

**MINUTES**  
**Meramec Local Emergency Planning District**  
**12:30 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, June 25, 2025**  
**MRPC Office**  
**4 Industrial Drive, St. James, MO 65559**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Kraig Bone called the June 25, 2025, meeting of the Meramec Local Emergency Planning District to order at 12:41 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Members participating in-person were Steve Vogt, John Marti, and Kraig Bone. Wendy Squires and Jeff Arnold participated via Zoom.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Darren Dake, Tim Ware, Mike Plank, Derrick Marfitt, 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, Chuck Fisher, 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 Angelica Soria, NOAA. Sharon Kennedy, EPA, participated via Zoom.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Tammy Snodgrass informed the group that a discussion on adding additional members has been added to the agenda under Old Business.

John Marti made a motion to approve the agenda with the noted addition. 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 financials through May 31, 2025 showing \$24,000 in state revenue. She reported administration costs exceeded the \$20,000 contract by \$5,719 due to the SEMA/MERC grant management and extra work done toward reinstating the Tier II funds.

John Marti made a motion to approve the financials through May 31, 2025. Jeff Arnold seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Bethany also presented the proposed FY25-26 budget with a reduction of \$867 in Tier II funds and a projected fund balance of \$19,285 for June 2026.

The group discusses the budget, agreeing to aim for \$20,000 while acknowledging potential overruns, especially for valuable projects like SEMA grants. They approve the proposed budget with the understanding that adjustments can be made if needed.

Steve Vogt made a motion to accept the proposed FY25-26 budget as presented. John Marti seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### Additional Members

The group then discussed adding new members to ensure a quorum. Tammy asked the state representatives that were in attendance if they would be willing to join the group. Both Cody Garner with MDNR and Brett Hendrix with SEMA expressed their willingness to join officially. Brett mentioned the new EMD in Crawford County, Sheriff Darren Lehman, as a potential representative.

### SEMA/MERC Grant

Tammy mentioned that 15 gas meters were ordered and 14 were distributed. Rolla Rural Fire has requested the remaining meter, and Tammy recommended the group approve this distribution.

John Marti made a motion to approve the distribution of the last gas meter to Rolla Rural Fire. Steve Vogt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### Report on Reauthorization of MERC Funding

Tammy also discussed the reinstatement of Tier II fee collection, with a new fee deadline in November and regular collection resuming in January.

She also mentioned an upcoming audit of the emergency response plan, which will focus on reviewing the plan document rather than financial matters.

### Report on Staff Activities

Tammy reported on several hazardous materials training classes, noting that despite cancellations, many classes were approved this year. She mentioned the annual training survey, which will be sent out after the new fiscal year starts and asked for help in distributing it to fire departments.

### 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.

### Exercise for 2025-26

Tammy mentioned the need to plan an exercise for the 2025-26 fiscal year, suggesting a possible PAM exercise to meet requirements while considering budget constraints.

The group discussed the possibility of holding large-scale exercises every few years, noting that annual events may not be financially sustainable. Sharon Kennedy from EPA offered information about an upcoming exercise with Fish and Wildlife in Cape Girardeau, inviting interested members to attend.

Angelica Soria from NOAA introduced herself as a meteorologist out of the Springfield office and explained her attendance was to remind the group of the services they provide. She emphasized the Weather Service's availability to help with various emergency management needs such as exercises, dispersion modeling for hazardous incidents, and decision support services for large events and encouraged collaboration among organizations. She also introduced heat-related weather tools and provided a one-page informational sheet.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### Election of Officers for 2025-26

The current officers agreed to continue in their roles, and nominations are accepted from the floor, though none were made.

John Marti made a motion to approve the current officers serving for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Steve Vogt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**REPORT FROM MERC REPRESENTATIVE**

No report was given.

**REPORT FROM SEMA REPRESENTATIVE**

Brad Hendrix reported the next regional meeting would be Sept. 4 at the Dent County Fire Protection District. He also mentioned that the SEMA Conference would be Oct. 7-10 in Columbia. Brett briefly mentioned recent disaster declarations and ongoing recovery efforts.

**REPORT FROM MDNR REPRESENTATIVE**

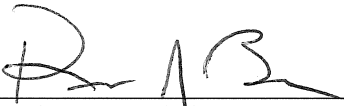
Cody Garner provided a report on recent incidents in the region.


**ANNOUNCEMENT OF UPCOMING MEETINGS**


Aug. 20            Nov. 5


**ADJOURNMENT:**

John Marti made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Vogt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

  
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Kraig Bone, Chairman

  
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Attest

  
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Date

  
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Date

