

**OZARK RIVERS SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.
MRPC Building - 4 Industrial Drive
St. James, MO 65559**

Call to Order

Chairman Troy Porter called the May 14, 2024, meeting of the Ozark Rivers Solid Waste Management District Executive Board Meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Members Present: Richard Jensen, Gary Larson, Steve Vogt, Vic Stratman, Roger Pankey, Jim Fleming, Troy Porter and Charles Bassett.

Members Absent: Greg Parker, Jim Holland, Jesse Geltz, David Sansegraw and Gary Gilliam.

Staff and Guests Present: Jill Hollowell, Tammy Snodgrass, Kathryn Hawes and Linda Carroll, MRPC along with Mr. and Mrs. Tim Davis from Bourbon and Janice Morgan from Maries County.

Approval of Agenda

Vic Stratman made a motion to approve the agenda. Gary Larson seconded the motion. All present voted "aye."

Approval of Minutes

Jim Fleming made a motion to approve the minutes. Charles Bassett seconded the motion. All present voted "aye."

Financials

Tammy Snodgrass presented financials through March 31, 2024 and provided the district's sub-grantee tracking spreadsheet. On the statement of revenues and expenditures for grants, she noted that the district is running a little under on expenses. Total expenditures are at 50.30% with the percentage of the year expired at 83.33%. On the operating statement of revenues and expenditures, Tammy reported that the district is also running a little under on expenditures. Total operating expenses are at 62.51%, which is also under the percentage of year expired. She did point out that the costs for the audit and insurance are higher than budgeted. Tammy also said she does not anticipate spending out the full budget.

Steve Vogt made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Charles Bassett seconded the motion. All present voted "aye."

Tammy presented the budget for FY 2024-25 for committee approval. She said the only change was a decrease in funds for graphics and outside printing.

Jim Fleming made a motion to approve the FY 2024-25 budget as presented. Roger Pankey seconded the motion. All present voted "aye."

FY 2025 District Bid Evaluation and Approval

Chairman Porter reported that the officers met prior to the meeting to evaluate the district administration and operations bids. MRPC submitted a bid with numbers that were the same as last year. Two other entities requested information but didn't submit bids. For the administration/grants side, MRPC's bid was \$90,000 and for implementation it was \$36,500. Tammy noted that there is one new item that was added to the scope of work and to the contract as the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is requiring districts to complete a solid waste plan. Districts have two years to complete the plan.

Steve Vogt made a motion to accept MRPC's bid. Jim Fleming seconded the motion. All present voted "aye."

Approval of Grant Requests/Determinations/Extensions

1. Requests for grant closures
 - a) K2024-001 – District Operations – request to release retention funds in the amount of \$16,575.75 with grant closure.
 - b) K2024-012 Plan Implementation – request to release retention funds in the amount of \$6,345.00 with grant closure.
 - c) K2023-003 – MRPC HHW request for release of retention funds in the amount of \$4,799.69.
 - d) K2021-010 – Anerobic Digestion/MO S&T Curators request to release retention funds in the amount of \$7,102.35 with grant closure, diversion was reported in April 2024.

Gary Larson made a motion to approve the grant closures for the District Operations, Plan Implementation, MRPC HHW and Anerobic Digestion/MO S&T Curators grants. Steve Vogt seconded. Roger Pankey abstained. All others present voted “aye.”

2. Request for Financial Assistance Agreement (FAA) Extensions
 - a) K2022-011 – Dixon Area Caring Center – a retro-active extension through March 31, 2024, and release \$354 in retention.
 - b) K2022-010 – Curators/MO S&T Biodigester – extend grant through Dec. 31, 2024.

Jim Fleming made a motion to approve the extensions for Dixon Area Caring Center and Curators/MO S&T. Vic Stratman seconded the motion. Troy Porter abstained. All others present voted “aye.”

Acceptance of Nominations for Board Officers and Voting

The proposed slate of officers was presented, and nominations were solicited from the floor. The proposed slate for officers for FY 2025 is as follows:

Chair: Gary Larson	Secretary: Troy Porter
Vice Chair: Jim Fleming	Treasurer: Steve Vogt

Charles Bassett made a motion to cease all nominations and approve the slate as presented. Vic Stratman seconded the motion. All others present voted “aye.”

Chairman Porter reported he has re-appointed Gary Gilliam and Jesse Geltz to the executive committee.

Report on Caucusing of Cities for Executive Board Representation

Jill Hollowell reported she has been contacting cities to get a contact person to assist should the district need to distribute information to the community. She also introduced Richard Jensen as the new Crawford County appointment.

Annual Disclosure Form

Staff discussed the conflict-of-interest policy and members were asked to sign the annual disclosure form.

Overview of MDNR’S Operation Re-Organization and Impacts

Tammy discussed issues of concern related to funding and the re-organization within MDNR. She reported that a couple of years ago, a St. Louis solid waste district sued DNR for not complying with changes made to the solid waste management law or revising solid waste rules and regulations to meet the requirements of the new legislation. DNR lost, appealed, and lost again. She said the rules and regulations pertaining to the solid waste management districts and solid waste management funds were thrown out. MDNR is now starting over with new rules and regulations, an 18-month to two-year process that will begin this fall. Tammy said that districts were concerned about oversight and continuity following these changes.

Last year, at a statewide planners’ meeting, Tammy said she suggested forming a statewide organization of planners. Some districts really liked the idea, she said. She added that DNR feels they still have oversight on the grants piece.

Tammy shared a presentation put together by Mid-Missouri Solid Waste Management District on some of the likes and dislikes of forming a formal planners' group. Some of the likes included keeping meeting summaries, posting an agenda and acting as a repository of information. Dislikes included membership format, appearance of separation from DNR and potential for abuse.

The presentation also mentioned other concerns including:

- SWAB is the formal group, in place per state statute.
- Districts are formed under state statute, which may disallow this type of non-profit organization of Districts/Planners.
- A number of Districts are essentially contracted services, so who would be the "member"?
- How would this be legal under laws regarding the formation of non-profits?
- Consult state attorney for guidance before moving forward?
- Cost:
 - Will fees, which could be a burden on small districts, be implemented and where would funds for fees come from?
 - Who funds any trainings that require fees?
 - Will larger districts be expected to pick up the slack?
 - Will smaller districts be at a disadvantage?
- Cost: May create unnecessary oversight.
- Discussion of hiring an attorney.
 - If districts are following state statutes, an attorney isn't needed.
 - Who would pay for it since district money can't be used for a lawyer.?
 - Where would the fees come from?
 - If the Association decides to hire a lawyer and sue DNR, all districts would be implicated, whether they vote to sue or not.

The presentation concluded with suggestions such as public meetings posted by DNR and led by a DNR staff member, annual selection of a Planner to take notes, possibly selecting a "chair" to work with DNR staff on setting an agenda and finding presentations and housing a repository of information on the DNR website.

Tammy asked the group what their thoughts were on formalizing a planners' group or not. Richard "Jax" Jenson said he likes to avoid excess bureaucracy. Vic Stratman said he echoed that sentiment and said to keep it simple. Charles Bassett added that he could argue both sides while Bonnie Prigge said that if you want it to grow, that will likely require fees. Tammy stated that in her mind, the biggest issue is that it's become divisive between districts. With all the changes with MDNR and with its reorganization, districts need to be working together, she said. Jax said he saw no reason to jump on it now. The consensus was to wait and see.

Tammy informed the board on changes in fund distributions from MDNR, as well as a correction issue due to errors made at the State level on population numbers used in the funding formula. DNR is streamlining its process, she said. Funds will be released on a quarterly basis rather than districts submitting an annual request for funds. Tammy noted that ORSWMD funds are down, due to population losses. She said the district has a \$40,495 shortfall based on what we were told by MDNR in September prior to awarding grants, and the amount of funds actually received due to the correction.

Tammy stated that staff have been looking at ways to address the shortfall. There was a \$12,500 grant that had been declined which can go towards the shortfall. She also informed the board there was approximately \$12,500 left over from two years of community funds. Tammy said the balance, approximately \$14,495 could likely be made up with DO/PI money that won't be spent by the end of June. The board was asked to approve the proposed recommendation on how to fill the shortfall.

Richard Jenson made a motion to approve of using the declined grant funds, DO/PI funds and two years of monies from MRPC's Community Assistance and Outreach Fund to fill the funding shortfall. Charles Bassett seconded the motion. All others present voted "aye."

Staff Activities

Special Waste Collection activities – Kathryn Hawes reported that media materials (8-track tapes, cassette tapes, CD/DVD, floppy discs, and flash drives/memory sticks) were accepted for the first time at the special collection held in Cuba. She said 486 lbs. of VHS tapes were collected. The plan is to see how much media is received at the collection in Rolla and then move forward. Cost may factor into how often the district can offer the service.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) activities – Jill Hollowell provided a draft copy of the HHW brochure for the committee to review. She said the goal is to provide the document to schools to help them deal with their problems with vape products. Jill said e-waste products are prioritized as a high priority and she asked the committee to prioritize vape and media products. After a brief discussion, the committee determined that both were high priority.

Vic Stratman made a motion to add vape and media products to the targeted materials list and list them as a high priority. Steve Vogt seconded the motion. All present voted “aye”.

Roger Pankey said he would confirm with his staff on accepting batteries and vape products at the Rolla Recycling Center on a walk-in basis rather than requiring an appointment through their HHW program.

Kathryn informed the committee that media products are disposed through a waste to energy process.

Solid Waste Plan Review and Update

Tammy said DNR has stated that all districts are in compliance to receive solid waste funds until October 2025. After that date the districts will need to have submitted a solid waste plan or be able to show that they are working on developing/updating a solid waste plan. DNR had a workgroup to go through the law and provide feedback on what DNR will expect to see in the plan for each of the 14 requirements. Tammy also stated that she is on a planner workgroup to develop a template for the plan document. One idea that has been thrown around is to make each district submit an annex that can be part of the statewide solid waste plan that is currently being developed by EIARA. But she is not sure if that idea will be feasible to meet the state deadline. She added that she'd like to see them be smaller, more targeted strategic plans than the bulky ORSWMD'S solid waste plan already in place.

Chairman's Report on Current Trends and Activities

No report was given.

City and County Updates

Richard “Jax” Jenson, who was appointed to the committee by the Crawford County commission, reported a fish processing plant may be built in their county.

Janice Morgan, Maries County, introduced herself saying she had met Kathryn at a dump clean-up and Kathryn had passed her name along to Vic for opportunities to get involved with district's activities.

Tim Davis, Bourbon, introduced himself and his wife saying he came to see what the board was all about and how they can participate.

Jim Fleming, Phelps County, reported the St. James Caring Center has been recycling/rebuilding furniture through an ORSWMD grant and they have successfully been selling those items through their thrift store.

Steve Vogt, Belle, asked if there was still a two-year notice required for cities when bidding out for a citywide trash pickup. Tammy said that requirement was still in effect.

Troy Porter, city of Dixon, reported that the Dixon Caring Center has found a new recycling vendor. He said this new vendor was more responsive than the previous vendor.

Jill Hollowell thanked Vic Stratman for bringing in a battery recycling box from the Soil and Water District office in Maries County.

Gary Larson, Dent County, reported his wife joined the Scenic Rivers Sheltered Workshop board and he will bring back information on their recycling efforts at a future meeting.

Future Meeting Dates and Events of Interest

Chairman Porter asked members to mark their calendars for the following dates:

Schedule for 2024 Meetings

Oct. 8th - Executive Board at 10 a.m.

Dec. 10th - Executive Board at 5:30 p.m.; annual banquet 6:30 p.m.

2024 Special Collections

Jun. 8th - Brewer Science in Rolla

Sep. 28th - Maries County -county shed at 30119 Hwy 28 (Highways 28 & Z)

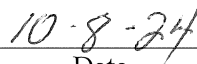
Oct. 7th - St. Robert's Aquatic Center

Adjournment

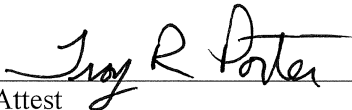
There being no further business, Jim Fleming made a motion to adjourn. Vic Stratman seconded the motion. All present voted "aye." The meeting adjourned at 12:12 p.m.



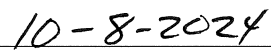
Chairman, ~~Troy Porter~~ Gary Larson



Date



Attest



Date

