

MERAMEC COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT CORPORATION
ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 31, 2021

Members Present: Gary Hicks (Phelps County), Vic Stratman (Maries), John Meusch (Phelps), Mark Wallace (Gasconade), Darryl Griffin (Osage),

Members Absent: Gene Newkirk (Pulaski), Randy Verkamp (Phelps), Dave Sansegraw (Washington), Leo Sanders (Crawford), Marcus Maggard (Dent), Danny Brown (Crawford), Darrell Skiles (Dent), Greg Edwards (Phelps), Jerry Lairmore (Gasconade), Wayne Langston (Maries)

Guests:

MRPC Staff Present: Kelly Sink, Nichole Zielke, Linda Loughridge

Call to Order and Introductions: Gary Hicks, Chairman, called the MCEC March 31, 2021, meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance on the call.

Approval of Minutes: Gary Hicks asked for approval of the January 12, 2021 minutes. Vic Stratman made a motion with second by Darryl Griffin. *Motion passed.*

Staff Introduction: Nichole Zielke, Sr. Community Development Specialist/Grant Writer, has joined MRPC and will work on grant applications for MCEC when opportunities arise.

Business / Reports:

- A. MCEC Project Updates:** Staff reported that there are no new projects that MCEC is administering at this time as all projects have wrapped up.
- B. MCEC Grant Updates:** Kelly Sink informed the board that it would like to apply to the United Way Community Support Grant for funds to leverage a new home repair program. MRPC was awarded a grant Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines to make home repairs to approximately 20 homes in the region. The intent is to use USDA Rural Development as matching funds to the program but it is anticipated that the two programs will not be applicable to all circumstances. The United Way grant can help to leverage funds when USDA is not a feasible option. Nichole Zielke explained that the grant would be for approximately \$20,000 and would cover the counties of Osage, Phelps and Maries. Gary Hicks asked for an approval of the submission and subsequent acceptance of award. John Meusch made a motion with a second

by Vic Stratman. Motion was approved.

Approval of financials: Linda Loughridge presented the completed audit for FY19-20. It is a clean audit. She reviewed the audit sections and auditor comments with the board. John Meusch asked about the unrestricted cash balance and Linda explained that this was funds remaining from a previous home repair program and has been released from that program's funding restrictions. It can be used as match to future projects. Vic Stratman made a motion to accept the audit, with a second by John Meusch. Motion was approved.

Linda next presented the financials for the period ending February 28, 2021. Kelly Sink noted that at a previous meeting, a board member had asked about the increase in software cost. Linda explained that MRPC uses MCEC to purchase software at a discount and this is a simple pass through of funds. The increase was due to purchasing Adobe software the MAC computers. Mark Wallace made a motion to approve with second by Vic Stratman. Motion was approved.

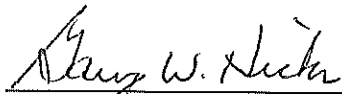
Lastly, Linda presented the revised FY20-21 budget. The main adjustments were to the two grants from Marrilac Mission Funds and Amerisource Berge based on project expenses. John Meusch made a motion to approve with a second by Vic Stratman. Motion was approved.

Items of Interest:

A. Next Meeting: Will be in June 2021 and will be in-person. Kelly will send a survey to determine a date and time when a quorum can meet.

Adjournment: Gary Hicks adjourned the meeting

Approved by the Board 6 - 24, 2021



Gary Hicks, Chairman