

**Meramec Regional Planning Commission
Minutes
April 11, 2019**

Call to Order

Chairman Larry Miskel called the April 11, 2019, meeting of the Meramec Regional Planning Commission to order at 7:31 p.m.

Welcome

Chairman Miskel opened the meeting with a few remarks about MRPC board member Don Brackhahn who recently passed away. A moment of silence was held to remember him and his many years of service to the board.

Introductions were made around the room. Bonnie Prigge introduced two new MRPC staff members, Donald Keeney, the new housing manager, and Kathryn Hawes who will be working in the areas of environmental and community economic development.

Consent Agenda

The following consent agenda items are presented for approval:

- a. Minutes – March 14, 2019
- b. Local Review
 - 1. City of Richland, Richland, MO
 - 10.351 – Rural Business Development Grant
 - Richland Downtown Lighting Program
 - Federal: \$50,000
 - Local: \$25,000
 - Total: \$75,000
- c. Statewide Grant Applications
 - 1. Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City
 - 66.419 – Water Pollution Control State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support
 - FY2019 Section 106 Monitoring Initiative Funds
 - Federal: \$151,265
 - Total: \$151,265
 - 2. Missouri Department of Agriculture, Jefferson City
 - 10.025 – Plant and Animal disease, Pest control, and Animal Care
 - Survey of Imported and Domestically Produced Herbaceous Ornamental Nursey Stock
 - Federal: \$20,000
 - Total: \$20,000
 - 3. Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, MO
 - 15.252 Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation (AMLR)
 - Reclamation projects for abandoned mine land across the State of Missouri
 - Federal: \$3,000,000
 - Total: \$3,000,000
 - 4. Missouri Department of Public Safety, Jefferson City, MO
 - 16.017 Sexual Assault Services Formula Program
 - FY2019 Missouri DPS Sexual Assault Services Formula Grant

Federal: \$460,308
Total: \$460,308

The Office of Administration issues the Missouri Federal Assistance Clearinghouse grant reviews weekly. Staff will share reports in between meetings with board members. If you have questions about grants listed, you can call MRPC staff or the Office of Administration as listed on the reports.

d. Contracts

- Joint Resolution for Annual RLF Certification
To approve a joint resolution by the Meramec Regional Planning Commission and the Meramec Regional Development Corporation for the purposes of approving the annual RLF certification for the period ending March 31, 2019. This resolution will be submitted with MRPC's semi-annual report to the Economic Development Administration due on or before April 30, 2019.
- Laquey R5 School District
Permission is requested for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director to enter into a technical assistance contract for application preparation for a DOJ School Violence Protection Program Grant and to sign all documents associated with this contract.
- Phelps County Commission
Permission is requested for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director to enter into a technical assistance contract for grant administration for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and to sign all documents associated with this contract.
- Jeffrey Dewerff, dba Park Street Tire
Permission is requested for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director to enter into a technical assistance contract for an EDA – Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Loan and to sign all documents associated with this contract.
- Executive Board Action – Contract with Caledon Virtual
On March 19, 2019, Executive Board was contacted for consideration to enter into a contract with Caledon Virtual for Naturally Meramec social media management and Mastermind training. Due to requirements in the scope of work, the contract needed to be expedited. The following Executive Board members approved the Executive Director entering into the contract: Larry Miskel, George Lauritson, Steve Vogt, Mary Heywood, Janet Walker and Marcus Maggard. Executive Director entered into a contract on March 21, 2019.

Jan Haviland made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the noted additions; Ron Kraettli seconded; the motion carried.

Presentation: Darryl Rockfield, SEMA Floodplain Engineer

Mr. Rockfield updated the board on the RiskMAP process in Missouri and the work that is going on in the Meramec Region.

Mr. Rockfield informed the board that all eight counties in the Meramec Region will have updated, digital flood risk maps by 2021. Maps have been created for Washington and Dent counties and modeling is underway for Crawford, Gasconade, Phelps and Maries counties. The process will begin in 2020 for Pulaski County and in 2021 for Osage County. Maps will be going

from 1D to 2D, which will allow the maps to shape the areas and take into account how the water moves as opposed to simply showing the flow in a straight line from one point to another.

SEMA's goals in updating these maps are to:

- provide models based on Specific Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) on LiDAR statewide
- eliminate paper flood insurance rate maps statewide
- provide flood risk products to meet community needs statewide
- structure specific flood risk assessments within communities and
- provide outreach and training to meet community needs

Flood risk products include:

- depth grids
- water surface elevation grids
- changes since last flood insurance rate map (FIRM)
- percent annual chance grid
- 30 year percent chance grid

Mr. Rockfield was joined by Dale Schmutzler, also with SEMA, and by Stephen Noe with Wood Group.

Legislative Guests

Morgan Corder from Senator Roy Blunt's office reported on some highlights from recent activity including:

- Senator Blunt's recent visit to Your Community Health Center in Rolla to discuss the opioid epidemic.
- Military funding and Fort Leonard Wood – Senator Blunt voted in favor of disapproving the use of these funds for the border wall. Mr. Corder stated that the senator's office would continue to monitor the issue.

Representative Don Mayhew commented on the SEMA presentation saying that map accuracy has been an issue for some time. He indicated he would be keeping an eye on the updates and improvements in the mapping process.

Other topics Representative Mayhew touched on included:

- Budget – It has been passed by the house and has moved to the senate. He has hopes that it will come back on Monday and be passed.
- Jail per diem – He indicated that a task force is being formed to find a solution to get the arrears paid up.
- Career Readiness – There are a lot of jobs available but no trained employees to fill them.
- Expansion of Medicaid – He stated that 40% of the budget is spent on Medicaid and a solution needs to be found.

Chairman Miskel brought up the issue where a city makes an arrest but once a state charge is affixed, the county has to pay the expenses for the incarcerated individual. He went on to say that if the city makes the arrest, then they should be responsible for the costs to house the individual. Representative Mayhew agreed that this issue needed to be fixed.

Bonnie Prigge mentioned the bridge proposal. Representative Mayhew stated that 75% of the bridges in Missouri are 50 years old or older. Most being in dire need of repair or replacement. He indicated that the house, senate and governor are all in discussion to come to a compromise to repair or replace those bridges needing attention.

Representative Mayhew concluded his comments by adding that this year's freshman legislators are very dedicated and are in it for the right reasons.

Shane Anselm brought up the issue of the Department of Labor being fully funded, specifically in the area of claims. Representative Mayhew noted that was correct and that nearly everything the governor asked for they gave him. He did add that there is more focus on increasing the pay for the Department of Corrections which currently has 800 positions to fill.

Steve Vogt brought up his concerns with the Department of Revenue not following up on those businesses not paying sales tax to the state. He indicated that there are some businesses who have managed to stay open, even though they aren't paying sales tax to the state and as a result can't obtain a business license. Representative Mayhew stated he would look into the issue.

External Relations Committee: Darrell Skiles, chairman

Chairman Darrell Skiles reported on External Relations Committee activities as follows:

Chairman Skiles reported that the committee was provided with a brief report on the NADO Conference and visit with the federal legislators in Washington, D.C. He asked MRPC Chairman Miskel and MRPC Executive Director Bonnie Prigge and Assistant Director Tammy Snodgrass to give a trip summary to the full board.

Bonnie Prigge stated that there were several sessions on opioids and the impact on the workforce that were informative. She indicated it was a good trip, even though they were only able to meet with legislative staff as the senate and house were on spring break.

Chairman Miskel shared that he was really impressed with the set-up and learned a lot about NADO, as well as learning that rural counties all over have the same concerns. He said it was an honor to represent the MRPC board.

Tammy Snodgrass reported that the sessions were informative and there was a lot of interesting data coming out regarding the opioid problem.

Chairman Skiles stated that RFPs for the location of the annual dinner have been handed out and are due back May 3. One RFP has been submitted at this time. Award nominations were also distributed, and he encouraged members to submit their nominations.

Chairman Skiles reported that the committee reviewed the slate of officers for the upcoming year. The slate will be presented to the board in May and anyone interested in serving as an officer should contact the MRPC staff. He noted that there is an at-large for seniors' vacancy.

The external relations committee voted in Ray Schwartze as vice chairman.

A report was provided by staff on state and/or federal legislative issues that occurred since the last board meeting.

Operations Committee: Steve Vogt, chairman

Chairman Steve Vogt reported on operations activities as follows:

The committee reviewed the MRPC/MRB and MRPC/MRDC-RLF and IRP program financial statements for the period ending March 30, 2019.

Chairman Vogt made a motion to accept the financials for the period ending March 30, 2019; Randy Verkamp seconded. The motion carried.

Staff reported on a proposed amendment for the Accountant II job description with committee approving the amendment. Chairman Vogt asked Fiscal Officer Linda Loughridge to explain the

change in the job description. She stated that the description was updated to include duties such as assisting in human resource activities and insurance renewals.

Chairman Vogt made a recommendation to accept the proposed amendment; George Lauritson seconded. The motion carried.

Chairman Vogt reported that the committee was updated on the indirect negotiation process with the US Department of Commerce, MRPC's cognizant agency.

Planning Committee: T.R. Dudley, chairman

In the absence of Chairman Dudley, newly elected vice chairman Marcus Maggard reported on planning activities as follows:

Marcus Maggard was elected as vice chair, replacing Jim White, who is no longer on the board.

Staff introduced Donald Keeney, MRPC's new housing manager.

Anne Freand, MRPC, reviewed the CEDS benchmark report in preparation for the annual CEDS review in October.

Bonnie Prigge, MRPC, reviewed the recent peer review completed by the EDA for the MRPC. Chairman Vogt asked her to provide a summary for the full board.

Ms. Prigge reported that she and Kelly Sink-Blair met with the EDA Director from Iowa at the Boonslick Regional Planning Commission office in Warrenton. The review consisted of an overview of the past year including the areas of planning, operating, fiscal and governance. The final report from EDA is pending.

Staff provided an update on the three-year work plan for the EDA grant from 2019-2021.

Housing Advisory Board: Larry Miskel, chairman

No report was given.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Ray Walden, chairman

Vice Chairman George Lauritson filled in for the chairman and reported on transportation activities as follows:

The committee selected officers:

Chairman – Ray Walden

Vice Chairman – Greg Lauritson

Secretary – Darin Pryor

Preston Kramer, MoDOT, provided the committee with an update on CART. He reported that some of the county's roadway miles and types are incorrect. This information is provided by county staff and Mr. Kramer indicated it may need to be updated.

The committee was also presented with a handout on partnership project guidance from MoDOT. Mr. Kramer gave an overview of the handout which provided some guidance on what local governments need to do regarding engineering services on partnership projects.

Bonnie Prigge and Anne Freand, MRPC, provided the committee with a summary of the planning framework and distributed criteria used in the past, as well as providing some insight on how to incorporate it into the prioritization process. They stated they are looking at a new way to conduct

the process. Each county would form a committee and determine their needs and then a representative from each county would bring those projects to the TAC for prioritization.

Steve Engelbrecht, MoDOT, provided the committee with a STIP update.

Ms. Freand reviewed and update the committee on the Regional Transportation Plan stating that she will be reaching out for input in the next couple of months.

Mr. Kramer also touched briefly on the following legislative topics:

- license fees – there is a proposal to change vehicle license fees to a system based on miles per gallon rather than horsepower of the vehicle
- hit a worker lose your license
- phone or texting ban – no movement on any kind of ban

Ms. Freand informed the committee that a road safety audit would be conducted in Gasconade County at Highway P and Shockley Road.

Vice Chairman Lauritson concluded his report stating that the TAC committee also heard MoDot updates and staff reports.

Environmental:

The board was provided with a handout, covering environmental updates as well as updates on Meramec Regional Emergency Planning and Homeland Security Oversight Committee activities.

Meramec Regional Emergency Planning Committee:

Updates were included on the environmental handout that was provided.

Business Loans: Linda Loughridge, Fiscal Officer

Linda Loughridge that MRDC's board meeting on April 17 has been cancelled.

Ms. Loughridge stated that staff has been very busy with four projects in the works and four referral projects.

She also reported that MRPC is partnering with the SBA St. Louis District office to bring small business finance workshops to local communities. In addition, staff is networking with community lenders to offer on-site custom refresher trainings on MRPC's loan programs including the SBA 504 and the RLF and IRP revolving loan funds. Workshops currently scheduled in the region:

- April 24, 2019 – 10 .m. to 12 noon, MRPC, 4 Industrial Drive, St. James
- April 30, 2019 – 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Hermann Chamber of Commerce, 150 Market St., Hermann
- May 2, 2019 – 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Washington County Public Library, 235 E. High St. Potosi

If any community is interested in hosting a workshop, Ms. Loughridge asked that they contact Maria Bancroft.

Workforce Development: T.R. Dudley

In the absence of T.R. Dudley, Alan Galindo updated the board on workforce activities.

Alan Galindo stated that his office has been really busy and is going full speed on job fairs.

He also noted that the Summer Job League is gearing up and is for youth ages 14 to 24,

Mr. Galindo also mentioned the Skill Up Program which provides training to individuals to get them into a job. Participants have to be on food stamps to be eligible for this program. Currently the program is targeting Potosi, Salem, Columbia, Eldon and Versailles.

Meramec Community Enhancement Corporation: Vic Stratman

No report was given.

Meramec Region Community Foundation (MRCF):

Bonnie Prigge reported that the committee has been reviewing applications and awarding scholarships to students in the region. Under review were the following scholarships:

- Maries R-II Schools – 18 applications received with \$32,000 to be awarded
- Richard and Jeanne Cavender Scholarship – 35 applications received with two \$750 scholarships
- Cole-Mahon Scholarship – one application received
- Claude and Irene Morgan Scholarship – one scholarship
- State Tech Scholarship – one scholarship

Ms. Prigge informed the board that MRCF received a \$10,000 grant to fund substance abuse disorder. Applications are due at the end of April. Four awards of \$250 will be made for local projects.

Chairman Report:

Chairman Miskel encouraged members to visit the region's congressional offices in Washington, D.C. if they had the opportunity.

Director Report:

Bonnie Prigge informed members that Don Brackhahn has also served on the MRCF board and asked that anyone who might be interested on serving on that board to contact her or Tammy Snodgrass.

Ms. Prigge also reported that there is a proposal in the senate to increase funding from \$200,000 to \$300,000 for regional planning commissions. These funds are used to match federal grant dollars.

She reminded the board that the next Meramec Morning will be April 24 in Irondale in Washington County. The session will start at 10:30 a.m. at Irondale's city hall.

Adjourn

Randy Verkamp made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m.; Ron Kraettli seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Larry Miskel, chairman

Attest