

**MERAMEC COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT CORPORATION  
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, December 13, 2018

**Members Present:** Gary Hicks (Phelps County), Dave Dudenhoeffer (Osage), Darrell Skiles (Dent), Leo Sanders (Crawford), John Muesch (Phelps), Greg Edwards (Phelps), Jerry Lairmore (Gasconade)

**Members Absent:** Gene Newkirk (Pulaski), Marcus Maggard (Dent), Randy Verkamp (Phelps), Marvin Wright (Washington County), , Ray Schwartze (Maries), Danny Brown (Crawford), Wayne Langston (Maries)

**Guests:** Darryl Griffin, New Osage County Presiding Commissioner, Dr. Greg Stratman, PACT, Dr. Sean Siebert, Invent Yourself

**MRPC Staff Present:** Kelly Sink-Blair, Linda Loughridge, Caitlin Jones, Bonnie Prigge, Samantha Maddison, Becky Stinson

**Call to Order and Introductions:** Gary Hicks, Chairman, called the MCEC December 13, 2018, meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Dr. Greg Edwards and John Muesch were introduced as new members recommended by the Phelps County Commission. Each new member provided their background and confirmed their interest in sitting on the MCEC board.

**Approval of Minutes:** Gary Hicks asked for approval of the September 11, 2018 minutes. Of the members present, only Gary Hicks and Dave Dudenhoeffer were present at the September meeting. The board agreed to approve the minutes as presented with Dave Dudenhoeffer making a motion and Gary Hicks making a second.

**Innovation Strategies: Dr. Sean Siebert:** Dr. Siebert visited with the board about his effort to use entrepreneurship as a strategy to improve the region, and the fundraising efforts to continue it. He has completed programs in the Crawford County jail and also with youth in the local school districts. Dr. Siebert has asked MCEC to partner with him as a fiscal agent. A motion was made to approve this partnership effective from July 1, 2018 by Darrell Skiles and second by John Muesh. Motion passed.

**Teaching Program: Dr. Gregory Stratman:** Dr. Stratman will introduce a new program concept designed to develop a pool of qualified teachers for the purpose of providing classes in school districts that lack qualified teachers. PACT is intended to allow school district to utilize a teacher at no cost for subjects that are lacking due to shortages of qualified teachers. Dr. Edwards asked how this was different than dual enrollment where a college might send a professor to teach a class and Dr. Stratman said this could be for any level of class and not necessarily one that would have college credit.

such as substitute teaching. Darrell Skiles asked if MCEC would have any liability for teachers if we act as fiscal agent. Dr. Stratman replied that PACT would be designed to work with the schools to cover any liability. Dr. Stratman asked if MCEC might partner on this endeavor. A motion was made by Dave Dudenhoeffer to approve MCEC partnering on the program, second by Darrell Skiles. Motion passed.

#### **Business / Reports:**

- A. MCEC Project Updates:** Kelly Sink-Blair reported that there are currently no projects being funded through MCEC.
- B. MCEC Grant Updates:** Staff provided a report on 2018 grants submitted/awarded and pending/proposed grant applications. A request has been made for MCEC to sponsor Duke Fire Protection District on a Coover grant request for funds to build a new building for vehicles. Leo Sanders made the motion to approve, second by Jerry Lairmore. Motion passed.

**Membership:** Staff handed out a new membership list. Kelly Sink-Blair noted that three new presiding commissioners would receive welcome letters after the first of the year. Presiding commissioners are automatically on the MCEC board but can assign alternate representatives.

**Approval of financials:** Linda Loughridge presented the audit report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. The audit was good with no deficiencies. Leo Sanders made a motion to approve the audit, second by Dave Dudenhoeffer. Motion passed. Linda Loughridge presented financials through November 30, 2018. Darrell Skiles made a motion to approve, second by Dave Dudenhoeffer. Motion passed.

**Items of Interest:** Chairman Hicks passed around a donation can for raising funds for MRPC's adopted Christmas families.

- A. Next Meeting:** Will be in March 2019. There is no TAC meeting that month so Kelly Sink-Blair will survey the group to determine a good date for a quorum to attend.

**Adjournment:** Gary Hicks adjourned the meeting.

Approved by the Board March 12, 2019



Gary Hicks, Chairman