item.

This appropriation is funded by General Revenue.

Base Level salaries and matching do not include appropriation for a Cost of Living Adjustment or Career Service Payments. The Base Level request for Regular Salaries includes board member stipend payments.

The Agency requests a change level of \$47,913 for FY12 and FY13. The Agency requests restoration of the Public Information Specialist position which is needed to increase public awareness of the environmental and economic value of waterborne transportation to the state. This will increase Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching \$41,588 for FY12 and FY13. This position develops and maintains materials such as promotional brochures, news releases, newsletters, and educational manuals to promote and advertise the benefits of waterborne transportation for public distribution. The Agency requests an increase in the Operating Expenses line item of \$1,925 for FY12 and FY13. The increase is for network services, board member travel and the executive director's travel. The Agency requests an increase of \$4,400 for FY12 and FY13 for the State's Contributions line item to restore the appropriation to the 2001-2003 amount of \$7,000.

The Executive Recommendation provides for Base Level appropriation for the 2011-2013 biennium.

Appropriation Summary

Appropriation: 085 - Arkansas Waterways Commission

Funding Sources: HUA - Miscellaneous Agencies Fund

Historical Data

Agency Request and Executive Recommendation

Commitment Item		2009-2010	2010-2011	2010-2011	2011-2012			2012-2013		
		Actual	Budget	Authorized	Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Regular Salaries	5010000	110,374	113,066	142,960	112,166	142,879	112,166	112,166	142,879	112,166
#Positions		2	2	3	2	3	2	2	3	2
Personal Services Matching	5010003	28,243	27,138	41,939	31,714	42,589	31,714	31,714	42,589	31,714
Operating Expenses	5020002	40,315	43,879	46,185	43,879	45,804	43,879	43,879	45,804	43,879
Conference & Travel Expenses	5050009	2,847	3,151	3,151	3,151	3,151	3,151	3,151	3,151	3,151
Professional Fees	5060010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Data Processing	5090012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay	5120011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State's Contributions	5900021	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	7,000	2,600	2,600	7,000	2,600
Total		184,379	189,834	236,835	193,510	241,423	193,510	193,510	241,423	193,510
Funding Sources										
General Revenue	4000010	184,308	189,834		193,510	241,423	193,510	193,510	241,423	193,510
M & R Sales	4000340	71	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funding		184,379	189,834		193,510	241,423	193,510	193,510	241,423	193,510
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)		0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total		184,379	189,834		193,510	241,423	193,510	193,510	241,423	193,510

Change Level by Appropriation

Appropriation: 085 - Arkansas Waterways Commission
Funding Sources: HUA - Miscellaneous Agencies Fund

Agency Request

Change Level		2011-2012	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2012-2013	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	193,510	2	193,510	100.0	193,510	2	193,510	100.0
C01	Existing Program	47,913	1	241,423	124.8	47,913	1	241,423	124.8

Executive Recommendation

Change Level		2011-2012	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2012-2013	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	193,510	2	193,510	100.0	193,510	2	193,510	100.0
C01	Existing Program	0	0	193,510	100.0	0	0	193,510	100.0

Justification

C01	The Commission requests restoration of the Public Information Specialist position which is needed to further the public's awareness of the environmental and economic value of waterborne transportation to the state. This will increase Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching \$41,588 for FY12 and FY13. This position keeps regular contact with community and industry leaders, port authorities, congressional delegation, the general public, and state and federal agencies. The position develops and maintains communicative materials such as promotional brochures, news releases, newsletters, and educational manuals to promote and advertise the benefits of waterborne transportation for constituent and general public distribution. The Commission requests an increase in Operating Expenses of \$1,925 for FY11 and FY13. The increase is for network services, board member travel and the executive director's travel. The Commission requests an increase of \$4,400 FY11 and FY13 for State's Contributions line item to restore the appropriation to the 2001-2003 amount of \$7,000.								
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