

MINUTES
Meramec Local Emergency Planning District
12:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2025
MRPC Office
4 Industrial Drive, St. James, MO 65559

CALL TO ORDER:

Wendy Squires called the Aug. 20, 2025, meeting of the Meramec Local Emergency Planning District to order at 12:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Members participating in-person were Wendy Squires, Derrick Marfitt, Steve Vogt and John Marti. Brad Woods and Jeff Arnold participated via Zoom.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Darren Dake, Tim Ware, Mike Plank, Clyde Zelch, Doug Drewel, Ron Hoffman, Kim Sallin, Linda Smith, Joshua Krull, Jeff Breen, Margaret Biolsi, Joshua Pearson, Ron Jones, Mark Diedrich, Doug Roberts, Shawnee Douglas, John Lucas, Floyd Haworth, Sarah Tary and Matt Hart.

STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT:

MRPC staff present were Tammy Snodgrass, Kathryn Hawes, Linda Carroll and Bethany Ferrell. Guests participating in person were Cody Garner, MDNR; Brett Hendrix, SEMA; and Mike Harris Missouri Baptist Sullivan. Sara Allen, MERC, participated via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

John Marti made a motion to approve the agenda. Steve Vogt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Steve Vogt made a motion to approve the minutes. John Marti seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Bethany Ferrell, MRPC, presented the preliminary year-end financials through June 30, 2025 showing \$722 expenditures over revenues. Administration exceeded the contract amount by \$7,441 due to work on SEMA/MERC grant and work to advocate for reinstatement of Tier II fees.

Bethany explained that funds from the Vesper grant (\$2,500) and miscellaneous revenue (prize grant of \$500) were used to cover part of the deficit, with the remainder coming from operating reserves.

Steve Vogt made a motion to approve the financials through June 30, 2025. John Marti seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Bethany also presented the financials for month ending July 31 2025. She reported revenues over expenses of negative \$3,489 as no revenue had been received yet in the first month of the fiscal year.

Steve Vogt made a motion to approve the financials for month ending July 31 2025. John Marti seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Annual Report/CEPF Application and Hazmat Plan Update

Tammy provided an overview of the annual report which includes a membership list, signature pages, proposed expenditures, financial report and attachments including the hazmat plan. Tammy asked members to review the list of facilities that are reporting and to notify her of any missing facilities. She informed members that the full

document can be accessed through an on-line link that was provided to them. Tammy asked members to let her know by the end of the month if there were any changes that needed to be made.

John Marti made a motion to approve the annual report. Derrick Marfitt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Tammy also discussed the Hazmat Plan update.

Derrick Marfitt made a motion to approve the Hazmat Plan. John Marti seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Report on Staff Activities

Tammy reported on several upcoming hazardous materials training classes and presented an overview of other classes that had been held in the region the past year. She mentioned that it is still a struggle to fill classes.

Annual Training Survey

The survey has gone out with an October deadline.

Need to Increase Membership

Tammy expressed concern about declining membership in the organization and encouraged members to reach out to others in their respective communities.

At the last meeting, there was a discussion about adding Cody Garner, MDNR and Brett Hendrix, SEMA, as representatives of state agencies. Both had indicated they were willing to serve on the committee.

John Marti made a motion to approve adding Cody Garner, MDNR and Brett Hendrix, SEMA to the committee as representatives of state agencies. Steve Vogt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Tammy informed the members that representation is still needed from local environmental groups, industry and media. It was suggested that members from a local stream team might be an option for environmental groups. For media, some suggestions were Public Information Officers (PIOs), someone from the local college radio station or Ralisha Tyler with the Highway Patrol.

Tammy encouraged members to bring possible new members to future meetings.

Exercise for 2025-26

Tammy mentioned the need to plan an exercise for the 2025-26 fiscal year, suggesting the upcoming pipeline exercise in Cuba on Oct. 21. Sara Allen, MERC, confirmed that the LEPD can use the pipeline meetings by having members attend and then run the situation manual as a tabletop exercise at their next meeting, followed by submitting a one-page After Action Report (AAR).

REPORT FROM MERC REPRESENTATIVE

Sara Allen informed the group that Tier II fees for the 2024-25 year will be collected from Sept. 1 through Nov. 1, with normal reporting resuming in January.

She also reported that the CEPF and Annual Compliance packet is due Sept. 30 and that there will be funding to submit those documents.

Sara noted that the SEMA conference will be held in October and will feature two Hazmat presentations.

She mentioned that interviews are in progress for the new MERC director. Once selected, Sara said she would let everyone know who it is and what their start date would be.

REPORT FROM SEMA REPRESENTATIVE

Brett Hendrix reported the next regional meeting would be Sept. 4 in Salem at the Fire Protection District. He also mentioned the SEMA Conference noting that early bird registration ends Aug. 31.

Brett also mentioned that the homeland security grants and EMPG grants all come out a few weeks ago. He said it was a really short turnaround with the deadlines coming up next week. He added that funding is at about the same level as last year.

REPORT FROM MDNR REPRESENTATIVE

Cody Garner informed the group that he's been instructed to promote the training MDNR can provide for counties. He said that in a partnership with the Department of Health MDNR can go out to the counties and provide Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training. Cody said it covers shipping of radiation materials, cleanups for the radiation or detection with the county's detection equipment. He added that the training can be brought to the county.

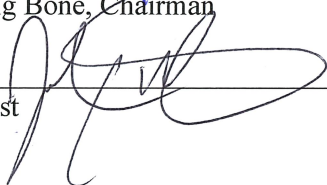
ANNOUNCEMENT OF UPCOMING MEETINGS

Nov. 5 – Possible presentation from Steve Runnel with the National Weather Service

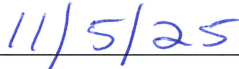
ADJOURNMENT:


Brett Hendrix made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cody Garner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.



Kraig Bone, Chairman


Attest



Date


Date

