

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

**Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission was called to order by Vice-Chairman John Singleton at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 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 – absent
Randy Ruzicka – Secretary – absent

John Singleton - Vice Chairman –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
Stacy Kinder -City of Cape Girardeau - absent
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 - 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
David Kater- St. Francois County Commission
Rodney Bollinger- City of Jackson
Don England- Village of Oak Ridge
Larry Kemp- Madison County Commission
Mike Sauer- Perry County Commission
David Shaw- City of Desloge

Others Present:

Donna Hickman- Congressman Smith's Office
Debbie Colyott- Congressman Smith's Office
Matt Bain- Senator Josh Hawley's office- VIA Zoom
Sandra Cabot- Project Manager- Missouri DED
Heather Garner- SEEDS
Jamie Bahr- Daniel Jones Associates
Scott Sattler- Sattler and Associates

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

Vice-Chairman Singleton called meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Vice-Chairman Singleton asked for introductions. Introductions followed.

Vice-Chairman Singleton requested a motion to approve the **agenda**; Mr. England made the motion, Commissioner Scaggs seconded the motion; motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Singleton requested approval of the **minutes** of the January 24, 2023, monthly meeting. Commissioner Kemp made the motion, Commissioner Scaggs seconded the motion; motion carried.

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

BUSINESS

Jamie Bahr from Daniel Jones and Associates went over the FY21 audit. After discussion Vice-Chairman Singleton request a motion to approve the FY21 audit. _____ made a motion to approve the audit, _____ seconded the motiton; motion carried. Final audit report will be sent to the RPC.

Next on the agenda was the Affirmative Action Plan for 2023. After a short discussion a question arose about if it is required to have someone review the plan. Mr. Tanz said it is probably a good idea to have this done. Mayor Shaw moved to approve the Affirmative Action Plan, Commissioner Kemp seconded this motion; motion carried.

Ms. Seabaugh talked about Federal Home Loan Bank and their Affordable Housing Program. This is for low-income community housing. The program supports renovations or new construction. There is a pre-application process that is recommended. However, May 1st the actual application opens. Ms. Seabaugh also talked about the USDA Urban Ag & Innovation Production. This is for farmers, community gardens, and giving more people access to fresh produce. This grant is specially geared for government, local government, schools, and non-profits for the planning and

implementation of such projects. Then it was mentioned that EPA DERA is running on a 2 year cycle and this cycle has some changes coming to the program.

Mr. Tanz then discussed Broadband activities. The monthly stakeholder meetings are still happening statewide. There will be a local meeting somewhere in the region around May. The RPC will facilitate this meeting and we are looking at the St. Francois County area. MACOG has applied for Broadband Grant, has hired a contractor, and will be looking into non-serviced areas like Iron County, Madison County, Ste Genevieve County and St Francois County.

FY23 dues are 99% paid. FY24 Dues statements will go out in May.

Staff Reports

Ms. Rios: Program monitoring, assessment inventory is done for solid waste, FY24 grant scoring committee has been selected.

Mr. Mitchell: Perry Co updates, Perryville public works, and comp plans.

Mr. Christian: Madison County Hazard Mitigation plan draft was submitted today. Perry and St Francois County will be next for HazMit plans. These plans are no cost to community and school districts. There is just a match requirement which is usually around \$8,000. The benefit of these plans includes being able to apply for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs. These programs require HazMit plans. Mr. Christian is also going to be starting on Transit Plans soon. This includes mainly working with SMTS but also senior centers, and sheltered workshops that provide transportation.

Ms. Seabaugh: 2020 and 2021 Homeland Security Regionalization Grants are open. 2022 grant has not been funded yet and 2023 grants are going out in April. Ms. Seabaugh has been working on TIF districts. Lending is great and there is a shortage of funds compared to applications at this point. Also working on EDA CARES final report and EDA progress report. She is also working on getting the Government Lending and Intro to TIF presentations set up. Lastly the Earthquake Readiness Summit is March 16th from 9am to 4pm.

Mrs. Yates: general grant admin tasks, points are being awarded on many grants now for being part of or participation in some sort of plan (TIF, COMP, HAZMIT)

Mrs. Palmer: FY21 Audit is done, FY22 fieldwork and finances for audit.

Ms. Johnston: normal clerical duties, keeping website up to date.

Mr. Winningham: Comp Plan Research

Mr. Tanz: CEDS is due fall of 2024. Start looking into a steering committee in May. State aid for RPCs max award doubled this year, rural up to \$50,000 and metro is up to \$125,000.

Reports from State and Federal Partners

Matt Bain: Senator Hawley is now on the Committee for Natural Resources. Heath Robins has been named District Director for Erik Schmidt's office. Has been dealing with LOTS of paperwork.

Donna Hickman: HR 1163- bill protecting tax payers & unemployment fraud. Passports are among popular cases today.

Sandra Cabot: Friday at 1pm Friday ARPA call. There are three new grants: non profit, cell towers, and entertainment industry. Two new grant programs launching March 1 to link large employers to childcare providers. This is not a MoDED program but a good program and worth mentioning.

Commissioner Scaggs then brought an issue to the attention of the group. This is an ongoing issue of mining royalties for Iron County. This has been an issue he personally has been dealing with for 6 years. There was some opposition at the Commissioner's meeting. Commissioner Scaggs wanted to go into more details about the situation. The schools are losing significant amounts of money per year.

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

Mr. England moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Kater seconded the motion; motion carried meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Ruzicka, Secretary

Brent Buerck, Chairman