



**SOUTHWEST MISSOURI COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, July 14, 2020**  
**3:00 p.m.**  
**Zoom Call**

**ATTENDEES:** Chris Coulter, Cindy Stephens, Dennis Pyle, Bill Monday, Mark Maples, Todd Wiesehan, Duane Lavery, Jane Hood and Jason Ray

**1. Open Meeting**

Chris Coulter

**2. Approval of July 14, 2020 Agenda**

*Motion made by Steve Childers and seconded by Duane Lavery to approve the July 14, 2020 Agenda.  
Motion carried.*

**3. Approval of May 12, 2020 Minutes**

*Motion made by Steve Childers and seconded by Mark Maples to approve the May 12, 2020 Minutes.  
Motion carried.*

**4. Approval of the May 21, 2020 Minutes**

*Motion made by Steve Childers and seconded by Mark Maples to approve the May 21, 2020 Minutes.  
Motion carried.*

**5. Discussion of Market Study Funds** – Jason Ray

EDA suggested that we set aside \$65,000 of the CARES Act Funding from EDA, (\$400,000 over the next 2 years), for a few market studies throughout the region. We wanted the Executive Committee to discuss the process for determining where the market studies should occur. Two economic indicator trackers are being looked at also. Opportunity Insights Tracker and Tracktherecovery.org, (which tracks the economic impact of COVID-19). Discussion held. Duane Lavery mentioned the Associated Electric has completed a Powers for Progress study that was conducted by Janet Ady of Ady Advantage. We will ask Lynne Shea with Associated Electric if they can share the study with us.

**6. Approval of CEDS Committee** – Jason Ray

Jason sent out the CEDS Committee list. A CEDS Committee is required by EDA since we have now been approved for the Planning Grant. This list covers a variety of individuals from the entire region. The CEDS Committee will be tasked with updating the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies every 5 years. Cindy Stephens said she thought it was an impressive list of individuals  
*Motion made by Cindy Stephens and seconded by Steve Childers to approve the CEDS Committee.  
Motion carried.*

## **7. Programs Updates** – Jason Ray

- The Governor vetoed HB 1854 today.
- Jason gave an update on SMOG staffing situation. We received 60 applications. Brandon Jenson has been promoted to Associate Planner. Making offer to grant writer/administrator today. Will be making an offer shortly to a transportation planner. Also hiring for a Senior Planner.
- Have received 60 day extension for Christian and Webster County Hazard Mitigation Plans. Just waiting on some action sheets from some jurisdictions.
- Scoring meeting tomorrow in Mt. Vernon for Homeland Security.
- Received letter from EDA saying we have tentatively been awarded \$3 Million to go towards the Branson wastewater treatment plant flood proofing wall which is a \$10 million project. Funds from CBDG will be assisting with the project.
- VISTA has pulled the plug on their program. Will Mansfield will be leaving after the end of this year.
- SMCOG be doing a Comp Plan for the city of Branson in 2021.  
About to kick off the Nixa Comprehensive Plan and Battlefield.  
Billings needs have a public hearing and adopt their Comp Plan.  
Have plan proposals for Christian County and city of Aurora.
- DNR 604B program has opened up their program for communities under 20,000.
- Chris Coulter asked if we know how other counties will be spending their CARES Act funding. Lengthy discussion followed on how the different counties are spending those funds.

## **7. Other Business** – Jason Ray

None

## **8. Adjourn**

Motion made by Dennis Pyle and seconded by Cindy Stephens to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.