



Enhancing the quality of our communities through regional cooperation

**Southwest Missouri Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Notice
Wednesday, May 24, 2017
9:00 a.m.**

**Library Station, Frisco Room
2535 N. Kansas Expressway, Springfield, MO 65803**

Attendance

Members:

Chris Hopkins, City of Billings
Steve Bodenhamer, City of Strafford
Steve Childers, City of Ozark
Dennis Pyle, City of Monett
J. Howard Fisk, Fisk Transportation
John Benson, City of Marshfield
Ed Westerman City of Clever
Hank Smythe, Stone County
Dennis Wood, Stone County
Todd Wiesehan, Christian County
Doris Rapp, City of Marionville
Nancy Edson, City of Rogersville
Bill Monday, O'Bannon Bank
Holli Elliott, Dallas County
Rick Davis, Polk County
Tina Hoth, City of Walnut Grove
Max Springer, City of Mt. Vernon
Yolanda Lorge, Grupo Latino Americano
Jerry Harman, City of Kimberling City
Brian Daugherty, Lawrence County
Stan Whitehurst, Webster County
Amanda Bybee, -Trek Design Group
John Forrester- Allgeier, Martin, & Associates
Eric DeGruson- Allgeier, Martin, & Associates
Cindy Stephens- OTC
Justin Coyan- SREP, Springfield Chamber of
Commerce
Carl Carlson, Olsson Associates
Gabe Lett, Olsson Associates

Partners and Guests:

Joelle Cannon- Senator Blunt's Office
David Stokely- Senator McCaskill's Office
Jeremy Pruet- Congressman Long's Office
Dennis Wiggins- City of Springfield, Career
Center
Alice Wingo, Community Foundation of the
Ozarks

Staff:

Jason Ray
Jane Hood
Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren
Simon Nogin
Theresa Moncrief
Jared Follin, Intern
Ezekiel Hall, Intern
Bailey DeJonge, Intern

Open Business Meeting

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance—Todd Wiesehan

Introductions and Announcements— Todd Wiesehan

Approval of March 29, 2017 Meeting Agenda—Todd Wiesehan

Ed Westerman motioned and Cindy Stephens seconded to approve the agenda for the May 24, 2017 meeting. Motion Carried.

Approval of March 29, 2017 Meeting Minutes— Todd Wiesehan

Howard Fisk motioned and Howard Smythe seconded to approve the minutes for the March 29, 2017 meeting. Motion Carried.

Legislative Reports

Senator McCaskill's Office – David Stokely

Senator McCaskill's office is reviewing the President's proposed budget. The outlook provided at today's meeting is conveying the same dismal outlook as provided for last meeting. We are still anticipating budget cuts for Community Development Block Grant funding. Everyone should understand the serious impact the cuts will have, particularly in the rural areas. Expecting bipartisan push back and Senator McCaskill is committed to work in a bipartisan manner. Reiterated that the Senator is committed to rural development. Do not hesitate to contact Senator McCaskill's office to keep an open line of communication.

Senator Blunt's Office – Joelle Cannon

This week the Senate has conducted nominations and last week the President notified Congress that the 90-day deadline for renegotiating NAFTA is fast approaching. In general, Senator Blunt feels supportive of the levels that we just passed for 2017 which funded a lot of the programs that a lot of you rely on and included a lot of his priorities for Health & Human Services, Cancer Research Funding, etc. The President's proposal, which is just a proposal, is too early to know where Congress will come out on the specifics. Some Agencies within the proposed budget were increased and others were cut. Defense is a \$50 billion increase, Homeland Security a \$3 billion increase, Veterans a \$4 billion increase. Most of the agencies that were decreased were under \$10 million but HHS had a cut of \$13 billion. The budget proposed cuts to EPA is \$ 3 billion and Core of Engineers approximately \$1 billion. Let Senator Blunt's office know if there is a particular item you want them to track. Anticipating the Healthcare score this week.

Howard Fisk reinforced that the Senators have continued productive educational initiatives particularly in rural areas.

Congressman Long's Office –Jeremy Pruett

The House has passed the Healthcare bill and the next initiative will be Tax Reform. The savings for the healthcare bill will be beneficial for Tax Reform. Congressman Long is pushing to develop an Infrastructure Bill. He thinks there can be a consensus from both sides of the aisle. Working on commuting programs and internet availability to assist students in rural areas.

Business

Financial Report (Jan- March) - Jason Ray

The board was provided a quarterly report of the budget to actual of SMCOG revenues and expenses. At the end of March there was a fund balance of \$16,562. Jason provided a review of the entire budget. SMCOG Member and Associate Member dues were higher than anticipated. State grant amounts are under performing due to legislature cuts, but remain in next fiscal year's budget; therefore should increase back to original. Expenses: Full Time salaries and fringe are significantly lower but Part Time salaries are significantly higher due to staffing changes but both remain within the budgeted amounts. Operational: Printer and printing charges have increased but the office is expecting to purchase a new printer for the fiscal year.

Cindy Stephens motioned to approve the 3rd quarter financial report and Dennis Pyle seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Discussion of SMCOG FY2018 Budget & Approval – Jason Ray

The Board was provided a budget proposal for the next fiscal year, which included anticipated revenues and expenses. Anticipated Revenues: Jason provided a list of expected projects for the new fiscal year that outlined SMCOG projects and CRPM project, which will have to separate budgets starting July 1st. An explanation of the new and correct indirect rate, which changed from 40.5% to 32%. Therefore, old projects will retain at the old negotiated rate, but the new projects will adopt the correct indirect rate. Also, a brief description of the F Indirect account was provided, and explains how the account is used to pay for administrative positions and to pay toward the SMCOG deficit owned to MSU. Expenses: Salaries: The Executive Director's salary will be covered 100% by SMCOG projects. It was explained that Megan Clark is ¾ time and will be provided retirement benefits. Operating Expenses Increases in printing and postages are expected and all other expenses are on par to previous actual expenses. If everything goes accordingly the budget will be balanced.

Nancy Edson motioned to approve the new budget and John Benson seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Approval of SMCOG By-Laws Changes - Jason Ray

At the last meeting in March, the board was presented with edited By-laws that included removing gender specific titles, voting benefits for associate members, meeting notice and budget requirements are staff's responsibility, and designating alternates for voting rights. Fiscal year policy reflects state statute requirements, and Dissolution of the Council clause was added in order to gain board insurance.

Cindy Stephens motioned to approve the updated SMCOG By-Laws and Howard Fisk seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

SMCOG/MSU Operating Agreement - Jason Ray

Missouri State's attorney wanted to review the Operation Agreement again, which will postpone an approval until June. The Operating Agreement includes authority of SMCOG to have ownership of purchased property with grant funds that come through, etc. If approved in June the Operating Agreement will be effect 7/1/17.

Nominating Committee

A written report from the nominating committee included Nominations for Officers, Executive Committee, Non-governmental, and appointment of the Transportation Advisory Committee. The role of the nominating committee is to find individuals who attend board meetings and are involved in SMCOG. It was noted that TAC appointments could change depending on the adoption of the TAC policy which was next on the agenda. Mike Randal submitted his resignation from the City of Aurora, which leaves a vacancy for Lawrence County. By-laws state voting takes place in June but historically the vote has taken place in May because Nominating Committee has brought it forward in May so you could have a month to review it, but no one had a problem with it and the vote would occur. Jason said that you could vote on it now, with the caveat that the TAC members could change after our next conversation on TAC policy or you can vote on it next month.

Nancy Edson asked that due to the order of the agenda the board is operating under old rules; therefore, will nominations be accepted on the floor? Since the new TAC policy had not been adopted the nomination was allowed. Nancy Edson then made the following nomination, *“The City of Rogersville nominates Nancy Edson for TAC Membership due to lack of attendance and representation for the rest of Webster County.”* The nomination was seconded by Howard Fisk.

Discussion was held on attendance policy and past attendance. The current Webster County attendance was questioned and it was confirmed there were excused personal absences and 1 un-excused absence was recorded.

It was asked if discussion could be had regarding the motion. A discussion was held to determine the motion of the addition of a third name to the TAC membership. It was asked why the TAC policy was after the nominating committee discussion on the agenda and the response was the TAC policy was expected to be a longer conversation.

Webster County’s Stan Whitehurst provided explanation for the Webster County attendance concern and assured the issue is being addressed and their representative has changed day off in order to attend.

The motion to add Nancy Edson’s name to the list of nominees for Webster County TAC membership was carried.

Dennis Wood then asked if it was decided when the Board would be voting on the nominees for the 2017 SMCOG Board and TAC.

John Benson motioned to continue the Nominating Committee Report until the June Board meeting in lieu of acting on the TAC policy changes. Seconded by Howard Fisk. Motion carried.

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Policy- Jason Ray

An explanation of the TAC and its responsibilities was given for those who were new to SMCOG. The proposed new changes to TAC Policy were explained and discussion of the new policy was held. One change was to have a representative from the two geographic areas of each county. (East, West or North, South) Some were not in favor of this provision due to possible residency issues, etc. and felt that the counties could handle who would be best as far as representation.

Stan Whitehurst motioned to remove the geographic district requirement from the membership section. It was seconded by Howard Fisk. Motion carried.

Another new proposed revision was to have an alternate from each county with the alternate voting when one of the two regular representatives could not attend. It included that a 24 hour notice would need to be given to the SMCOG staff and alternate, notifying them of their absence at a TAC meeting. Some members did not agree with that provision.

A motion was made by Stan Whitehurst to amend Article E, section 2 to read: "failure to attend 2 regularly scheduled meetings." "The meeting schedule shall be sent annually at the beginning of the TAC members' terms." Motion seconded by Howard Fisk. Motion carried.

TAC policy changes:

- Each county shall be represented by two members. Each municipality in a county may nominate one person and submit that nomination to the county commission. The county commission will select two official representatives to submit to the SMCOG Board of Directors for approval. The county commission shall also select one alternate member to serve as a proxy in the event one of the representatives cannot attend a meeting. The alternate may represent the county as a whole.
- TAC members shall serve for a term of one year. Members shall be appointed annually in June by the SMCOG Board of Directors. Members may serve successive terms. If a member is an official whose elected or appointed position term ends while serving on the TAC, then a replacement representative may be submitted by the responsible council or commission for approval by the SMCOG Board of Directors.
- The Southwest Missouri Council of Governments Board of Directors may rescind the membership of a TAC appointee for good cause by a simple majority vote. Good cause includes the following: (1) Failure to follow procedures of the TAC as established by the Council. (2) Failure to attend two (2) regularly scheduled meetings; the meeting schedule shall be sent annually at the beginning of TAC members' terms

A motion by Dennis Wood to accept the TAC policy as amended was made and seconded by Rick Davis. Motion carried.

Program/Project Reports

Transportation Planning/Programs – Jason Ray for Megan Clark

- **Regional Prioritization Process:** TAC will begin the 2017 regional prioritization process next month. The process was discussed at last week's TAC meeting and determined that this year's process will be more data driven. The top three needs from each county will be presented to the TAC and ranked for regional priority. Road and bridge needs will be prioritized at the July 12 TAC meeting and bike/ped needs at the August 16 meeting. A reminder **to please submit any needs surveys before June 1**, so they can be incorporated into the county list prior to county meetings. Be expecting an email or phone call from Megan to set up a time to meet with the County Commission, or if no additional needs are submitted and the Commission feels the list is accurate as is, please let Megan know that no meeting is necessary.
- **DRAFT STIP:** Megan has provided a summary document of the MoDOT SW District STIP, highlighting SMCOG's needs and projects in our region. Public comment on the draft STIP should be submitted to MoDOT by June 2. They expect the STIP to be approved at the June 29th Commission meeting. It is important to note that there are numerous SW District Urban projects programmed that will also benefit the SMCOG region.

Hazard Mitigation Plans:

- **Lawrence County:** Lawrence County is underway, with the second meeting being held next week. A reminder to all jurisdictions in Lawrence County that participation is important in order to provide access to hazard mitigation funding through SEMA.
- **Taney County:** MOAs have officially been approved by SEMA. Staff will be contacting Taney County Emergency Management in the upcoming week to set a preliminary meeting and setting up a timeline for the plan update. The Taney County HMP expires January 17, 2018.
- **Stone County:** MOAs have officially been approved by SEMA. Staff will be contacting Stone County Emergency Management in the upcoming week to set a preliminary meeting and setting up timeline for the plan update. The Stone County HMP expires May 17, 2018.

Clever Comprehensive Plan:

The Clever Comprehensive Plan was officially approved by the Board of Alderman on Tuesday, 5/16/17.

Public hearings for the Governor's Commission on Simple, Fair and Low Taxes: The commission will be holding a public hearing on June 7 from 4-6 p.m. at:

Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, Main Conference Room
202 South John Q Hammons Pkway
Springfield, MO

The commission is looking at items such as the use of tax credits. If your community has experience with using tax credits for development, etc. you may want to attend or provide written testimony.

Flood Damage: Just a reminder to let us know about any flood damage, road closures, etc. We would like to track that information and assist in any way possible. May be able to help with getting assistance from State agencies if disaster declaration occurs.

FMA NOIs: SEMA has stated that they are still looking for NOIs for the Flood Mitigation Assistance program. Staff can help connect to the right people at SEMA or assist with the NOIs if the information is readily available. There are some specific requirements in order to apply, including participation in the county Hazard Mitigation Plan. We have been working with the Village of Bull Creek and a possible NOI.

Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA): Your jurisdictions should be getting a packet from the U.S. Census Bureau regarding participation in LUCA. It is important to note that LUCA is not mandatory, but does help ensure that the census has accurate data and addresses for where to send the census forms. Getting accurate census data is extremely important as it impacts several items including House of Representatives seats and funding access. For more information go to Census.gov.

Homeland Security - Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren

FY15 is approaching finalization

FY16 sub agreements have been returned and purchasing has begun.

FY17 application deadline has been extended to June 19th. New project scoring will be in July.

Grant Writing and Administration - Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren

Marshfield Senior Center grant administration will be closed out completely by the end of June. Fair Grove Senior Center construction will start in August.

DNR- Jason Ray

An onsite Septic Tank Project has been funded through the end of July for repairs after the recent floods. Jane Hood will be sending a press release again and information to the Board.

Member Announcements

Pleasant Hope was presented with the CICI Community Impact Award.

Next SMCOG Meeting will be held June 28th 2017.

Adjourn

Rick Davis motioned and Howard Fisk seconded. Motion Carried.

Todd Wiesehan, Secretary/Treasurer

Date Approved