

Meramec Regional Planning Commission
Minutes
March 9, 2017

Call to Order

Chairman Ray Schwartze called the March 9, 2017 meeting of the Meramec Regional Planning Commission to order at 7:35 p.m.

Welcome and Special Presentation

Chairman Schwartze welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced guests. Bonnie Prigge introduced Shawn Arbogast, MRPC's new mobility coordinator. Chairman Schwartze then turned it over to Mayors Luge Hardman from Waynesville and George Lauritson from St. Robert who had a special presentation for Mayor James Crocker. Mayor Morgan, who served on the MRPC board for seven years, is retiring and moving to back to his hometown of Jamestown, NY. Mayor Hardman presented him with a letter from her and a coin from the City of Waynesville. Mayor Lauritson, who is also from Jamestown, NY, also presented Mayor Morgan with a coin from St. Robert. Both Mayor Hardman and Mayor Lauritson commented on the service and support he's provided not only to MRPC but also to the cities of Waynesville and St. Robert. Board members also viewed a video with comments from Mayor Hardman, Mayor Lauritson and Bonnie Prigge, thanking him for his efforts on behalf of MRPC and wishing him well.

Chairman Schwartze added that Mayor Morgan is very dedicated to MRPC and has missed very few meetings. He closed by saying that he service to the organization is deeply appreciated and presented the mayor with a plaque in honor of his years of service. Mayor Morgan said he sure appreciates the kind words and that he has enjoyed his time with MRPC immensely, it's a great organization. He added that he calculated that he's probably made 150 trips to St. James over the years. Mayor Morgan closed by saying the he has had made it a stipulation that the next mayor of Crocker must make sure that MRPC is on their agenda. The board gave him a standing ovation in honor of his service to MRPC.

Consent Agenda

The following consent agenda items are presented for approval:

- a. Minutes – Feb. 16, 2017
- b. Local Review
None
- c. Statewide Grant Applications
 1. Missouri Department of Public Safety, Jefferson City, MO
16.525 – Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Allocation to States
Missouri FY2017 OJJDP Title II Formula Grant Program
Federal: \$721,826
State: \$72,183
Total: \$794,009
 2. State of Missouri, Jefferson City, MO
93.898 – Cancer Prevention and Control Programs for State, Territorial and Tribal Organizations
Federal: \$5,735,032
State: \$500,000
Local: \$1,638,555

Total: \$7,873,587

3. Missouri State Highway Patrol, Jefferson City, MO
16.741 – DNA Backlog Reduction Program
FY2017 DNA Capacity enhancement and Backlog Reduction program
Federal: \$473,559
Total: \$473,559
 4. Missouri Dept. of Health and Senior Services, Jefferson City, MO
93.945 – Assistance Programs for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control
Actions to prevent chronic disease and control risk factor
Federal: \$2,424,658
Local: \$164,033
Total: \$2,588,691
 5. State of Missouri, Jefferson City, MO
93.945 – Assistance Programs for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control
This project is the State of Missouri’s 2017-2019 plan for state-based leadership in coordination of program planning, partnership development and surveillance and evaluation to reduce the burden of arthritis in Missouri.
Federal: \$414,675
Total: \$414,675
- d. Contracts
- SEMA/Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Permission is requested for MRPC’s chairman and/or executive director to enter into a technical assistant contract with SEMA to review and update the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan, and to sign all documents associated with this contract.
 - SEMA/Osage County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Permission is requested for MRPC’s chairman and/or executive director to enter into a technical assistant contract with SEMA to review and update the Osage County Hazard Mitigation Plan, and to sign all documents associated with this contract.
 - SEMA/Crawford County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Permission is requested for MRPC’s chairman and/or executive director to enter into a technical assistant contract with SEMA to review and update the Crawford County Hazard Mitigation Plan, and to sign all documents associated with this contract.
 - City of Cuba
Permission is requested for MRPC’s chairman and/or executive director to enter into a contract to provide technical assistance for preparation of the Missouri Development Finance Board Tax Credit Application for the City of Cuba, and for MRPC chairman and/or executive director to sign any necessary documents.
 - Pulaski County Sheltered Workshop
Permission is requested for MRPC’s chairman and/or executive director to enter into a contract to provide technical assistance for a Community Development Block Grant for the Pulaski County Sheltered Workshop, and for MRPC chairman and/or executive director to sign any necessary documents.

- Missouri Association of Councils of Governments Agreement for Statewide Coordination of Hazard Mitigation Planning

Permission is requested to sign an agreement with the Missouri Association of Councils of Government for the purpose of updating hazard mitigation plan for Washington County and to sign all documents associated with this agreement.

- Missouri Association of Councils of Governments Agreement for Statewide Coordination of Hazard Mitigation Planning

Permission is requested to sign an agreement with the Missouri Association of Councils of Government for the purpose of updating hazard mitigation plan for Osage County and to sign all documents associated with this agreement.

- Missouri Association of Councils of Governments Agreement for Statewide Coordination of Hazard Mitigation Planning

Permission is requested to sign an agreement with the Missouri Association of Councils of Government for the purpose of updating hazard mitigation plan for Crawford County and to sign all documents associated with this agreement.

- City of Steelville

Permission is requested for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director to enter into a contract to provide technical assistance for mold inspection for the City of Steelville, and for MRPC chairman and/or executive director to sign any necessary documents.

- City of Steelville

Permission is requested for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director to enter into a contract to provide technical assistance for asbestos inspection for the City of Steelville, and for MRPC chairman and/or executive director to sign any necessary documents.

e. Contracts for Professional Services

- Permission is requested to approve the contract renewal for professional services between Meramec Regional Planning Commission and Meramec Regional Development Corporation for the purposes of the Small Business Administration's loan programs for the period beginning on July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

- Permission is requested to approve the revised contract for professional services between Meramec Regional Planning Commission and Meramec Regional Development Corporation for the purposes of the Small Business Administration's loan programs for the period beginning on July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

Steve Vogt made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; Dave Dudenhoeffer seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Presentation: Alexandra Blackwell, Executive Director, Central Region Workforce Investment Board

Alexandra Blackwell opened by noting that in 2015 there were a lot of operational changes in the organization. They went from a 45 member board for the 19 counties to a 25 member board. This occurred when they transitioned from the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) to the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WOIA). She stated that with WIA they were participant driven but

with the change to WIOA, they are paying more attention to what employers need. In looking at the needs of the 19 counties they work with, Ms. Blackwell said they are focusing on four areas that touch all of those counties: healthcare, advanced manufacturing, transportation logistics and building trades. A couple of issues that may be hindering hiring efforts could be the lack of affordable housing in the areas where jobs are located or the lack of childcare.

Ms. Blackwell indicated that some of the services they provide through the job centers include updating a job seeker's resume, updating skills through workshops, on-the-job training program, paid childcare while in training and reimbursing travel costs to go to and from training. They currently have satellite offices in Owensville, Cuba and Fulton.

When asked about the summer youth program Ms. Blackwell indicated that the program will begin July 1 and that more information will be available in April. Participants are allowed 280-300 hours and there is an application process and there is no cost to employers.

Bonnie Prigge inquired as to requirements for workforce ready testing in the various centers. Ms. Blackwell indicated that it varied from center to center but that Rolla was more mandatory. Ms. Prigge noted that in the area of transitioning workers, Osage County needs eight, Pulaski County needs two and Gasconade County needs 23. Crawford County is needing emerging NCRC holders, and Ms. Prigge said she would be meeting with Dr. Siebert tomorrow.

Ms. Blackwell noted that she has had several conversations with T.R. Dudley and her office is looking at MRPC's CEDs strategies to try and incorporate some of them into their plan. This would show a strong collaboration between workforce and economic development, which could benefit both organizations in future endeavors such as applying for grants.

In closing, Ms. Blackwell stated that she could supply specific county data related to jobs should anyone need that information. Data such as top job postings by county or top jobs by industry are examples of information available. She provided members with a Labor Market Summary and her contact information.

Chairman Schwartze thanked her for her presentation and the good job she's doing.

External Relations Committee: Darrell Skiles, chairman

Chairman Darrell Skiles reported on External Relations Committee activities as follows:

Chairman Skiles noted that the MRPC bylaw revisions were presented to the board at last month's board meeting. He made a motion that the board approves the revisions as they were presented; Randy Verkamp seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Committee members reviewed the draft for request for proposals for the annual dinner site and copies have been provided to all board members. Proposals are due back May 2, 2017.

The at-large for-profit for Dent County position is still open and the committee is still looking for a volunteer to serve.

Chairman Skiles closed his report noting that Tammy Snodgrass provided the committee with a legislative update.

Operations Committee:

Steve Vogt reported on Operations Committee activities as follows:

The committee reviewed the MRPC/MRB and MRPC/MRDC-RLF and IRP program financial statements for the period ending February 28, 2017.

Mr. Vogt made the motion to accept the financials for the period ending February 28, 2017; George Lauritson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Vogt reported that there was only one bid received for auditing services and that was from Hochschild Bloom and Company. Their bid was very similar to what was received for the last three years. Mr. Vogt made a motion to accept the bid from Hochschild Bloom and Company; Dave Dudenhoeffer seconded. The motion carried.

Planning Committee:

Committee Chairman James Morgan reported on planning activities as follows:

Maria Bancroft, MRPC Business Loan Specialist, gave a presentation to the committee on how she helps small businesses through various loan programs and discussed the Meramec Regional Development Corporation (MRDC). She also spoke about businesses needing a Succession Plan and provided a copy of the Small Business Resource Guide to Committee members as well as information on small business grants for retail businesses.

Shawn Arbogast, MRPC's new mobility coordinator, spoke about the no-cost referral service. She informed the committee that she is currently working on building partnerships within communities and working to connect businesses with employers and riders.

T.R. Dudley, mayor for the City of Potosi, spoke about a project in the city that has brought community leaders together to form a Housing Coalition to address blighted areas in the city. The group will work on rehabilitation and construction on several residences.

Ryan Dunwoody, environmental specialist with MRPC, spoke on environmental reports completed by MRPC, using the report recently completed for Clarksville, MO as an example. He noted that other regional commissions have reached out to MRPC when they are not able to complete the necessary reports in-house.

The committee also thanked Mayor James Morgan for his years of service to MRPC and to the region.

Housing Advisory Board: Leo Sanders, chairman

Larry Miskell reported the February 2017 financials were presented. He made a motion that the financials be approved; Randy Verkamp seconded. The motion carried.

The PHA one year plan was presented to the advisory board. Mr. Miskel made a motion that the plan be approved; Randy Verkamp seconded. The motion carried.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Committee Chairman John Casey

No report given.

Environmental:

Tammy Snodgrass provided the board with a handout covering environmental updates as well as updates on Meramec Region Emergency Planning and Homeland Security Oversight Committee activities. Ms. Snodgrass pointed out that Paul Kirchoff, the MERC executive director, will be presenting at the March 29, 2017 meeting of the MREPC and all county commissioners are invited to attend. Mr. Kirchoff will be speaking on the topic of LEPC responsibilities. Lunch will

be at noon with the meeting starting at 12:30 p.m. Anyone planning on attending was asked to contact Ms. Snodgrass.

Meramec Regional Emergency Planning Committee: Kraig Bone, at-large representative for emergency management.

No report given.

Business Loans: Marla Stevenson, at-large representative for banking

In the absence of Marla Stevenson, Linda Loughridge, Fiscal Officer for MRPC, reported on business loans noting that there was money for relending. The Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) has approximately \$291,508 and the Intermediate Relending Program (IRP) has approximately \$335,407 available for relending. Staff is working on four new potential projects and have two loans that are in various stages of the closing process.

Workforce Development: T.R. Dudley

T.R. Dudley reported that they have received proposals from four subcontractors and he will have a report on the outcome at the next meeting.

Meramec Community Enhancement Corporation: Marvin Wright

No report given.

Meramec Region Community Foundation:

Bonnie Prigge reported that the MRCF held their “Invite a Friend to Lunch” on Tuesday. Six organizations each received a \$250 grant that was awarded at the lunch. She also noted that Maries County RII Scholarship Fund received a donation of \$250,000 and would be holding a fundraiser this Saturday evening. Ms. Prigge informed the board the funds are coming in for the Animal Shelter of Rolla and the group is gearing up for Give Ozarks.

Chairman Report:

Chairman Ray Schwartze opened his report by stating that MRPC is a great organization. He informed the committee that on March 19, he would be heading to Washington, DC with Bonnie Prigge and Tammy Snodgrass and that he was looking forward to the trip.

Director Report:

Bonnie Prigge noted that on their visit to the legislators in Washington, DC they would have a 15 minute window with most of the legislators. The plan is to focus on areas where the legislator they are speaking with has a leadership role.

Ms. Prigge indicated that the state aid to regional planning commissions is still being pursued. There has been word that the house will be penciling the aid back into the budget.

She also informed the board that the Traverse is out for bid and information was sent to all members. Bids are due Friday.

Ms. Prigge stated that she and John Casey, TAC chairman, and Anne Freand attended the MoDOT meeting earlier today in Jefferson City and she asked him to summarize the meeting. Mr. Casey said that a lot of time was spent on the numbers and that it looks like there is a little more money. He said MoDOT has been able to retire some debt. Mr. Casey said they saw a freight movement presentation. Some of the concerns that were highlighted include load limited bridges, bridges that are not wide or tall enough and lack of turn radius.

Ms. Prigge reported that she had also participated in a planning partners meeting with MoDOT to discuss which priority projects may move into the STIP. She noted that several of MRPC's priorities were tentatively included in the plan. The final plan will be released in May for approval in July.

Adjourn

John Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.; Don Brackhahn seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ray Schwartze, chairman

James Morgan, secretary