

# SOUTHEAST MISSOURI REGIONAL PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

## Monthly Meeting Minutes January 24, 2023

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, January 24, 2023, 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  
Randy Ruzicka – Secretary – present

John Singleton - Vice Chairman –via zoom  
Jay Wengert – Treasurer – present

### Board of Directors:

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

### 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  
Mark Marberry- Ste Genevieve County Commission  
Mike Sauer- Perry County Commission  
Ashley Baudendistel- City of Fredericktown  
James Settles- City of Fredericktown  
David Shaw- City of Desloge

### Others Present:

Donna Hickman- Congressman Smith's Office  
Debbie Colyott- Congressman Smith's Office  
Heath Robbins- Senator Eric Schmidt's Office  
Matt Bain-  
Sandra Cabot- Project Manager- Missouri DED  
Crystal Jones- Perry County EDA

Tessa Rehkop- Madison County Chamber of Commerce  
Stephanie Daffron- City of Desloge

**Staff Present**

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**; Mr. England made the motion, Mr. Welch seconded the motion; motion carried.

Chairman Buerck requested approval of the **minutes** of the December 13, 2022, monthly meeting. Mr. England made the motion, Mr. Welch seconded the motion; motion carried.

The **Treasurer's reports** for the period ending January 15, 2023, was provided to the membership. Chairman Buerck requested approval of the Treasurer's reports. Mr. England moved the financial statements be approved as presented; Commissioner Ruzicka seconded the motion; motion carried.

**BUSINESS**

Chairman Buerck asked the group if there were any more nominations for Secretary besides Commissioner Ruzicka which was nominated last meeting. Mr. Shaw moved to close nominations, Commissioner Kemp seconded this motion; motion carried and nominations were closed. Mr. Wengert moved to appoint Commissioner Ruzicka as board Secretary, Commissioner Sauer seconded this motion; motion passed. Commissioner Ruzicka was named RPC Board Secretary.

The FY22 revised budget was presented to the members. There was extra equipment costs that were related to the Drone. Mr. Buerck requested an approval of the revised budget. Mr. Welch moved to approve the revised budget as presented. Mr. England seconded this motion; motion carried. FY22 revised budget was approved.

Mrs. Yates reported on grant calls. The 2023 Recreational Trails Program Grant is open and closes February 16, 2023. This is for just what it states trails of all kinds. Land and water conservation

fund will be opening up soon. MoDED ARPA Industrial Site Development Grant is open also and closes February 20, 2023. Mrs. Yates will be attending DRA training next week in Memphis, TN.

Mr. Christian reported on Broadband activities. There was an email sent out with all the awarded projects. This was included in the packets for review. The two that Mr. Christian wanted to highlight was the Aptitude Internet that effects Ste Genevieve County and St Francois County and Steeville Telephone which effects Iron County. The Missouri Office of Broadband will resume stakeholder meetings statewide monthly. In May there will be a regional meeting in person.

Mr. Tanz reported on FY23 dues. All dues are 96% paid. As of February 1 any unpaid dues are delinquent.

Ms. Seabaugh reported on RLF activities. We have about \$100,000 available currently with \$25,000 revolving per month. There is one application reviewed last week which ultimately was denied. We have 2 more applications from strong borrowers. One of these is an out of region request. This requires approval from the board to review application. Their local RPC, Bootheel, no longer has an RLF program. They are looking to expand with loan to create new jobs in Farmington and Cape Girardeau. Commissioner Kemp moved to approve the RLF Committee to review this loan, Mr. England seconded this motion; motion carried. Ms. Seabaugh is going to request the EDA to approve a raise in per loan maximum from \$100,000 to \$165,000. This will allow us to lend on bigger projects and businesses in the area.

Ms. Seabaugh reported on the Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee. The 2020 budget is 85% spent down most of the remainder is from CERT not being able to operate at full capacity due to COVID. This has an extension until July 31, 2023. Homeland Security response team ordered equipment December of 2021 and they are still waiting for it to arrive. The 2021 budget is 86% spent down, this has been extended through August 31, 2023. Ms. Seabaugh is anticipating more extensions also. The 2022 grant period has started, however funding isn't available to spend yet. Ms. Seabaugh also reported that Missouri just passed a new statute (160.077) to test lead levels in schools, the new requirement is to be at or below 5 parts per Billion. Ms. Seabaugh also informed the group about the Earthquake Summit on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Staff Reports**

Ms. Rios: Assistance for FY24 Grant Applications, quarterly reports for SWMD, and assessment inventory.

Mr. Mitchell: CEDS report, Perry Co Map changes for 2022 done, made barn quilt story map for Mrs. Ertzfeld. Meeting for SEMO GIS website next week.

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: Quarterly and annual reports. Will be attending DRA in Memphis. Just general Grant admin work.

Mrs. Palmer: FY22 audit information, FY21 audit should be done by February 13<sup>th</sup>. Working on Quarterly reports.

Ms. Johnston: Gathering audit documents for Mrs. Palmer, keeping up with website updates, and CEDS report.

Mr. Winningham: Mostly looking at Comp Plan research, Ste Genevieve Specifically. Working on CEDS report.

### **Reports from State and Federal Partners**

Debbie Colyott: Congressman Smith received the great honor of being the youngest person to date to be appointed Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. Quarter 1 will involve a lot of hiring and getting committees set up. Madison Baker is now District Director for Congressman Smith.

Donna Hickman: Reminding everyone the district office is still the best way to get an email to the Congressman about issues, concerns, praises etc.

Heath Robbins: Working with Eric Schmidt's office. They are looking for a new office location possibly out of Cape Girardeau. Currently the offices are located in Columbia, St Louis, and Springfield.

Sandra Cabot: Friday at 1pm there will be a Broadband call. This call will include mention of digital demonstration project funding. Workforce training grants have been announced some of them in the southeast district. There will be more DED grant announcements this was the first 2 of the 9 grants. Friday February 3<sup>rd</sup> will be DED's next first Friday call.

Mr. Christian again 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. Commissioner Kemp moved to change the bylaws of the TAC to align with RPC quorum requirements. Commissioner Arnzen seconded this motion; motion passed.

The next meeting was scheduled for February 28, 2023 @ 1:00 p.m

Mr. England moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Welch seconded the motion; motion carried meeting adjourned at 1:51 pm

Respectfully submitted,

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Garry Nelson, Secretary

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Brent Buerck, Chairman

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