



**Southwest Missouri Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 27, 2020
9:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

Attendance :

Members:

Chris Coulter – Greene County
Frank Schoneboom – Battlefield
Bob Senninger – Lawrence County
Stan Whitehurst – Webster County
Randy Owens – Webster County
Todd Wiesehan – Christian County
Yolanda Lorge – Grupo Latinoamericano
Cary Charles – OTO
Howard Fisk – Fisk Transportation
Michelle Garand – Community Partnership
Brad Gray – Willard
Duane Lavery – GRO Marshfield
Edd Akers – Branson
Joel Hornickel – Branson
Cindy Robbins – Nixa
Shawn Barry – Toth & Assoc
Gail Noggle – Bolivar
Neil Brady – Bartlett & West
Kathy Smith – N-Form Architecture
John Forrester - Allgeier, Martin & Assoc
Martha Smart - Strafford
Chris Hopkins – Billings
Joyce Phillips –
Melissa Mau – Ash Grove
Hollie Elliott – Dallas County
Becky Baltz - TREKK

Dennis Pyle – Monett
Allen Kunkel – MSU
Cindy Stephens - OTC
Ron Mersch – Olsson
Callie Linville – City Utilities
Dana Louderbaugh – Fair Grove
Sarah Lawson – Show Me Christian Co
Jerry Harman – Kimberling City
Lindsey Reichert -
Mary Lilly-Smith – Springfield
Brendan Griesemer - Springfield
Alex Mosby - Paragon

Partners and Guests

Beth Schaller – MoDOT
Zeke Hall - MoDOT
Stacy Burks – Red Cross
Dan Wadlington – Senator Blunt’s Office
Joelle Cannon – Senator Blunt’s Office
Clayton Campbell – Senator Hawley’s Office
Drew Cannon- Congresswoman
Hartzler’s Office
Jeremy Pruett – Congressman Long’ Office
Senator Sandy Crawford
Rep. John Black
Rep. Craig Fishel
Ronda Burnett - MDC
Mary Rajek – MoDED
Theresa Sampaio – MoDED

Sara Fields - OTO
Dennis Wiggins – Ozark Region Career Center
Alex Cobb – Senior Age
Alice Wingo – CFO
Christa Atchison - MoDED
Pam Duitsman – MO Ext.

Staff:
Jason Ray
Jane Hood
Megan Clark
Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren
Brandon Jenson
Courtney Pinkham
Will Mansfield
Jack Wendel

Open Meeting

Introductions and Announcements— Chris Coulter

Approval of May 27, 2020 Meeting Agenda—Chris Coulter

Cindy Stephens motioned and Howard Fisk seconded to approve the Agenda for the May 27, 2020 meeting. Motion Carried.

Approval of January 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes— Chris Coulter

Dana Louderbaugh motioned and Cindy Stephens seconded to approve the Minutes for the January 22, 2020 meeting. Motion Carried.

Legislative Reports

Jason Ray – State money to RPC's is the same as last year pending Governor withholdings. Some legislation that SMOG has been tracking includes HB 1854. It has several issues including changing Transportation Development Districts (TDD) and Community Improvement Districts(CID). One group is working to have the Governor veto the bill. We will continue to watch it. A local government expenditure data base bill was passed (we have watched this for a couple of years) The helmet law was repealed and goes to the Governor for signature. We are reviewing the Federal CARES relief package and what the programs can be used for. We are supportive of EDA Revolving Loan Fund reform (part of HEROS Act) and reached out to our federal representatives. NADO has been supportive of this issue for some time.

Clayton Campbell – Senator Hawley's Office

USDA announced this past week their Food Assistance Program that will provide \$16 Billion in relief to Ag producers affected by COVID-19. Senator Hawley has supported economic assistance to individuals during COVID. He is advocating for government to help people get their jobs back by proposing a Rehire American Plan.

Joelle Cannon – Senator Blunt's Office

Working on the next phase of assistance with COVID-19. House is working on proxy voting right now. SBA has put out new guidelines for the loan forgiveness in PPP.

Jeremy Pruett – Congressman Long's Office

House not in session now. Congressman is pushing for Transportation Infrastructure bill which would stimulate the economy and getting the House back in session. HHS has authorized \$225 million aid for rural clinics. Missouri has 351 which will mean about \$17 million. Missouri is number one in the nation in rural clinics.

Drew Cannon – Congresswoman Hartzler's Office

Working on bills that would protect meat producers and non-profits from frivolous lawsuits. House considering the FISA bill today. Twenty-five percent of the CARES Act money that the state receives, will go to the counties.

State Representatives John Black, Craig Fishel & Senator Sandy Crawford – HB1854 gives cities & counties ability to form a geographic zone called a Targeted Industrial Manufacturing Enhancement Zone to provide additional support for infrastructure for the area. It would allow the city and county to retain 25% of the payroll tax that would otherwise go to the State. Missouri DED will administer the program. Senator Crawford said that there are several additional good provisions in HB1854 that would benefit cities and counties in the SMCOG region. State Representative Fishel agreed.

Business Meeting

1. Approve FY 2021 Budget – Jason Ray

Jason presented and reviewed the SMCOG FY2021 Budget.

Dennis Pyle motioned and Howard Fisk seconded approval of the FY2021 Budget. Motion carried.

2. Nominating Committee – Chris Coulter

Stan Whitehurst, Gail Noggle, Howard Fisk and Frank Schoneboom volunteered to be on the nominating committee.

3. Program Updates – Jason Ray

Jason provided visual slides on program updates and reviewed them.

Economic Development - SMCOG was officially approved for the EDA Partnership Planning Grant on 4/1/20. Cox College Phase II. Infrastructure proposals.

COVID-19 Response & Recovery - SMCOG looking into setting up a Revolving Loan Fund through EDA Covid-19 funds. Long-Term Economic Recovery will allow us to bring on additional staff for recovery. CARES act funds going to counties which we can assist with administration.

Census- Has been delayed due to COVID-19.

Hazard Mitigation Plan and Housing Study updates.

Transportation – No new STIP from MoDOT this next fiscal year.

Hazard Mitigation plans, Grant writing & admin., Comprehensive Plans, Housing & Homeland Security.

Partner Updates

Mo Dept of Transportation - Megan Clark reported for Beth Schaller- MoDOT will continue with the present STIP due to decreased funding. Some letting has been delayed.

Ozarks Transportation Organization- Sara Fields - Widening of James River Freeway from 65 to Glenstone has been postponed indefinitely by MoDOT.

Dept of Conservation – Ronda Burnett – First Elk hunting season will begin. Accepting applications for new Relevancy position at Conservation.

Ozark Region Workforce Development – Dennis Wiggins – They will be reopening to the public tomorrow. Have over 1000 open positions in their system right now.

Mo Dept of Economic Development – Mary Rajek – Dept has been active since the COVID - 19 has occurred. Determining the impact it is having on Missouri and how they can assist in recovery.

Community Foundation of the Ozarks – Alice Wingo – Grants available for COVID-19 recovery up to \$40,000. Can apply at cfozarks.org. Grants awarded every other week in June.

Senior Age – Alex Cobb - Have kept all their centers open during this time. Home delivery of meals or they have been picking them up at the centers.

Member Announcements

Jason announced that this is Megan Clark's last meeting. She and her family will be moving to California. She will be greatly missed.

Adjourn

Howard Fisk motioned and Cindy Stephens seconded. Motion Carried.

Todd Wiesehan, Secretary/Treasurer

Date Approved