

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI REGIONAL PLANNING AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
MARCH 25, 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, March 25, 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 – Absent  
Randy Ruzicka – Secretary – Present

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

**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 – Present  
Charles White – City of Leadwood - Absent  
Trey Wiginton - City of Marble Hill – Absent  
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- Absent  
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 – Absent  
Zach Franklin – City of Park Hills – Absent  
Larry Kemp- Madison County Commission – Absent  
Stephen Daume - Cape Girardeau County - Present  
Ashley Baudendistel – City of Fredericktown - Present  
Mark Mayberry – Ste Genevieve County - Present  
James Settle - City of Fredericktown Appointee – Present  
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 – Absent

**Staff Present:**

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

**Others Present:**

Heather Garner - SEEDS  
Keri McCrorey – East Missouri Action Agency  
Madison Baker – Congressman Jason Smith's Office  
Crystal Jones – Perry County EDA  
Scott Sattler – Sattler & Associates

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Commissioner Ruzicka asked for introductions. Introductions followed.

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

Commissioner Ruzicka requested approval for the **minutes** of February 25, 2025, monthly meeting. Commissioner Tracy moved to approve the minutes; Mr. Welch seconded the motion; motion carried.

The **Treasurer's reports** for the period ending March 15, 2025, were provided for membership. Commissioner Ruzicka requested approval of the Treasurer's reports. As of March 15, 2025, there was a checkbook balance of \$337,248.35. Mr. Welch made the motion to approve the treasurer's report; Commissioner Kater seconded the motion; motion carried.

## **BUSINESS.**

Mr. Tanz discussed the Board and committee members. He stated that Zach Franklin is willing to serve as the Municipal Representative for St. Francois County. Commissioner Ruzicka made the motion to approve Zach Franklin as the new Municipal Representative for St. Francois County; Mr. Welch second the motion; motion carried.

Mrs. Yates discussed grant calls. Mrs. Yates and Ms. Johnston attended 5311 Transit training in Jefferson City and attended DRA training. There will be a Federal Home Loan Bank of De-Moin funds opening. This is for rehabbing and renovating low-income rental units. CBDG is scheduled to open in April.

## **Staff Reports**

Mr. Christian: discussed him and Mr. Tanz attending the MoDOT Planning Partners Meeting. In a couple of months, the TAP grant call may be opening. Working on Desloge Park and Rec plan. Our SEEDS have been approved.

Ms. Seabaugh: discussed working on the EDA annual reports that were submitted in February. This will finalize our three-year planning grant with EDA. We will start a new Planning Grant starting in April. Ms. Seabaugh and Mr. Tanz will be attending the EDA Denver Region Conference in April. Finalizing the fourth quarter TIF reports and beginning the first quarter TIF reports for FY25. We currently have \$175,000.00 in RLF available for funding. HOSC; everything is running smoothly with the current open grants, there is currently a funding freeze due to FEMA. FY2025 Applications should be available by the end of April. If you are applying for EMPG funding it is required that you apply for Regionalization funding first.

Ms. Brown: Redesigned the layout for the Perry Utility Maps.

Mr. Tanz: EDA did formally accept our SEEDS plan. We received the notification last week. That is an approved plan for the next five years. We have been working on a grant application. Worked with Crystal on a grant application through EDA to support their Air Fragment Power Plant Program. We were requested by SEMO Ready out of Cape to assist with a DRA wastewater application at Scott City which has been awarded. Continue to work with Leadwood on their grant applications. They were approved yesterday for a new Distribution System, Water Treatment Plant, and Water Tower. Leadington has a paving CBDG grant that was approved.

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

Madison Baker: 21 Counties in the Congressman's district have been affected by the Tornado. This office continues to work through issues concerning the damage. The Congressman is hyper focused on the Reconciliation Bill.

Keri McCrorey: Discussed head start is currently enrolling for the 2026 school year. We still have energy assistance still available. Section 8 housing is still closed. We have also been responding to the disasters in Desarc, Perryville, and Bollinger County. In Perryville we have been asked to handle the case management for the long-term recovery committee. We are on the ground in Desarc assisting families with immediate needs.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Tanz discussed that East Missouri Action Agency is doing a great job on case management. The NATO DC Conference a couple weeks ago. There was a push to eliminate tax exempt municipal bonds.

### **Open discussion concerning problems and issues:**

Commissioner Ruzicka stated that St. Francois County is hosting the SEMO Regional Commissioners Conference. April 14-15 is Legislation Day.

The next meeting was scheduled for April 22, 2025.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Randy Ruzicka, Secretary

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Brent Buerck, Chairman