

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI REGIONAL PLANNING AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025**

The annual meeting of the Southeast Missouri Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission was called to order by Chairman Brent Buerck on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, at the Robinson's Event Center in Perryville, Missouri.

**ATTENDEES**

Brent Buerck	Chairman	SEMO RPC
Chrissy Buerck	Guest	
Jim Scaggs	Vice-Chairman	SEMO RPC
Randy Ruzicka	Secretary	SEMO RPC
Linda Ruzicka	Guest	
Jay Wengert	Treasurer	SEMO RPC
Jeremy Tanz	Executive Director	SEMO RPC
Leo Arnzen	Presiding Commissioner	Bollinger County
Stan Balsman	Former Staff	SEMO RPC
Debbie Balsman	Guest	
Deidre Belmar		Congressman Jason Smith's Office
Jamie Burger	State Representative	District 27
Shad Burner	CEO	SEMO REDI
Sandra Cabot	Project Manager	Missouri DED
Shelby Chan	Mayor	City of Pilot Knob
Tami Browsers	Guest	
Debbie Colyott		Congressman Jason Smith's Office
Donal Firebaugh	County Clerk	Madison County
Michelle Hadler		Mineral Area College Perryville
Mia Yammitz	Guest	
Tim Bakskin	Guest	
Heather Baskin	Guest	
Cary Harbison	Executive Director	SEMO Regional Port Authority
Charles Herbst	Associate Commissioner	Cape Girardeau County
Donna Hickman		Congressman Jason Smith's Office
Brad Hodson	President	SEMO State University
Keith Hoehn	Associate Commissioner	Perry County
Barry Hovis	State Representative	District 146
Ronnie Inman		New Bourbon Port Board
Crystal Jones	Executive Director	Perry County EDA
David Kater	Associate Commissioner	St Francois County
Larry Kemp	Associate Commissioner	Madison County
Deanna Kline	Alderman	City of Perryville
Jeff Kline	Guest	
Keri McCrorey	Executive Director	East Missouri Action Agency

Nichole Hahn	Guest	
Pete Pasternak	Mayor	City of Desloge
Larry Riney	Mayor	City of Perryville
Heath Robins	Southeast District Director	Senator Eric Schmitt Office
Frank Robinson	President	Robinson's Construction Inc
Joanie Robinson	Guest	
Mike Sauer	Presiding Commissioner	Perry County
Charles Skelton	Original Board Member	SEMO RPC
Keith Skelton	Guest	
John Voss	State Representative	District 147
Becky Wiginton	President	Bollinger County Chamber of Commerce
Trey Wiginton	Mayor	City of Marble Hill
Dale Wright	State Representative	District 116
Sarah Brown	GIS Specialist	SEMO RPC
Drew Christian	Deputy Director	SEMO RPC
Randa Christian	Guest	
Samantha Harris	Regional Planner	SEMO RPC
Tim Nordman	Guest	
Kara Johnston	Grant Administrator	SEMO RPC
Adam Seabaugh	Guest	
Erica Palmer	Fiscal Officer	SEMO RPC
Landon Palmer	Guest	

Chairman Brent Buerck called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Following the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Bureck requested a motion to approve the **agenda**; Commissioner Ruzicka made the motion; Mr. Wiginton seconded the motion; motion carried.

Chairman Bureck asked for introductions. Introductions followed starting with the head table.

Chairman Bureck requested approval for the **minutes** of August 26, 2025, monthly meeting. Commissioner Kemp moved to approve the minutes; Commissioner Sauer seconded the motion; motion carried.

The **Treasurer's reports** for the period ending September 15, 2025, were provided for membership. Chairman Buerck requested approval of the Treasurer's reports. The Treasurer's report is available to the board members at the sign-in table. Mr. Wiginton made the motion to approve the treasurer's report; Commissioner Sauer seconded the motion; motion carried

## **BUSINESS**

Chairman Buerck requested a recommendation for extension of the lease with the Council of Governments for one year at the rate of \$21,600 per annum. Commissioner Wengert made a motion to extend the lease, Mr. Wiginton second the motion, motion carried.

Chairman Buerck requested the Election of Officers of the Board of Directors to serve a two-year term. He stated that in the preliminary vote the following was nominated: for Chairman - Jim Scaggs, Presiding Commissioner of Iron County, Vice-Chairman – Brent Buerck, City Administrator for the City of Perryville, Secretary – Randy Ruzicka, Presiding Commissioner of Ste Genevieve County, Treasurer – Jay Wengert, Associate Commissioner of Perry County. Chairman Buerck asked if there were any other nominations for these positions. There were no other nominations. Mr. Wiginton made a motion to approve the Election of the new Board of Directors, Commissioner Sauer second the motion, motion carried.

Chairman Buerck requested the presentation of the Budget of Operations for Fiscal Year 2026 and recommendations of the Budget and Personnel Committees. He stated that the Budget was available at the registration table. Chairman Buerck stated that the Budget and Personnel Committees met on September 11, 2025, and reviewed to proposed budget for FY26. The Regional Planning Commission is anticipating an income totaling \$1,622,598.00 from 54 sources of funding for the year. After removing dedicated funds for RLF principal payments, secondary facilities, and passing through, the Regional Planning Commission anticipates \$934,111.00 available for Regional Planning Commission operations. The proposed budget also anticipates operating expenses for FY26 to be \$804,966.00 which includes cost of living and salary adjustments for the Regional Planning Commission staff as approved by the Budget and Personnel Committees leaving a projected positive balance of \$129,145.00 for the year. The Budget Committee has made a recommendation to the Board to approve the FY26 budget as presented. Mr. Wiginton made a motion to approve the FY26 budget as presented, Commissioner Sauer second the motion, motion passed.

Chairman Buerck said a few words about the hard work the RPC does for the community and region.

Executive Director Jeremy Tanz said a few words about his time at the RPC. He has been with the RPC since 1998 and has been the Executive Director for the last 6 years. He stated that it has been a privilege to work with everyone in the room and thanked them for their participation in the Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Tanz then recognized the Representatives that attended the meeting and then introduced and thanked the former staff that was in attendance. He also introduced the current staff of the Regional Planning Commission.

### **Other Business**

The question was asked if the RPC Meetings were going to be held bi-monthly. Mr. Tanz answered and said yes, they will be going to even numbered months starting in October.

The next meeting was scheduled for October 28, 2025, Annual Dinner.

Commissioner Sauer made the motion to adjourn; Commissioner Kemp seconded the motion; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

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Randy Ruzicka, Secretary

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Brent Buerck, Chairman