

Gasconade Valley Enterprise Zone

encompassing portions of Gasconade, Maries and Osage counties of Missouri

Gasconade Valley Enterprise Zone Board Meeting Minutes

Jan. 28, 2021

The Gasconade Valley Enterprise Zone met 1:00 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021, at the First State Community Bank meeting room at 208 W. Lincoln, Owensville, MO.

Meeting was called to order by President Jerry Lairmore at 1:05 p.m.

Members present: Jerry Lairmore, Ray Schwartz, Mark Wallace, John Deeken, Vic Stratman, Lloyd Honse, Darryl Griffin, Larry Kliethermes, Randy Blaske

Guests: John Trenshaw, Osage County commissioner

Staff: Bonnie Prigge of MRPC.

President Lairmore opened the meeting. John Trenshaw, the newly elected association commissioner for Osage County, was introduced.

Election of officers: Because the nominating committee was unable to convene a meeting prior to the regular meeting, the first portion of the meeting was devoted to election of officers.

Jerry Lairmore has completed three terms as president and is unable to serve another term in that position, per the bylaws. Current Vice President John Deeken is willing to move into the president's position. Darryl Griffin made a motion to appoint John Deeken as president. Ray Schwartz seconded the motion. Motion carried with no opposition.

Ray Schwartz made a motion to appoint Larry Kliethermes as vice president; seconded by Vic Stratman. Motion carried with no opposition.

John Deeken made motion to re-appoint current secretary Ray Schwartz to another term as secretary. He has served two terms and is eligible to serve another. Motion was seconded by Vic Stratman. Motion carried with no opposition.

Ray Schwartz made a motion to re-appoint Vic Stratman to a second term as treasurer; seconded by Larry Kliethermes. Motion carried with no opposition.

The slate of officers is as follows:

President John Deeken, Vice President Larry Kliethermes; Secretary Ray Schwartz and Treasurer Vic Stratman.

President Deeken thanked everyone for serving and thanked Jerry Lairmore for his service as president the past three years.

Minutes: Minutes of the Aug. 20, 2020, board meeting were reviewed. (No meeting was held in Nov. 2020.) Ray Schwartz made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Larry Kliethermes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financials: Lloyd Honse made a motion to approve the financials for year ending Dec. 31, 2020, as presented. Ray Schwartz seconded. Motion approved.

Budget: Bonnie Prigge reviewed the proposed budget for 2021. Revenues of \$13,428 are projected and expenditures of \$13,328, with \$100 revenue over expenditures. About half of the revenue comes from contributions from the businesses receiving EEZ benefits. Bonnie will bill those businesses as usual.

Third Party Review: Bonnie had shared in advance of the meeting the Third Party Review of GVEZ books, completed by Candace Connell. There were no findings or recommendations. Ray Schwartze made a motion to accept the report; seconded by Vic Stratman. Motion passed.

Meeting Schedule: Board then discussed the meeting schedule, keeping to four meetings in 2021. Those are: today's meeting (Jan. 28); April 22, Aug. 26 and Nov. 18 (annual meeting in conjunction with EEZ meetings.)

Impact of COVID 19: Bonnie Prigge shared information on unemployment rates, unemployment claims and sales tax collection during the pandemic. John Deeken discussed loan volumes for the PPP and EIDL. Banks have been busy processing requests.

Highway 63 Alliance: Bonnie Prigge updated the board on the proposed Highway 63 Alliance. This is a grassroots effort to form a coalition of cities and counties along the 63 corridor from the Arkansas line through Cole County, MO, to advocate for the four-laning of Highway 63 and to consider financing mechanisms that could provide matching funds to state and federal opportunities. The group has been meeting in Houston, MO, and Maries and Osage counties have been participating in the discussions. Vic Stratman commented that he was not sure where this will go. Darryl Griffin said he would rather see passing lanes on Highway 63. There was also a comment regarding the need to dual lane Highway 50 before working on Interstates 44 and 70.

Broadband: Bonnie shared information on MRPC's work on broadband and the formation of a broadband advocacy committee for Osage County. Such committees will be formed in each of MRPC's counties. Bonnie shared some maps that MRPC has created showing what companies received federal funding (RDOF and Connect America) and where they will be providing service in the three-county area.

Enhanced Enterprise Zone update: Bonnie Prigge provided an update. Contribution requests and job reports will go out before the next meeting. GVEZ has Notice of Intent for Hippos in Vienna, the marijuana grow facility. Information was shared with the new meat processing group but there was no response to the email.

Certified Work Ready County report: Bonnie reviewed the maintenance statistics for each county: All three counties need to work on business partnerships. Bonnie reported that GVEZ is on a waiting list for Work Keys testing funds, as there were more requests than dollars.

Missouri Location 1: Bonnie reminded board members to let her know of any buildings or sites that need added to Missouri Location 1. Board members provided information vacant buildings that might be considered for Missouri Location 1.

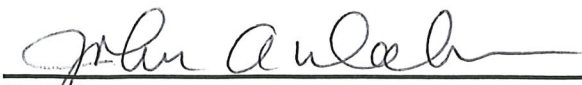
Community/Economic Development Update/ Board Member Reports:

Each person provided an update on projects or issues within their respective communities.

Jerry Lairmore asked whether Maries and Osage counties had passed the use tax and what impact that had. Vic Stratman said the use tax brings in about \$100,000 for Maries County. Darryl Griffin said that the use tax generated about \$65,000 in Osage. Gasconade County has been unable to pass the use tax.


There was a brief discussion about the CARES Act funding.

Meeting adjourned about 2:20 p.m.



President

Date



Attest

Date

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