**Members Present:** In person: Jared Niederer (Gasconade County), Ashley Harris (Maries), Tony Hayden (Osage), Randy Becht (Pulaski), T.R. Dudley (Washington), Richard Cavender (MRCF At-Large), Bonnie Prigge (MRPC At-Large), and Steve Vogt (MRPC At-Large).

**Guests Present:** Judy Cantoni, Winter Kinne

**Staff Present:** Bobbie Bailey

**Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairman Niederer called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. and led the group with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** The board reviewed the meeting minutes from September 17, 2024. Cavender made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Vogt. Motion passed.

**Community Foundation of the Ozarks Guests** – Winter Kinne and Judy Cantoni from CFO were introduced and discussed ways they could help with grants and scholarships.

**Grantmaking Criteria/Focus for 2025:** Prigge explained the grant round for MRCF will open in January and asked for the focus and criteria for the $1500 grant. Prigge made a motion for a $750 economic development grant with an emphasis to projects that celebrate and promote the 100th anniversary of Route 66 and $750 economic development grant focused on assisting at-risk children and/or low-income families, seconded by Becht. Motion approved.

**MRCF Grant Reports 2024:** Reports for the Bourbon Economic Development Group and Hope Alliance of Missouri for Friday Backpack Program were handed out and appeared the funds were used appropriately.

**MRCF Fund Balance Report:** Prigge discussed the current number of funds was 53 and current portfolio balance was $4.9 million.

**Community Foundation of the Ozarks Guests** – Winter Kinne and Judy Cantoni from CFO confirmed the grant amount for this year is $1568. They will also follow up on a brochure. Patti Chism will be contacted for the Newburg Community Fund Grant to discuss different needs in the community and the board will revisit this in January. Bonnie will check with Kelly Sink to see if there are any grant opportunities the funds could be used as a match.

**Board Vacancies:** Crawford (Steve Black is considering, may have somebody from their board represent on this board), Dent (both candidates declined, Ray Walden potential candidate), and Phelps (Sherry Stites - interested but didn’t make it to meeting, Brandon Beeley, and Bob Collins are prospects) Counties continue to have vacancies, and the board discussed people who could help them find members.

**MRCF Community Updates:** Board members shared information on philanthropy efforts related to MRC occurring in their communities and region.

**Closing Remarks & Adjournment**:

**Next MRCF board meeting** – Cancel December 17, 2024, meeting and tentatively set next meeting February 11, 2025m @ 9:30 a.m., MRPC large conference room.

Vogt made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Harris. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:45 p.m.

**Approved by the board on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2025.**

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**Jared Niederer, Board Chair**

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**Attested by Secretary or other MRCF Officer**