

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI REGIONAL PLANNING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Monthly Meeting Minutes
APRIL 22, 2025**

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, April 22, 2025, 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

Jim Scaggs – Vice-Chairman - Absent
Jay Wengert – Treasurer –Present

Voting Members:

Leo Arnzen - Bollinger County – Present
Johnny Setzler – City of Viburnum - Absent
Greg Beavers - City of Farmington – Absent
Sheralyn Gorse – City of Marquand – Absent
Harold Gallaher – St. Francois County - Absent
Daniel Foster – City of Altenburg – Absent
Stacy Kinder -City of Cape Girardeau – Absent
Boyd France – City of Frohna - Absent
Brian Keim - City of Ste. Genevieve – Absent
Paul Monia – City of Bloomsdale - Absent
Travis Parker - City of Fredericktown – Absent
Seth Radford – City of Bismarck - Absent
Jeffrey Stinson - City of Ironton – Absent
Erik Schonhardt – City of Bonne Terre - Absent
Clint Tracy - Cape Girardeau County – Absent
Charles White – City of Leadwood - Absent
Trey Wiginton - City of Marble Hill –Present
Phillip Kohler – Village of Allenville – Absent
Mike Sauer- Perry County Commission- Absent
Robert York – Village of Glen Allen – Absent
Lynn James –Village of Sedgewickville – Absent
Pete Pasternak- City of Desloge- Absent
David Borgfield- Village of Oak Ridge- Present
Travis Keys – City of Delta – Absent
Scott Oatman – City of Annapolis – Absent

Happy Welch- City of Ste Genevieve – Present
David Kater – St. Francois County - Present
Keith Hoehn- Perry County Commission – Present
Zach Franklin – City of Park Hills – Present
Larry Kemp- Madison County Commission – Present
Stephen Daume - Cape Girardeau County - Absent
Ashley Baudendistel – City of Fredericktown - Absent
Mark Mayberry – Ste Genevieve County - Absent
James Settle - City of Fredericktown Appointee – Absent
Rodney Bollinger – City of Jackson Appointee – Present
Stacy Easter – City of Park Hills - Absent
Christopher Findlay – City of Iron Mountain Lake – Absent
Robert Walsh – Village of Whitewater Appointee – Absent
Deborah McCarrer – City of Leadington Appointee – Absent
Honorable Bobbie Schoonover – Village of Junction City - Absent
Jay Simpson – Village of Des Arc – Absent
Tasha Whitacre – Village of Cobalt Village – Absent
Shelby Chan – City of Pilot Knob – Absent
Frankie Ullman – City of St. Mary Appointee – Absent
Harold Gallaher – St. Francois County – Absent
J.D. King – City of Gordonville – Absent
Susie Dennison – City of Arcadia – Absent
Mark Kastin – Village of Pocahontas – Absent
Kent Marler – Madison County Appointee – Present

Staff Present:

Jeremy Tanz – Executive Director
Drew Christian- Deputy Director
Margaret Yates- Grant Administrator
Leslie Seabaugh- Regional Planner
Samanta Harris – Regional Planner
Sarah Brown – GIS Specialist

Others Present:

Keri McCrorey – East Missouri Action Agency
Crystal Jones – Perry County EDA

Commissioner Ruzicka called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Commissioner Buerck asked for introductions. Introductions followed.

Commissioner Buerck requested a motion to approve the **agenda**; Mr. Welch made the motion; Commissioner Kater seconded the motion; motion carried.

Commissioner Buerck requested approval for the **minutes** of March 25, 2025, monthly meeting. Commissioner Ruzicka moved to approve the minutes; Commissioner Kemp seconded the motion; motion carried.

The **Treasurer's reports** for the period ending April 15, 2025, were provided for membership. Commissioner Buerck requested approval of the Treasurer's reports. As of April 15, 2025, there was a checkbook balance of \$396,583.24, reserve account has 322,062.72, receivables are 130,579.00. Mr. Welch made the motion to approve the treasurer's report; Commissioner Ruzicka seconded the motion; motion carried.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Commissioner Buerck announced the public notice for information only.

BUSINESS.

Mrs. Yates discussed grant calls. Kara is taking her final stages of LPA training. She went to the Grant Administrators meeting. CBDG is scheduled to open on April 28th. DRA now has SIFF funds available, and you can receive up to 2 million dollars.

Mr. Tanz discussed the meeting schedule. Due to our agendas being so light there has been discussion about wanting to move the meeting to every other month. If this is accepted this will require a Bi-Laws change because it does say monthly meetings. The other option would be quarterly meetings. If we go every other month we could maintain the TAC with the RPC meeting. We can survey the members to get everyone's input. We will ask two questions on the survey; What would you prefer the RPC schedule to be would you want it to remain monthly, every other month, or quarterly? Would you prefer a change of time to the evening? If we do go to evening meetings, we will need to discuss what that does to TAC. We should have the results of the survey by May meeting.

Staff Reports

Mr. Christian: Working on local projects for Perryville and Desloge, for the MPO I have the updated STIP projects for the Cape and Jackson area from MODOT. Also working on the 5-year update. Mr. Tanz and Mr. Christian are also working with Pilot Knob and Ironton, the active

transportation plan. There is a survey out and we will be holding a community meeting in a few weeks.

Ms. Seabaugh: Ms. Seabaugh and Mr. Tanz attended the EDA/ NATO Denver Region Conference last week. FEMA has finally released HSOC funding. They have not released if there will be 2025 funding for HSOC. We currently have \$250,000.00 in RLF available for funding. Ms. Seabaugh has reached out to the RLF committee for suggestions. Ms. Seabaugh did receive an application for a Daycare in St. Francois Co.

Mr. Tanz: EDA conference was very informative. Hopefully we can break down some of that stuff and discuss it in May. Mr. Tanz sat in a session about RLF defederalization and they had some interesting ideas about what you can do with defederalized funds. Our Plan Partnership Grant renewed 1 April 2025, but all funds are frozen. They are unsure if they will be able to pick up expenses from April 1 until the funds are lifted. That leaves us in a position where we don't know if we will be getting our EDA reimbursements. We do have some interest that has accrued from RLF which we are using. We discussed dues rate increases earlier in the year and it got tabled until we found out what was going to happen with EDA funding. Now that we have been approved but now frozen. With that being said we can hold off on the dues rate increase at this time.

Reports from State and Federal Partners

Other Business

Chairman Buerck discussed that twice a year the RPC gets together and has what they call an Environmental Quality Meeting. This started years ago when we were looking at being non-attainment for Ozone Monitors. The monitor was put in Missouri to see what clean air looks like before it gets to the city and through back as mess and other things we found we were getting urban error unrelated to what we were doing but it was going to throw us into non-attainment which would make economic development very difficult. This group was put together in Ste Genevieve County years ago. Attendance is dwindling and we would like to get industries more involved. The next meeting is in October and we are working to get the Director of The Department Natural Resources in the room. We are the only such committee in the State so we would like to determine if it warrants the effort to keep going or if we should just set it aside.

Open discussion concerning problems and issues:

Commissioner Ruzicka stated Ste Genevieve County attended Legislative Days in Jefferson City. Through some networking they were able to achieve a sit down with the Governor's Chief of Staff and explain to him what this bill has done to our communities. He took our information and was very generous with his time. We are hopeful our concerns will get back to the Governor.

Mr. Tanz stated that the last day of the Legislative Session is May 16th and our next meeting is on May 27th. We are going to send an invitation to all our Regional Legislators and see if they can come in and give us a recap of the session.

The next meeting was scheduled for May 27, 2025.

Commissioner Ruzicka made the motion to adjourn; Commissioner Kater seconded the motion; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:28 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Ruzicka, Secretary

Brent Buerck, Chairman