

MERAMEC COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT CORPORATION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 30, 2017

Members Present: Marvin Wright (Washington County), George Gruendel (Dent), Wayne Langston (Maries), Gary Hicks (Phelps County), Darrell Skiles (Dent County)

Members Absent: Gene Newkirk (Pulaski), Kenny Killeen (Crawford), Marcus Maggard (Dent), Jerry Larimore (Gasconade), Ray Schwartz (Maries), Leo Sanders (Crawford), Randy Verkamp (Phelps), John Petersen (Rolla), Dave Dudenhoeffer (Osage)

MRPC Staff Present: Kelly Sink-Blair, Cheryl Dupes

Guests Present: None

Call to Order and Introductions: Marvin Wright, Chairman, called the MCEC March 30, 2017, meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Marvin Wright asked for approval of the December 13, 2016 minutes. Darrell Skiles made a motion to approve, second by George Gruendel. Motion was approved.

Business / Reports:

- A. MCEC Project Updates:** Kelly Sink-Blair gave an update on both DRA projects currently sponsored by MCEC. Phelps, Dent and Washington are CWRC. Crawford is close, needing only NCRC numbers in emerging category. Caledon Virtual was hired to implement a social media promotion and develop a CWRC component on the MRPC website. Bids are due 3/31 for a program of school and community presentations as well as a special program focused on the Crawford County jail and probation system. Board members were asked to approve the signing of a contract based on the 3/31 bid opening. Gary Hicks made the motion, second by Wayne Langston. Motion passed. Naturally Meramec continues to grow. The Facebook page and website are up and running. Staff is focusing on membership and sustainability. A 'speed date' night marketing event is scheduled for April 25 at Heartland Farms near Bourbon. Connie Willman continues to seek grants to develop the consortium to a point of self-sustainability.
- B. MCEC Grant Updates:** Kelly Sink-Blair reported that the Coover grant

submitted for Mobility Management is still pending and that Connie Willman had also submitted an MCEC request to Coover for Naturally Meramec. Kelly is currently working on a DRA SEDAP request for Mobility Management for a workforce development project, and Connie Willman is expected to submit a DRA request for Naturally Meramec. Ms. Sink-Blair asked the board to approve sponsoring each grant and execute award documents if awarded. Gary Hicks made a motion, second by Wayne Langston. Motion was approved.

Membership: Kelly Sink-Blair informed the board that a letter from MCEC will go out to each county requesting nominations to represent the counties. Alternates for each elected official are also being requested. The letters will be mailed Friday 3/31. Marvin Wright asked for a motion to approve signing the letters. George Gruendel made a motion, second by Wayne Langston. Motion was approved.

Approval of financials: Cheryl Dupes presented financials through February 28, 2017. Darrell Skiles made the motion to approve, second by Gary Hicks. Motion was approved. Cheryl Dupes presented the revised budget for FY16-17. Wayne Langston made a motion to approve, second by Gary Hicks. The motion was approved.

Items of Interest: Next meeting will be June 13, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.

Adjournment: George Gruendel made a motion to adjourn. Second by Gary Hicks. Motion was approved.

Approved by the Board June 13, 2017


Marvin Wright, Chairman