

**MERAMEC REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES  
Tuesday, March 25, 2014**

**Members Present:** Ray Walden (City of Salem), Cyndra Lorey (RREC), Candace Connell (Archer-Elgin Engineering), John Petersen (City of Rolla), Dennis Wilson (St. James City Hall), James Morgan (City of Crocker) and Byron Baker (Legends Bank).

**Members Absent:** Robert Schaffer (City of Sullivan), Tony Floyd (InterCounty Electric), John Tracy (City of Owensville), Bruce Sassmann, Richard Huse (Belle City Hall), Dianna Moore Central Missouri Community Action), Jan Haviland (Haviland Corporation), Russell Scheulen, Jeff Davis (City of St. James), Bill Marshall (Phelps County Bank), Nancy Montgomery, Keith Strassner (MS&T Tech Comm. & Econ. Dev.), Ted Day (Mo-Sci), Lowell Tonding (Retired), Butch Tucker (Hutcheson Ford), Cheri Tune (DED-Workforce Development), Marla Stevenson (Town and Country Bank), Janet Walker (MS&T), Carol Carson, John Greenlee (Gascosage Electric), Wayne Morgan (PCGA), Rosalind Pride (OTC-Waynesville Education Center), Terry Palmer (City of Steelville), Bob Baldwin (City of Cuba), Kathy Byrd (Village of Leasburg), Thomas Leasor (City Hall), Shannon Grus (City of Rosebud), Carl Stephens (City of Gasconade), Donald Claycomb (LSTC), Chris Dickneite (City of Westphalia), James Wright (City of Chamois), Mike Distlern (City of Meta), Dave Dudenhoeffer (Osage County Courthouse), John Butz (City of Rolla), Travis Schwarz, Randy Verkamp (Phelps County), Luge Hardman (City of Waynesville), John Casey (Casey Real Estate), Robert Vinyard (City of Caledonia), Robin Huskey (City of Mineral Point), T.R. Dudley (Potosi City Hall), Mark Boyer, Jacob Wieties, James Kleffner, Jim Barnett and Ken Bassett.

**Staff Present:** Connie Willman, Bonnie Prigge and Maria Bancroft.

**Welcome and Introductions:** Chairman Petersen called the meeting to order at 11:37 a.m. welcoming the individuals present at the meeting.

**Approval of Jan. 18, 2014 Minutes:** Chairman Petersen requested approval of the minutes from the January 18, 2014 meeting as presented. Chairman Petersen ruled the minutes approved with no objections from the participating committee members.

**Economic Development Action Plan Development:** Willman recapped the committee members with the prioritized list of weaknesses and threats that were established previously as part of the CEDS action plan. Willman asked the committee members to brainstorm and share recommendations to describe the situation, objective and action plan for each of the topics listed below:

- Increased regulations and their impact on economic development
- The presence of apathy in communities and ways to overcome it
- The potential for BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure) affecting Fort Leonard Wood and the impact this may have across the region
- International competition and how the region may compete in today's environment
- Lack of some critical infrastructure (especially roads-no north/south corridor)

Staff will compile the recommendations and present them at the next meeting.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is on Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at 11:30 a.m.

**Adjournment:** Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

**Approved by the board \_\_\_\_\_, 2014**

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**John Petersen, Chairman**

