

Meramec Regional Planning Commission
Minutes
August 10, 2017

Call to Order

Chairman Ray Schwartze called the August 10, 2017 meeting of the Meramec Regional Planning Commission to order at 7:37 p.m.

Welcome and Special Presentation

Chairman Schwartze welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the table. A special welcome was given to Dr. Christopher Maples, Missouri S&T, the guest speaker for the meeting.

Consent Agenda

The following consent agenda items are presented for approval:

- a. Minutes – May 11, 2017
- b. Local Review
 1. South Central Missouri Community Health Center, Rolla, MO
93.224 – Health Center Program Community Health Centers, Migrant Health Centers, Health Care for the Homeless, and Public Housing Primary Care)
Health Center Program
Federal: \$150,000
Total: \$150,000
 2. Meramec Regional Planning Commission, St. James, MO
93.912 – Rural Health Care Services Outreach, Rural Health Network Development and Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement Program Consortium of health providers and social services organizations will be developed to create a comprehensive approach to opioid addiction, implementing a community response to this issue
Federal: \$738,500
Total: \$738,500
- c. Statewide Grant Applications
 2. Missouri Department of Public Safety, Jefferson City, MO
16.738 – Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program
FY2017 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program
Federal: \$4,055,745
Total: \$4,055,745
 2. Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, MO
66.454 – Water Quality Management Planning
FY2017 604(b) Water Quality Management
Federal: \$371,000
Total: \$371,000
 3. Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, MO
15.904 – Historic Preservation Fund Grants-In-Aid
Archaeological Survey for Battle of Island Mound State Historic Site
Federal: \$33,300

Total: \$33,300

4. Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission, Jefferson City, MO
20.106 – Airport Improvement Program
Reconstruct Runway 1/19 parallel taxiway (approximately 4,000 feet) to meet current FAA design standards for runway
Federal: \$3,091,435
Local: \$343,492
Total: \$3,434,927

5. Missouri Department of Agriculture, Jefferson City, MO
10.025 – Plant and Animal Disease, Pest Control, and Animal Care
Animal health national surveillance and response activities
Total: \$307,680

6. Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Jefferson City, MO
93.243 – Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Projects of Regional and National Significance
Missouri Overdose Rescue and Education (MORE) project
Federal: \$800,000
State: \$36,926
Total: \$836,926

7. Missouri Department of Conservation, Jefferson City, MO
15.608– Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance
NFHP/FFP Peno/Spencer Creek Cooperative Partnership
Federal: \$20,000
State: \$20,000
Total: \$40,000

The Office of Administration issues the Missouri Federal Assistance Clearinghouse grant reviews weekly. In the future, staff will share reports in between meeting with board members. If you have questions about grants listed, you can call MRPC staff or the Office of Administration as listed on the reports.

d. Contracts

- Maries County Floodplain Addendum

Permission is requested for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director to sign an addendum to the Phelps County Floodplain technical assistance contract to cover additional scope of work and expenses for the April 2017 flooding.

- City of St. Robert

Permission is requested for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director to enter into a contract with the City of St. Robert for technical assistance for grant administration for a CDBG grant for water connection and for MRPC's chairman and/or executive director to sign any necessary documents.

- Permission is requested for staff to submit the Chemical Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) grant application to the Missouri Emergency Response Commission for emergency planning assistance to cities and counties in the region through the Local Emergency Planning Committee—MREPC, and for staff to obtain all appropriate official signatures.

- Permission is requested for staff to submit the 2017 Commodity Flow Study grant application to the Missouri Emergency Response Commission for funding for staff to conduct the study on behalf of the Local Emergency Planning Committee—MREPC, and for staff to obtain all appropriate official signatures.

- City of Belle

Permission is requested for MRPC’s chairman and/or executive director to enter into a contract for technical assistance for a 2018 Community Development Block Grant Demo grant application, and to sign all related documents.

- City of Crocker

Permission is requested for MRPC’s chairman and/or executive director to enter into a contract for technical assistance for a 2018 Community Development Block Grant Demo grant application, and to sign all related documents.

Presentation: Dr. Christopher Maples, Missouri S&T

Dr. Maples introduced himself as the new interim president of the Missouri University system which consists of campuses in Rolla, Columbia, Kansas City, and St. Louis.

He noted that in recent years there has been a fair amount of “degree creep” – needing more education to get jobs. A portion of this can be attributed to advances in technology.

Dr. Maples spoke on the make-up of successful graduates from S&T.

- 71% were Missourians
- 16% were from out-of-state
- 13% were international students
- 77% were male
- 23% were female

He added that employer satisfaction with S&T hires was 100%.

One thing Dr. Maples said he found was that a “can do” attitude is a part of S&T and a part of this area of the world.

Dr. Maples also presented a video on Project Lead the Way, a program for teachers to gain experience and skills in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math that they can bring back to their classrooms. The Rolla campus is the lead site for this program and has hundreds of participants from across the state. He also indicated that graduates who benefited from the program are among the most sought after in the state.

Dr. Maples concluded his presentation stating that Missouri S&T is a marvelous university and it was an honor to join the staff there. He stated that he is looking forward to growing the university.

Randy Verkamp thanked him for being here tonight and Bonnie Prigge brought up the projects that MRPC has partnered with Dr. Schuman and the university on. She stated that MRPC would be open to other partnership opportunities like those. Dr. Maples indicated he would like to do more that and welcomes the opportunity to get more engaged with the surrounding communities.

Chairman Ray Schwartze added that S&T has contributed a lot to the area, and he and Ms. Prigge thanked Dr. Maples for his presentation.

External Relations Committee: Darrell Skiles, chairman

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

The committee was updated on plans for the Annual Dinner which will be held in Salem on October 26, 2017. The reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and then the program at 7:30 p.m. Chairman Skiles noted that Caitlin Jones is updating city and county information in the annual report and suggested those representatives check with Ms. Jones before leaving tonight to verify their information.

Chairman Skiles reported that Ms. Jones is working on several projects for keeping legislators focused on critical funding agencies and asked her to elaborate a bit on those. Ms. Jones noted that there are currently 14 projects in our area that are receiving funds from EDA, CDBG and USDA. The strategy for keeping legislators informed includes:

- Producing videos/stills/conducting interviews on projects and sending to congressional leaders.
- Compiling a distribution list of state contacts, those folks that work in the local offices.
- Sharing relevant information from MRPC's Facebook page to the governor's page on the internet.

Bonnie Prigge also shared information on the update of the MRPC website. It is slated for completion in late September/beginning of October and will be better organized. There will be an improved section on the board and committees.

Chairman Skiles noted that committee held election of officers and that he was re-elected as chairman and Don Brackhahn was re-elected as vice chairman.

Chairman Skiles brought before the board a recommendation to hold an abbreviated MRPC meeting in October. The meeting would be held immediately following the TAC meeting on October 12 with no committee meetings or dinner. Randy Verkamp seconded; the motion carried.

The committee was provided with an update on legislation of interest, and it was noted that MRPC received its funding.

Chairman Skiles concluded his report with reminding members that it was time to start thinking about state priorities and having the state representatives come by in December.

Operations Committee:

Chairman Marvin Wright reported on Operations Committee activities as follows:

The committee reviewed the MRPC/MRB and MRPC/MRDC-RLF and IRP program preliminary year-end financial statements for the period ending June 30, 2017.

Chairman Wright made a motion to approve the program preliminary year-end financial statements for the period ending June 30, 2017. John Casey seconded; the motion carried.

Staff also presented the MRPC/MRB and MRPC/MRDC-RLF and IRP program financial statements for the period ended July 31, 2017.

Chairman Wright made a motion to approve the program financial statements for the period ended July 31, 2017. Randy Verkamp seconded; the motion carried.

Planning Committee:

Chairman T.R. Dudley reported on planning activities as follows:

The committee heard a presentation from Dr. Don Claycomb on issues currently affecting education as it relates to our Community and Economic Development Strategy. He noted that there are three challenges facing education in K through 12:

- access and opportunity; curricular access and the opportunity to prepare students once they graduate
- technology and logistics; how to prepare for equal access throughout the system
- qualified and certified instructors

Dr. Claycomb reported that there are a lot of non-traditional students needing access to higher education to achieve success in their careers. He stated that the focus needs to be on how the education is delivered and how it is taught.

Housing Advisory Board: Leo Sanders, chairman

No report given.

Transportation Advisory Committee:

MRPC's Transportation Advisory Committee met at 4 p.m. prior to MRPC meeting.

Chairman John Casey reported on transportation activities as follows:

Preston Kramer with MODOT gave an update on the cost share program and on the Buckle Up, Phone Down Initiative. He stated that the applications for cost share would be reviewed at the next meeting which would be Oct. 6, 2017. Mr. Kramer also reported on updates for MoDOT construction projects. Kelly Wilson gave updates on STIP and TAP programs. The committee also received an update on the Buckle Buddy program from Bonnie Prigge, MRPC. Anne Freand, MRPC, updated the committee on the recent Road Safety Audit that was conducted and gave an update on the Transportation Plan.

Environmental:

Tammy Snodgrass provided the board with a handout covering environmental updates as well as updates on Meramec Regional Emergency Planning and Homeland Security Oversight Committee activities.

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

Information included in environmental report, which was handed out.

Business Loans:

Linda Loughridge, MRPC, reported that the Meramec Regional Development Corporation will hold its next meeting on June 14, 2017. Ms. Loughridge noted that there is \$723,035 available for relending through the revolving loan funds and anyone who is interested should contact Maria Bancroft.

Workforce Development: T.R. Dudley

T.R. Dudley introduced Alan Galindo, a staff member with the Central Region Workforce Development Board and asked him to speak briefly on workforce activities. Mr. Galindo opened his remarks by informing the board that the Challenge Center has been sold. He went on to say

that there are currently a lot more jobs than available workers, and they are working on a disaster recovery grant program.

Mr. Galindo did note that the Quaker plant in Maries County will be holding a hiring event and Hartman USA in Rolla will be starting a second line by the end of the year. He also stated they want to get into the prisons and get those folks trained for employment when they are released.

Meramec Community Enhancement Corporation: Marvin Wright
Marvin Wright reported on MCEC activities as follows:

The meeting was postponed, and a new date has yet to be determined.

Meramec Region Community Foundation:

Bonnie Prigge reported that MRCF's annual meeting was held on July 26, 2017. Founding members Doug Dunlap and Vicky Nelson will be going off of the board, and the group is looking to fill those positions. She noted that as of June 30, 2017, MRCF has a total of 55 funds valued at \$1.1 million, with 13 of those being scholarship funds. Alice Wingo with Community Foundation of the Ozarks presented a program on Building Your Board. Ms. Prigge also reported that the new president of MRCF is Vicki Lange.

Chairman Report:

Chairman Ray Schwartze stated that it was good to be here and he was very glad to hear about Quaker's hiring event. He reported that he spent time in the Capitol last week and would be spending Thursday at the state fair with the politicians. Chairman Schwartze added that it is sometimes difficult to explain what MRPC does and asked members to think about and maybe come up with a way to promote ourselves better.

Director Report:

Bonnie Prigge informed the board that she and several staff members would be going out into the communities and providing a presentation on MRPC and what we do. After the presentation there would be a discussion on the needs of the community which would then be included in our CEDS. The first meeting of this type will be held on August 23, 2017 at the Doolittle Community Center. A complete slate of dates and locations will be available next month.

Ms. Prigge informed the board that dues notices have been sent out as well as letters regarding hours of service available.

She also reported that DRA projects will be much slower since the director stepped down. Until President Trump fills that position, projects are in limbo.

Ms. Prigge also spoke a bit on the broadband meeting at Farm Bureau. They were expecting 30 but attendance was over 100. The governor did attend and address the group. A representative from the Minnesota Department of Economic Development spoke on a broadband policy they have in place. Once the policy was developed, the legislature started setting money aside each year. They are four years in and are at 75 percent of where they want to be with coverage. Farm Bureau has asked Janie Dunning to pick up the project and she will be here for our September MRPC meeting.

Ms. Prigge stated that as part of our state association, we have been working with the Economic Development Administration (EDA) who provides our planning grant. With the disasters, our EDA representative Steve Castener suggested we look to EDA to hire a statewide disaster coordinator. This person would provide help at the local level as would work as a liaison with the

state. EDA has agreed to provide the match and Phelps County has agreed to serve as the pass through agency. It will provide an opportunity for disaster planning at the local level. If anyone has any ideas for disaster planning, please contact Ms. Prigge.

Adjourn

T.R. Dudley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m.; David Dudenhoeffer seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ray Schwartze, chairman

Attest