

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI REGIONAL PLANNING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**Monthly Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2022**

The regular monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission was called to order by Chairman Buerck at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, in the Commission's meeting room at 1 West St. Joseph Street in Perryville, Missouri as well as via Zoom Conference Call.

Executive Board

Brent Buerck – Chairman – present	John Singleton - Vice Chairman – absent
Garry Nelson – Secretary – present	Jay Wengert – Treasurer – present

Board of Directors:

Leo Arnzen - Bollinger County - absent
Dr. Kimberly Baumann - Mississippi Lime Co. – absent
Greg Beavers - City of Farmington - absent
Harold Gallaher - St. Francois County - present
Dr. Kenneth Haskins -City of Cape Girardeau - absent
Paul Hassler - City of Ste. Genevieve - absent
Kelly Korokis - City of Fredericktown - absent
Robert Lourwood - City of Ironton - absent
Keri McCrorey - East Missouri Action Agency, Workforce - absent
Jim Scaggs - Iron County - present
Clint Tracy - Cape Girardeau County - absent
Trey Wiginton - City of Marble Hill - absent

Members Present:

Keith Hoehn - Perry County Commission
Karen Stuppy - Ste. Genevieve County Commission
Happy Welch- City of Ste Genevieve
Rodney Bollinger- City of Jackson
Don England- Village of Oak Ridge
Larry Kemp- Madison County Commission
Randy Ruzicka- Ste Genevieve County Commission
Mike Sauer- Perry County Commission
Ashley Baudendistel- City of Fredericktown
David Kater- St. Francois County Commission
James Settles- City of Fredericktown

Others Present:

Donna Hickman- Congressman Smith's Office
Debbie Colyott- Congressman Smith's Office
Rick Francis- State Representative District 145
Sandra Cabot- Project Manager- Missouri DED
Crystal Jones- Perry County EDA

Staff Present

Jeremy Tanz - Executive Director
Drew Christian - Deputy Director
Erica Palmer- Fiscal Officer
Margaret Yates - Grant Administrator
Leslie Seabaugh- Regional Planner
Alex Rios - Environmental Planner
Kara Johnston – Administrative Assistant
Nathan Mitchell- GIS Specialist
Daniel Winningham- Regional Planner

Chairman Buerck called me meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Buerck asked for introductions. Introductions followed.

Chairman Buerck requested a motion to approve the **agenda**; Commissioner Nelson made the motion, Mr. Ruzicka seconded the motion; motion carried.

Chairman Buerck requested approval of the **minutes** of the October 25, 2022, monthly meeting. Commissioner Scaggs moved to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Welch seconded the motion; motion carried.

The **Treasurer's reports** for the period ending November 15, 2022, was provided to the membership. Chairman Buerck requested approval of the Treasurer's reports. Mr. Welch moved the financial statements be approved as presented; Commissioner Sauer seconded the motion; motion carried.

BUSINESS

Chairman Buerck requested nominations or volunteers to fill the position of Secretary beginning January 1, 2023. Mr. Wengert and Commissioner Nelson nominated Mr. Ruzicka. Mr. Ruzicka accepted the nomination. No more nominations were made. Mr. Ruzicka will serve on the board as Secretary as of January 1, 2023.

Mrs. Yates and Mr. Tanz reported on grant calls. Community Development Block Grant is back to normal cycles starting December 30th. There are still ARPA funds available. LWCF are being reviewed currently. DNR is actively inviting those who did not get awarded ARPA funds to apply for funding/grants directly through DNR. Mr. Tanz said the DERA Volkswagon trust. This is for the replacement of diesel trucks/equipment. Community Revitalization has almost 3 times the amount available that has been requested. Local tourism closes December 14th, 2022. The final industrial sites are available on the DED website. There are a few public safety grants. Department of Public Safety has a \$20,000 grant that closes December 16th, 2022. County Jail Grant closing December 30th, 2022. New construction not eligible for the Jail Grant.

Mr. Tanz reported on Broadband activities. FCC mapping was released in Mid-November. All individuals should go on and submit any challenges. These challenges are for households that show there is service, but none is available. The more challenges are discovered the more money will be available for broadband. There will be a webinar regarding broadband on December 16, 2022.

Mr. Tanz reported on FY23 dues. All dues are 96% paid. Bollinger and Perry county received refunds. They both had a community that was counted in their census but should not have been included in our dues amount.

Ms. Seabaugh reported on RLF activities. We have about \$79,000 available currently with \$20,000 revolving per month. There is one application requestion \$92,000. Ms. Seabaugh has had a preliminary conversation with EDA about additional funding. There will be more details available at the January meeting. Ms. Seabaugh asked for approval of the new board members of the RLF committee. This includes Kent Mahler, to finish out the year starting January 23rd, Chris Wiggert, this will be his last year, Ed Crowley, new term, Clint Tracy, new term, and Steve Abes, to finish out 2 year term. Mr. Ruzicka moved to approve these committee member,

Staff Reports

Mr. Tanz: FY 21 audit is over a year behind. This is mostly due to staffing issue at the Accounting Firm. It should be done at the January meeting. We are expecting 2022 audit in February or March.

Ms. Rios: SWMD annual report is complete. She's been working on collecting tonnage data for FY23 grants. FY24 SWMD grant call will begin soon.

Mr. Mitchell: Perryville Utilities starting with hydrants then streets. Working on Ste Genevieve and Desloge Comp plans. Also Mr. Mitchell has been working on Perry County tax assessment updates. He has also been working on updating the GIS website. We received the P1 sensor. Mr. Mitchell has not had a chance to take it out and test it as of right now.

Mr. Christian: Working on Ste Genevieve and Desloge Comp plans. Madison County HazMit plan has one or two more meetings in the county. Draft of Madison County HazMit plan is due March 1, 2023.

Mrs. Yates: Mrs. Yates has been spending most of her time with grant administration. She is also assisting communities with environmental grants.

Mrs. Palmer: Solid Waste financial audit, New Bourbon audit, almost complete with FY21 RPC audit.

Ms. Johnston: Most time has been spent with website updates.

Mr. Winningham: Mostly looking at Comp Plan research, Ste Genevieve Specifically.

Reports from State and Federal Partners

Rick Francis: Session starts January 4, 2023. Biggest issue is Initiative Petition, this needs to get done in the House. Following with a few other important things including; sports betting, crime, broadband, childcare and reducing taxes.

Donna Hickman: Has been busy with transitions of losing some counties and picking up some more. Congressman has been in D.C. working on budget. They are working hard trying to close out all IRS cases. Madison Baker has been announced as the District Director for the next year.

Mr. Christian brought up to the group about the challenges of getting a quorum for the TAC committee. The RPC can vote to change the TAC by-laws. Mr. Christian is wanting to change the quorum requirements to the same as the RPC. It was decided to put this on the agenda for January meeting.

Other Business

Commissioner Scaggs showed the group photos of the 1860 Courthouse Restoration project. This was finally completed. The structure of the courthouse was unsound and needed fixed. The courthouse has been restored, as much as possible, to the 1860 style.

The next meeting was scheduled for January 24, 2023 @ 1:00 p.m

Mr. Ruzicka moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Welch seconded the motion; motion carried meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

Brent Buerck, Chairman