

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI REGIONAL PLANNING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Monthly Meeting Minutes
August 27, 2024**

The regular monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission was called to order by Chairman Brent Buerck at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 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 – Present

John Singleton - Vice Chairman – absent

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

Jeffrey Stinson - City of Ironton - absent

Keri McCrorey - East Missouri Action Agency, Workforce – absent

Pastor Adrian Taylor Jr.- Lighthouse United Cape Church- absent

Jim Scaggs - Iron County - Present

Clint Tracy - Cape Girardeau County – absent

Trey Wiginton - City of Marble Hill – absent

Mike Sauer- Perry County Commission- absent

Pete Pasternak- City of Desloge- absent

Don England- Village of Oak Ridge- Present

Members Present:

Happy Welch- City of Ste Genevieve

Karen Stuppy- Ste Genevieve County Commission

Rodney Bollinger- City of Jackson

Keith Hoehn- Perry County Commission

Ashley Baudendistel- City of Fredericktown

James Settle- City of Fredericktown

David Kater- St. Francois County Commission

Larry Kemp- Madison County Commission

Staff Present

Jeremy Tanz - Executive Director

Drew Christian- Deputy Director

Alex Rios – Environmental Planner

Kara Johnston – Admin Assistant

Sarah Brown- GIS Specialist

Margaret Yates- Grant Administrator

Erica Palmer- Fiscal Officer

Leslie Seabaugh- Regional Planner

Others Present:

Debbie Colyott- Congressman Jason Smith's Office

Fara Jones- Perry County School District 32

Jodi Williams- Congressman Jason Smith's Office

Heath Robins- Senator Eric Schmitt's Office

Heather Garner- SEEDS

Chairman Buerck called the 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, Commissioner Ruzicka seconded the motion; motion carried.

Chairman Buerck requested approval of the **minutes** of the July 23, 2024, monthly meeting. Commissioner Ruzicka moved to approve the minutes; Mr. Welch seconded the motion; motion carried.

The **Treasurer's reports** for the period ending August 15, 2024 was provided to the membership. Chairman Buerck requested approval of the Treasurer's reports. As of August 15, there was a checkbook balance of \$440,317.71, the reserve had \$5,258.20 balance. Receivables equal \$108,867. Commissioner Scaggs moved the financial statements be approved as presented; Commissioner Ruzicka seconded the motion; motion carried.

BUSINESS.

Ms. Johnston discussed grant calls. CBDG grant applications are due next week September 6th. Land and Water Conservation Grants will open soon.

Reports from State and Federal Partners

Debbie Colyott: Congressman Smith has been on a farm tour including 15 counties. Cape Office has hired a new employee Diedre Roger-Belmar.

Heath Robins: Election year has been busy with state visits. The office I set up in Cape Federal courthouse suite 1500.

Staff Reports

Ms. Johnston/Mrs. Yates: CDBG applications, Bonne Terre project closeout, Jackson project admin, general clerical things, working with Margaret to learn grant administration.

Ms. Rios: Solid Waste Management District and Hazard Mitigation plans

Mr. Christian: Active Transportation Plan w/ Ironton starting active nonmotorized transportation. Working on Multimodal TAC subcommittee, transportation planners quarterly meeting coming up, working on Desloge comp plan working on Perryville Master Parks Plan.

Mrs. Palmer: FY25 Budget and New Bourbon Port FY25 audit.

Ms. Brown: MPAA conference for the last week. HazMit plans with Alex, web map layers, meeting with ESRI, general GIS troubleshooting, levee District easements, Perryville utility updates, many other maps and projects.

Mr. Tanz: Community visits have finally started, going to be going around to town/city hall meetings and educating people on the RPC and what we can do for them.

Ms. Seabaugh: HSOC quarterly meeting next week, 2022 is 86% expended with the hold up being CERT which has already got an approved extension, 2023 is 33% expended CERT may be an issue for this too, 2024 has \$155,000 available there were 8 sustainability projects awarded on a smaller scale than submitted. RLF has \$150,000 available for lending.

CEDS Presentation: Ms. Seabaugh and Mr. Christian did a presentation on the CEDS, this is a regional collaboration document. This is a requirement of the EDA. There is a public comment period for this document that will open September 24. The full document will be presented at the annual dinner on September 24, 2024, then the board will pass the plan and then the EDA will accept it on September 30, 2024.

Other Business

Commissioner Ruzicka and Commissioner Scaggs spoke about Senate Bill 153 & Senate Bill 97 along with Statue 144.05 which involve the removal of mining taxes. Commissioner Ruzicka said they wrote letters to the Department of Revenue three weeks ago with no response. This change affects counties and municipalities alike he said. Ste Genevieve County along with other counties rely on industry for revenue. Taking this tax away hurts them greatly. Commissioner Ruzicka would like to see more counties come together to “raise voices” about this issue. A use tax was also brought up; however, it was said that this is hard to pass in smaller counties.

The next meeting was scheduled for September 24, 2024, which will be the annual dinner at Robinson Event Center doors open at 5:00 pm.

Commissioner Ruzicka moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Welch seconded the motion; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Ruzicka, Secretary

Brent Buerck, Chairman