

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

**Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2024**

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 27, 2024, 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 John Singleton - Vice Chairman – present
Randy Ruzicka – 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 - absent
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 – ZOOM
Jim Scaggs - Iron County - absent
Clint Tracy - Cape Girardeau County - present
Trey Wiginton - City of Marble Hill – absent
Mike Sauer- Perry County Commission- present

Members Present:

Keith Hoehn - Perry County Commission
Happy Welch- City of Ste Genevieve
Rodney Bollinger- City of Jackson
Karen Stuppy- Ste Genevieve County Commission
Larry Kemp- Madison County Commission
Ashley Baudendistel- City of Fredericktown
James Settle- City of Fredericktown
Don England- Village of Oak Ridge
Zach Franklin- City of Park Hills
Heather Garner- SEEDS
Crystal Jones- Perry County EDA

Others Present:

Sandra Cabot- Missouri DED- ZOOM
Scott Sattler- Sattler & Assc.

Angie Wilson- Ameren MO ZOOM
Jody Williams- Congressman Smith's Office
Mandi Brink- SEMO Port
Tony Vogel- City of Frohna

Staff Present

Jeremy Tanz - Executive Director
Drew Christian - Deputy Director
Margaret Yates - Grant Administrator
Erica Palmer- Fical Officer
Leslie Seabaugh- Regional Planner
Alex Rios – Environmental Planner
Kara Johnston – Administrative Assistant
Sarah Brown- GIS Specialist
Daniel Winningham- Regional Planner
Lydia Keller- Grant Administrator

Vice-Chairman Singleton called me 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 Ruzicka seconded the motion; motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Singleton requested approval of the **minutes** of the January 23, 2024, monthly meeting. Commissioner Ruzicka moved to approve the minutes; Mr. England seconded the motion; motion carried.

The **Treasurer's reports** for the period ending February 15, 2024, was provided to the membership. Checkbook Balance is \$361,204.65 and Accounts Receivable is \$73,698.51. 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

Ms. Keller reported on grant calls. There are currently no open grants. CDBG competitive cycle is set to open in April or May this is the '23/'24 joined cycle. Ms. Keller and Mrs. Yates will be heading to Memphis for DRA training later this week. The USDA has a REAP (Rural Energy for America Program) which provides loans and grants to ag producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. Mr. Tanz reported the

Benton Foundation has a program called Broadband Breakthrough. This program looks at gaps in services, will organize local stakeholder groups, organize check ins and help fill out BEAD applications.

Reports from State and Federal Partners

Jody Williams- Congressman Smith is in Jefferson City for the day. Has been working on a lot of interviews for various investigations. Also been working a lot with Social Security.

Sandra Cabot- Ms. Cabot reported that DRA has grants opening soon.

Staff Reports

Mr. Christian: TAP is opening soon. This is a one-year call so money will be half of what it has been. Everyone should submit at least one project. When submitting projects however make sure you have a good cost estimate. Whatever you ask for your federal share is the max federal money you'll get. Thursday Mr. Christian and Mr. Tanz will attend the MoDOT Annual Transportation Planners meeting in Jefferson City. Finally, Mr. Christian reminded everyone of the next TAC meeting in April. This will start the process for the project prioritization in July.

Ms. Seabaugh: Just finished the Annual EDA Progress Report. RLF had a meeting in January and made one loan which leaves \$55,000 available as of today. Nothing changed as far as Homeland Security Budgets. Ms. Seabaugh has included two handouts in today's meeting packets. The first is a tentative schedule for the upcoming Earthquake Summit. The second is a list of SEMA trainings that are available and where they are located. Lastly, April 18th in Sikeston will be the next Homeland Security meeting.

Mrs. Palmer: Preparing financials for audit and regular fiscal duty.

Ms. Keller: Admin on 4 projects currently. Ms. Keller talked about how portals are becoming the thing with grants and grant applications. FY24 LWCF application that was submitted is pending. CDBG Industrial Infrastructure application is pending. Ms. Keller has discussed CDBG competitive cycle applications with 3 groups so far.

Mrs. Yates: Attended MPAA in Jefferson City. She also attended 5311 Transit Admin Training following that in Jefferson City also. Mrs. Yates mentioned the portals also and stated how this makes the cities/counties take more control over their applications and forces them out of it.

Ms. Brown: Working on a project for Boonslick RPC comp maps. Helping Ms. Seabaugh with TIF district maps. Continuing Perry County Study. Helping Ms. Keller and Mrs. Yates with Jackson and Glenallen projects.

Ms. Johnston: general clerical things and helping Ms. Keller with Glenallen Buyout documents.

Ms. Rios: Environmental has been submitted for approval and SWMD FY25 Grants have been submitted.

Mr. Wunningham: Ste Gen Comp plan, focusing on housing.

Mr. Tanz: Currently working on the MTC Grant entrepreneurial support survey. Mr. Tanz gave an update of the EDA Tech Hub Phase 1 is almost complete which is a completion of the application for Phase 2. This is due by March 29th. Four of our seven counties are in this tech hub for mining and mineral extraction. Mr. Tanz also reported that hopefully the Bonne Terre property will be closing soon.

Other Business

Vice-Chairman Singleton reminded everyone of the CEDS kickoff meeting following this meeting scheduled at 2:00 pm.

The next meeting was scheduled for March 26, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.

Mr. England moved to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Ruzicka seconded the motion; motion carried meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Ruzicka, Secretary

Brent Buerck, Chairman