

Meramec Regional Planning Commission
Minutes
September 8, 2016

Call to Order

Chairman Ray Schwartze called the September 8, 2016, meeting of the Meramec Regional Planning Commission to order at 7:35 p.m.

Consent Agenda

The following consent agenda items were presented for approval:

a. Minutes – Aug. 11, 2016

b. Local Review

None

c. Statewide Grant Applications

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Jefferson City

93.977 – Preventive Health Services Sexually Transmitted Diseases Control Grants

The funds provided through this grant will be used to address health disparities throughout the State inclusive of those found in adolescents and young adults 15 to 24 years of age in addition to men having sex with men (MSM) including racial and ethnic minorities.

Total: \$0

2. Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City

66.460 – Nonpoint source Implementation Grants

FY2016 319h Nonpoint source Implementation Grant

Federal: \$1,796,500

Local: \$1,197,667

Total: \$2,994,167

d. Contract

2016 Tall Oaks Productions

Permission to sign an amendment to the 2016 Tall Oaks Productions contract for environmental education in the schools to include information on reducing food waste. Change in scope only – no change in contract amount.

City of Steelville

Permission is requested for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director to sign a technical assistance contract for asbestos inspection for the City of Steelville's old city hall and for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director sign any necessary documents.

Dale Wands

Permission is requested for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director to sign a technical assistance contract for asbestos inspection for property at 1206 N. Oak, 1208 N. Oak, and 1210 N. Oak in Rolla and owned by Dale Wands and for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director sign any necessary documents.

Missouri Foundation for Health Community Convening Grant program

Permission is requested for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director to submit a grant application to Missouri Foundation for Health Community Convening Grant program. MRPC will work with Sustainable Ozarks Partnership and health industry stakeholders to look at health issues in Pulaski County including FLW Hospital sustainability, medical records transfer capabilities among regional health care providers, gap analysis on health needs/potential market expansion. Permission is also requested for the MRPC chairman/executive director to sign a grant award agreement if one is offered.

National Aging and Disability Transportation Center

Permission is requested for MRPC's chairman/executive director to submit a grant request to NADTC, National Aging and Disability Transportation Center, for funding for the voucher program, and for the chairman/executive director to sign a grant agreement, if award is made.

Walmart State Giving program

Permission is requested for MRPC's chairman/executive director to submit a grant request to the Walmart State Giving program for funding for the voucher program and for the chairman/executive director to sign a grant agreement, if an award is made.

Randy Verkamp made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; Mary Heywood seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Presentation: "Co-Generation," Dan Epps of Mid West Co-Generation Systems

He explained what co-generation was and how it worked. Co-generation is the use of an engine/power station to generate electricity and useful heat at the same time. It is very cost effective solution as it will produce your electricity, heat, hot water, and steam if needed. The waste heat from the system is recycled to be used to heat the water. The system provides continuous power and has a lower energy consumption which increases the cost efficiency of the system. The system can run on natural gas or propane. It can also be used with anaerobic digestion which turns manure into methane gas that is run into a co-generation unit to be cleaned and used. This can be a very cost effective method of producing power for large dairy, cattle or chicken farms. In the long run they would basically end up producing their own power. It was noted that the system remains interconnected with the power companies so that it stays connected to the grid. As long as fuel is available, the units will continue to operate, even during power outages.

External Relations Committee: Committee Chairman Darrell Skiles reported that invitations for the Annual Dinner on October 20 will be going out next week and that donations for the silent auction are being sought. The ticket cost for awardees only will be covered by MRPC. If any city or county plans on covering the ticket cost for any guest of the awardee, they should notify MRPC of this as soon as possible. RSVPs for the dinner will be due by Oct. 13, 2016.

Roxie has asked the counties to choose one project to be highlighted in the annual video. She would like one person to provide audio about the project to accompany the video. Anyone interested in providing audio should contact her to make arrangements to be recorded.

Of the three at-large positions currently open, there are possible candidates for representation in the areas of hospital and for-profit for Dent County. If anyone has any suggestions for candidates for labor please speak with them to determine their interest in serving.

The committee reviewed the list of suggestions for priority issues for the state legislature. Many of the suggestion were very similar and can be consolidated. Tammy Snodgrass will consolidate the suggestions before sending back out for prioritization.

The committee voted to retain Darrell Skiles as chair and selected Don Brackhahn as vice chair.

Operations Committee: Committee Chairman Marvin Wright

After committee review and approval, Marvin Wright made a motion that the board approve the MRPC year-end financial statements and MRPC/MRDC-RLF & IRP program financial statements for the period ended Aug. 31, 2016; seconded by Randy Verkamp. The motion carried.

The committee voted to retain Marvin Wright as chair and Steve Vogt as vice chair.

Steve Vogt addressed the board regarding item #11 (raising the road bed at Highway E near intersection with Highway 89 and Gasconade River) under Regional Transportation on the list of state legislative issues for 2017. He considers it a very important issue as this would be the only north-south access during flooding when Interstate 44, Highway 50, Highway 89 and Highway 63 are closed. Having this access would be a financial benefit for people commuting to and from work as well as having a positive impact on the economy statewide at a relatively low cost. Bonnie Prigge noted that this issue should be placed on the TAC list as well.

George Lauritson pointed out that support for Ft. Leonard Wood wasn't reflected on the list for economic development. Residents of Pulaski County currently have no local access to trauma care, dialysis or chemo. If the trauma is a life threatening situation, residents can be transported via ambulance to the hospital on the base and receive treatment there. For non-life threatening situations residents must seek treatment at a hospital in Rolla or Lebanon. Bonnie Prigge noted that this is an issue that has been brought up in various healthcare meetings and ideas are being discussed to try and resolve the health care issue in Pulaski County.

Planning Committee: Committee Chairman James Morgan reported that committee members voted to retain James Morgan as chair and T.R. Dudley as vice chair.

Bonnie Prigge went over the responsibilities of the planning committee and informed the committee about a healthcare grant that MRPC will be applying for. This grant would look at health issues in Pulaski County including FLW Hospital sustainability, medical records transfer capabilities among regional health care providers, gap analysis on health needs/potential market expansion. MRPC is working with Sustainable Ozarks on determining the exact focus. The grant application will be submitted on Monday.

The committee also reviewed the list of legislative priorities, making a few changes and focusing on making sure the items listed were state not federal issues.

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

Transportation Advisory Committee: Committee Chairman John Casey
No report given.

Environmental: Tammy Snodgrass mentioned the two upcoming special collections, one in Cuba on Sept. 17 and one in St. Robert on Oct. 1. A tire contractor is still being sought, and staff is working on other ideas to deal with the tire disposal issue. She noted that Nov. 15 is America's Recycle Day sponsored by Keep America Beautiful. Board members were asked to visit the Keep America Beautiful site and take the pledge to recycle.

Meramec Regional Emergency Planning Committee: Kraig Bone, at-large representative for emergency management.

Tammy Snodgrass noted that MREPC is looking to add more members.

Business Loans: Linda Loughridge reported that two 504 loans and one RLF disaster loan closed as of Sept. 1. It was noted that SBA 20-year note rate for 504 loans funded in August 2016 is 2.07699% which is down a little from July 2016. Maria Bancroft is working on one potential local project to take to the next meeting and an RLF plan is in the works. Bonnie Prigge reported that Maria has received a \$750 NADCO scholarship to attend a refi program training being held in California.

Workforce Development: T.R. Dudley
No report was given.

Meramec Community Enhancement Corporation: Committee Chairman Marvin Wright reported that the committee approved the annual contract for the CERT trailer lease with MRPC.

Meramec Region Community Foundation: Bonnie Prigge reported that no meeting was held in September and the next meeting would be in October.

Chairman and Director's Reports: Ray Schwartz opened his report by asking the executive committee to stay after the meeting for photos for the annual report. He asked members to make this year's annual dinner a good one.

He reminded members that nominations for the 2016 solid waste public recognition awards are being sought and asked all members to take the state priorities seriously. Once finalized, MRPC will take the list to the capitol in January. He encouraged participation in the visit to really show a presence.

Finally he reminded members that there will be a TAC meeting at 4 p.m. on Oct.13 followed by a short MRPC board meeting at 5 p.m. to go over a consolidated RLF loan.

Bonnie Prigge spoke about the home septic repair program that is available to qualified residents. It is a part grant and part loan program. The repairs are for existing systems only and homeowners must use a certified installer. Information brochures were provided to the board and will be sent to banks, real estate offices, certified installers, and health departments. Boonslick RPC is taking the lead for this program.

On Sept. 20 there will be a Naturally Meramec meeting where the new website will be presented. It is an interactive website that was built to showcase the smaller local businesses. Also to be discussed is a passport program to further draw customers to those businesses. Some businesses have shown a 20 percent increase in sales since working with Naturally Meramec to get their products out in the community and more visible to consumers. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. with the meeting scheduled to being at 6 p.m. If anyone is interested in attending, she asked for RSVP's as soon as possible to plan for the meal.

Bonnie reported that MRPC has been in hiring mode lately. Originally the position advertised for was a Community Development Specialist/Mobility Coordinator but they learned from the interviews that this would be a hard combination to fill. It was decided to hire a Grant Administrator and a Mobility Coordinator. The Grant Administrator is a part-time position for now. Gary O'Day has been hired for that position and Samantha Maddison has been hired for the Mobility Coordinator position. The Community Development Specialist (previously held by Lyle Thomas) position is still being advertised. There is one applicant who is scheduled for an interview next week.

Adjourn

Don Brackhahn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.; Dave Duedenhoffer seconded the motion. The motion carried.