

Meramec Regional Planning Commission

Minutes

August 11, 2016

Call to Order

Chairman Ray Schwartz called the August 11, 2016, meeting of the Meramec Regional Planning Commission to order at 7:37 p.m.

After welcoming everyone Chairman Ray Schwartz presented a plaque to T. R. Dudley honoring him for his service as chairman of the MRPC board from June 2014 through May 2016. A round of applause was given to T.R. in recognition of his service who said that it was an “honor and pleasure.”

Consent Agenda

The following consent agenda items were presented for approval:

a. Minutes – June 9, 2016

b. Local Review
None

c. Statewide Grant Applications

1. The Curators of the University of Missouri - Columbia

66.436 – Surveys, Studies, Investigations, Demonstrations, and Training Grants and Cooperative Agreements – Section 104(b)(3) of the Clean Water Act

Compilation of Data and Information on Cover Crops in Relation to Water Quality

Federal: \$25,000

2. State Environmental Improvement & Energy Resources Authority, Jefferson City

66.818 – Brownfield’s Assessment and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements

Missouri Brownsfield Revolving Loan Fund

Federal: \$113,000

Applicant: \$22,000

Total: \$135,600

d. State Regional Planning Commission Grant Application

Permission is requested for MRPC to submit the grant application to the Missouri Office of Administration for the State Regional Planning Commission Grant, and authorization is requested for the executive director and/or MRPC’s chairman to sign the application. Permission is also requested for the executive director and/or chairman to sign a grant agreement and any related documents should the grant be funded.

e. Transportation Voucher Program

Permission is requested for the executive director and/or MRPC’s chairman to accept a grant award from MoDOT to establish a transportation voucher program.

f. Contract

- City of Steelville

Permission is requested for MRPC’s executive director to sign a contract with the City of Steelville for housing condemnation inspection services, retroactive to July 1, 2016.

- Revolving Loan Fund Technical Assistance

Approval is requested from the MRPC board for a Revolving Loan Fund technical assistance contract to package and close on a loan request for St. James Tire and Lube, LLC.

g. Board of Director Appointment

Approval is requested for the reappointment of Larry Kliethermes (Osage County) and Ray Walden (Dent County) to the board of directors for MRDC for the term of July 1, 2016 through June 20, 2019.

James Morgan made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; John Casey seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Presentation: “2500 Miles of Art and Culture,” Louis Riggs, chairman of the Missouri Humanities Council

He described how this organization was formed and dedicated to coordinating art, history and cultural assets across Missouri and showcasing them to create a greater awareness and opportunity for economic growth. With 25 weeks in Missouri’s travel season, the goal is to bring emphasis to one county and its cities each of those weeks in an effort to encourage folks to vacation within Missouri. Emphasis can be brought to events like fairs, festivals, and tours of local sites of interest.

Presentation: Watershed Planning, Tammy Snodgrass, MRPC

Tammy provided an update on the Our Missouri Waters Meramec Watershed project and gave a brief report on the Upper and Lower Meramec Watershed project. She reported that some of the recommendations to come out of the Upper Meramec Watershed meetings included plans to continue talking about watersheds, encouraging the Soil and Water Conservation boards to discuss watershed planning, and to invite elected officials to participate in meetings. A handout detailing recommendations was passed out and T.R. Dudley inquired about getting a similar document on the Big River project. Bonnie Prigge indicated that this was not likely at the moment as she’s not sure the EPA has decided on the level of clean-up required on the Big River. DNR was in charge of the Big River project but Tammy will contact them to see if we could get something similar to what was received for the Upper and Lower Meramec. This could be a legislative priority with MRPC recommending that the groups continue to meet to decide on how to carry out the recommendations. MRPC will not be involved in the Lower Missouri watershed planning, which is about to begin but will ask to be kept informed of meetings so that information could be passed along to concerned citizens in Gasconade County.

External Relations Committee: Committee Chairman Darrell Skiles reported that invitations for the Annual Dinner on October 20 will be going out soon and that donations for the silent auction are being sought. Also discussed were several issues that could potentially be state priorities and future topics for presentations at future MRPC board meetings. The committee recommended that a very short MRPC meeting or just an executive meeting be held Oct. 13 immediately following the scheduled 4 p.m. TAC meeting. And, lieu of quorum of the full board, that the executive committee handles the items on the agenda. T.R. Dudley made a motion to accept the committee’s recommendation; Ron Kraettli seconded. Motion carried.

Operations Committee: Committee Chairman Marvin Wright

After committee review and approval, Marvin Wright made a motion to approve the MRPC financial statements and MRPC/MRDC-RLF & IRP program financial statements for the period ended June 30, 2015; seconded by Randy Verkamp. The motion carried.

After committee review and approval, Marvin Wright made a motion to approve the MRPC year-end financial statements and MRPC/MRDC-RLF & IRP program financial statements for the period ended July 31, 2015; seconded by Dave Duedenhoeffer. The motion carried.

The committee discussed the Department of Labor’s FLSA overtime ruling effective Dec. 1, 2016 and management’s decision to make all line staff positions non-exempt effective July 1, 2016. After committee review and approval, permission was requested for staff to change status from exempt to non-exempt on all job descriptions impacted by management’s decision. Marvin Wright made a motion to approve, seconded by Dave Duedenhoeffer. The motion carried.

After committee review and approval, permission was requested for the executive director to have authority to enter into and execute technical assistance contracts, valued at \$2,500 or less, for services MRPC typically provides between full board meetings. A list of signed contracts will be listed on the informational agenda

each month. This would be such things as grant writing contracts, asbestos contracts, loan contracts, etc. Marvin Wright made a motion to approve; John Casey seconded. The motion carried.

Planning Committee: Committee Chairman James Morgan reported on Planning Committee activities as follows: Discussions were held on legislative priorities for 2017 and possible topics and speakers for future MRPC meetings. Committee members in attendance at the Board Strategic Advance held June 9, 2016, presented their review of the retreat. Maria Bancroft provided the committee with an update on the Meramec Regional Community Foundation and the opportunities it offers non-profits. James Morgan also reported that Lyle Thomas would be leaving and wished him well.

Housing Advisory Board: Committee Chairman Ray Schwartz
No report given.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Committee Chairman John Casey
John Casey reported that he has taken over as chair of TAC, David Dudenhoefter is vice chair, and James Morgan is secretary. He noted MRPC provided letters of support for the cities of Potosi, St. Robert and Union Pacific (Bonnots Mill Universal crossover) Missouri Moves Cost Share Program. Potosi decided to not submit its project. John Casey briefly summarized the presentation on new transportation technology by Angela Rolufs from Missouri S&T. She discussed the electric bus that is running on the Missouri S&T campus and the automated bus system that is being developed for use on the base at Fort Leonard Wood.

Environmental: Tammy Snodgrass provided handouts on two upcoming recycling collections and a memo with details and nomination form for the 2016 Ozark Rivers Solid Waste Management District annual award program.

Meramec Regional Planning Committee: Kraig Bone, at-large representative for emergency management. No report at this time. The next meeting will be held at the end of August.

Business Loans: Bonnie Prigge reported the next meeting will be held on October 17, 2016. Financials and loan requests will be reviewed at that time. Maria Bancroft has three projects in progress. Sixty-two new jobs have been created in our region with the loans that have been closed to date. SBA has reinstated their debt refinance programs so if anyone knows of a business needing assistance they can direct that business to our office for assistance.

Workforce Development: T.R. Dudley updated the board on workforce development activities as follows: T.R. reported that a new director has been hired, Alex Blackwell, and the first meeting under his leadership will be in September. A full report will be given next month.

Meramec Community Enhancement Corporation: Committee Chairman Marvin Wright reported that a MCEC conference call meeting was held.

Meramec Region Community Foundation: Bonnie Prigge reported that there wasn't a quorum so the meeting has been rescheduled for September.

Chairman and Director's Reports: Ray Schwartz opened his report by saying that he appreciates the committee believing in him as chair. He reported that the executive committee met with Bonnie to go over her evaluation. It came back positive, and that as a whole, they felt everybody was doing a good job. As Lyle Thomas is leaving MRPC, Ray wished him the best and asked everyone to give him a round of applause for the good job he's done.

Lyle responded by saying he was appreciative of the opportunities given to him and thanked everyone for their support.

Bonnie updated the committee on the status of open positions. She said MRPC was in the process of hiring a replacement for Lyle and that second round of interviews are being held for the Community Development Specialist/Mobility Coordinator position.

Dues notices will be going out in August and a committee rotation survey has been sent out to all board members. Ray will make official appointments to keep the committees balanced. Bonnie also informed the

board the first draft of entrepreneurship assessment has been received. MRPC purchased a new lawnmower and will be putting out a bid notice on the old mower. Board members will be notified and can share the bid notice.

State Priorities

Leo Sanders, Crawford County Presiding Commissioner, addressed the board with an issue that will affect every county with a full-time prosecuting attorney. In 2011 the salary for a full-time prosecuting attorney was \$109,366 and in 2016 it is \$136,402. Leo indicated that this increase was impacting his county budget. Salaries are state mandated by the legislature. He also noted that there is a special retirement for the prosecutors, and prosecutors don't contribute toward it. The county was paying approximately \$7,500 into the plan but that amount increased to \$11,000 this year and comes out of the general revenue budget. In speaking with a local prosecuting attorney, Leo said he was told that everything that crosses his desk is for the state so the county should get the state to pay the salary for that position. Leo is asking all presiding and associate commissioners to join together to request the state pay the prosecuting attorney's salary in all counties. Leo asked that this be one of MRPC's state priorities.

Ray Schwartze closed out this discussion by asking all members to give serious thought to state priorities.

Adjourn

T.R. Dudley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.; Leo Sanders seconded the motion. The motion carried.