

**OZARK RIVERS SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
FULL COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
MRPC Building - 4 Industrial Drive
St. James, MO 65559**

Call to Order

Brady Wilson called the June 14, 2022 meeting of the Ozark Rivers Solid Waste Management District Full Council Meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. The meeting was held in-person and via Zoom/conference call.

Members Present: Darrell Skiles, Gary Larson, Steve Vogt, Brady Wilson, Jim Fleming, Michael Gray and Gary Gilliam participated in-person. Participating via Zoom/conference call: Maria Potter, Jesse Geltz, Jim Holland, Randy Blaske and Ray Walden.

Members Absent: Cody Leathers, Terry Beckham, Arthur Cook, Dave Lafferty, Dennis Watz, Kenny Sullinger, John Kamler, Larry Miskel, T.C. James, Doug Drewel, Vic Stratman, Doug Smith, Gary Hicks, Glen Smith, Mike Null, Joshua Wonder, Anita Ivey, Mitch McDonald, Craig French, Troy Porter, David Sansegraw and Cody Brinley.

Staff and Guests Present: Tammy Snodgrass, Patrick Stites, Kathryn Hawes and Linda Carroll, MRPC. Jill Hollowell, MRPC, participated via Zoom.

Approval of Agenda

Darrell Skiles made a motion to approve the agenda. Jim Fleming seconded the motion. All present voted “aye.”

Approval of Minutes

Steve Vogt made a motion to approve the agenda. Jim Fleming seconded the motion. All present voted “aye.”

Financials

Tammy Snodgrass presented financials for month ended May 31, 2022 and provided the district’s sub-grantee tracking spreadsheet. On the statement of revenues and expenditures for grants, she noted that total expenditures are at 59.3% with the percentage of the year expired at 91.67%. This is likely due to the fact that some grantees haven’t yet requested reimbursement. On the operating side, she noted deficits due to increased costs in the annual dinner, insurance, MORA Conference and web hosting line items. Tammy said there were no concerns with the overages as they were all under 10% of the total cost and it appeared that there would still be funds left over at the end of the fiscal year. The cost for website housing has been adjusted in the new budget to eliminate any future overage. Total operating expenditures for the year are at 76.18%.

Tammy presented 2023 district administration and implementation contracts, DO/PI grant applications and budgets for approval. She noted that although the overall contract amount remained the same, the hourly rates did increase, and she presented those increases to the council. The 2023 DO/PI budgets were submitted for approval in the amounts of \$108,030 and \$36,750 respectively.

Gary Gilliam made a motion to approve the 2023 DO/PI contracts and budgets as presented. Darrell Skiles seconded the motion. All present voted “aye.”

Full Council Annual Officer Elections and Caucusing

The following slate of officers for presented for approval:

Brady Wilson, chairperson	Jim Fleming, secretary
Darrell Skiles, vice chairperson	Steve Vogt - treasurer

Gary Gilliam made a motion to accept the slate as presented. Michael Gray seconded the motion. All present voted “aye.”

Jill Hollowell and Tammy Snodgrass reviewed the list of current city representatives for each county as follows:

To Be Determined - Crawford County
Jesse Geltz of Hermann for Gasconade County
Brady Wilson of Rolla for Phelps County
Anita Ivey of St. Robert for Pulaski County

Ray Walden of Salem for Dent County
Steve Vogt of Belle for Maries County
Gary Gilliam of Potosi for Washington County

Jim Fleming made a motion to accept the slate of county representatives as presented. Gary Gilliam seconded the motion. All present voted “aye.”

Annual Disclosure Form

Forms were provided to those in attendance, and they were asked to sign them before the end of the meeting.

Approval of Grant Project Requests

A request for the release of retention of grant funds and grant closure was submitted for the following:

K2020-008 Dixon High School Key Club grant.

Jill Hollowell reported that required reporting for this project has not been completed in a timely manner over the last two years and it’s being closed out early due to a lack of response from the subgrantee for submitting documentation and quarterly reporting. Jill said the subgrantee may submit a reimbursement request up to 45 days after grant closure. Jill added that she had encouraged the club sponsor to refrain from applying for a 2022 grant until her two open grant activities were completed.

Gary Gilliam made a motion to approve the release of retention and grant closure, provided all requirements are met and returning unused funds to the district. He added he would like them to know that the failure to submit paperwork in a timely manner would reflect on future grants. Steve Vogt seconded the motion. All present voted “aye.”

A request to close the following grants as of June 30, 2022, was submitted for the following:

K2022-001 District Operations
K2022-002 District Plan Implementation

Gary Gilliam made a motion to approve the closure and release of retention of the District Operations and District Plan Implementation grants as of June 30, 2022. Steve Vogt seconded. All present voted “aye.”

Strategic Plan

Patrick Stites reviewed the Strategic Plan with the council. He said the plan will be used to help guide the actions of staff over the next two years.

Patrick presented the following goals, set by the strategic planning committee, for the district to achieve in FY 2023/2024:

- Goal # 1: Increase public awareness of the district to increase participation in waste diversion, special/household hazardous waste collections, illegal dump cleanups, and educational programs.
- Goal # 2: Research regulations and the economic feasibility of new programs to improve waste diversion opportunities in our region.
- Goal # 3: Increase participation from the district’s full council membership.

Along with the goals, the planning committee determined what actions would need to be taken to achieve those goals. Some of the strategic actions the committee discussed included:

Goal # 1

- Performing a search engine optimization analysis on the Ozark Rivers website to increase web traffic and length of visits.
- Provide improved content on the website to increase the average length of visits.

- Expanding the district's social media reach.
- Research the costs vs. benefits of re-branding the district to increase name recognition in the general public.
- Participate in public events such as parades, fairs, school events, etc. to distribute marketing materials to the public.
- Engage with extra-academic children's groups and adult community service groups to increase awareness of the district in local jurisdictions.

Goal # 2

- Identify one innovative organization that provides resource recovery and end market development.
- Identify one organization to pilot a waste audit program for the purpose of developing a self-assessment program.
- Complete feasibility studies on diversion programs for two targeted municipal solid waste materials for report to the council.

Goal # 3

- Identify members who have not been active for longer than two years and request nominations from the non-participating jurisdictions.
- Hold recruitment drives in jurisdictions with open memberships and no nominations.
- Provide a beneficial offering such as informative presentations, facility tours, etc. at each full council meeting.
- Invite members to participate in public events to increase visibility of both the district and the member's home jurisdiction.
- Designate locations and hosts for one eastern and one western hub where council members could congregate to virtually connect to council meetings as a group.

A couple of items of note that Patrick highlighted were:

- In 30 years of service, only a limited number of people in the counties served by the district (Crawford, Dent, Gasconade, Maries, Phelps, Pulaski and Washington) know about Ozark Rivers or what a solid waste management district does.
- In 10 years, there has never been a quorum at a full council meeting.

Jill mentioned that recycling of mattresses is an issue of concern and reminded the council that Bed Head out of Springfield recycles mattresses. She suggested coordinating with Bed Head and setting up a trailer at transfer stations to collect mattresses.

Darrell Skiles addressed the issue of participation by noting that more people may begin accessing meetings via Zoom due to high fuel prices, provided they have good internet access. He said with poor or limited internet access in many areas, it's a challenge to connect virtually. Jill encouraged members to conduct some basic networking and reach out to identify city employees who may be willing to serve on the council.

Steve Vogt made a motion to moving forward with the goals and actions presented in the Strategic Plan. Darrell Skiles seconded. All present voted "aye."

Staff Activities

Special Collections – Jill Hollowell

Jill informed the council that special collections are now being booked for 2023/2024 and are filling up quickly. She asked participating members if their city would be interested in hosting a collection. Jill said it had been a while since a collection was held in Owensville and asked Randy Blaske if he thought the city would be interested. Randy said the city holds a collection twice a year, but it doesn't include electronics or tires. Jill suggested doing a tires only collection in conjunction with the citywide pickup and said she would be in touch with him to coordinate.

Jim Holland said Hermann might be interested and Darrell Skiles said Salem/Dent County is interested. Gary Gilliam added that the city of Potosi might have an interest in hosting another collection. The recent collection in Potosi had a low participation rate and Gary and the council discussed ideas for how to improve participation.

Items discussed included better advertising such as putting up banners to promote the event and contacting local radio stations to help promote the event. Jill mentioned that using a local voice could generate interest.

Environmental Education – Jill Hollowell

Jill mentioned she is working on a contract with Stan Slaughter with Tall Oak Productions regarding continuing his science unit education. She said there are some issues to still be addressed and finalization of the contract has been postponed until this fall.

Kathryn Hawes has put together a program to present to summer reading programs at area libraries. The theme for the summer reading program is Oceans of Possibilities and Kathryn has developed a program centering around the water cycle. Her program includes information on the issues with illegal dumping and plastic waste and a fun craft activity for participants in the program.

Illegal Dump: Dent County Clean-up Time Lapse – Kathryn Hawes

Kathryn presented a time lapse of the illegal dump on National Forest land in Dent County. She reported that over 35 volunteers with the MoMOTO Riders came out to assist with the clean-up. Many of the volunteers came in from Springfield and St. Louis. The group filled four, 40-yard dumpsters.

Kathryn informed the council that in the first four months of 2022, six illegal dump sites cleaned-up. Over 300 pounds of metal was collected and over 300 tires were removed from the sites. From these events, 38.04 tons of material went to the landfill. Approximately four to five tons of tires were removed from the sites.

Missouri Product Stewardship Council – Jill Hollowell

Jill spoke briefly on the Product Stewardship Council and the search for a paint demo site in the Ozark Region. The group is working with Paint Care on recycling paint. Jill mentioned she had sent emails looking for a site to provide a recycled paint demonstration. She said it would have to be a public building and the project will pay for all paint and brushes. The site owner would have to provide the labor. Jim Holland mentioned that there are two floors in the Gasconade County Courthouse that need to be painted. Jill said she would reach out to him and discuss the project in more detail.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Wilson reported that curbside recycling in the city of Rolla has been discontinued due to issues with providing/retaining labor. The Rolla Recycling Centers is encouraging all residents to bring their items to the center for recycling. The chairman said he is seeing some contamination issues. He would like to provide education on contamination issues to those using the recycling center.

The chairman said he would discuss mattress recycling with the St. Robert and Phelps County transfer stations.

Chairman Wilson reported that costs will be increasing for the pickup of recycled tires. He said there is some concern as to whether or not the district would be able to continue providing free tire pickups to counties. Jill Hollowell added that as of 30 days ago, there was an 18% surcharge added to the bill from the tire recycler. Tammy Snodgrass mentioned the possibility of cost sharing between the district and the county or perhaps update the funding request at grant time. She reminded the council that only illegally dumped tires qualify for DNR funds.

County representatives were asked to submit their tire pickup requests to Jill as soon as possible. She also suggested that the district may need to consider subsidizing the costs of tires and that the district needed to increase the awareness of tire/special collections. Tammy asked Jill to reach out to DNR regarding the ability of the district to subsidize tire collections.

Chairman Wilson asked Jill to give a brief update on the MO S&T biodigester project and Catalytic Innovations. Jill said the S&T biodigester is up and running. The put in five pounds of food waste and the biodigester produces 500 liters of biogas they can use in their stoves. S&T would like to include education on the project and get something into the schools. Jill said that Catalytic Innovation has had a total breakdown in its furnace, and they are having issues with getting parts to repair the furnace. Until then, the project is on hold.

City and County Updates

Jim Fleming, St. James, said the city is struggling with staffing in its sanitation department. He said it’s a labor-intensive department and costs are an issue. Jim also mentioned that residents are not sorting recycling properly. Michael Gray, Phelps County, said residents are not focusing on what can really be recycled, like glass and metals. He said they are recycling items like cans and plastic, but not much glass or metal.

Announcement of Upcoming Meetings and Events

Oct. 18 – Executive Board meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Dec. 6 – Full Council meeting at 5:30 p.m., banquet to follow at 6:30 p.m.

2023 Grant Round opens July 1st and a grant writing workshop will be held on July 27th from 10:00 a.m. – noon and registration is requested for in-person or Zoom.

Aug. 19 – Grant applications are due by noon

Sept. 13 – Annual grant review committee from 10:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.

Oct. 8 – St. Robert Special Recycling Collection

Nov. 12 – Belle Special Recycling Collection

Oct. 11-13 – MORA Conference, Independence, MO

Adjournment

There being no further business, Gary Gilliam made a motion to adjourn. Darrell Skiles seconded the motion. All present voted “aye.” The meeting adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Chairman, Brady Wilson

Date

Attest

Date