



Southwest Missouri
Council of Governments

Enhancing the quality of our communities through regional cooperation

**Southwest Missouri Council of Governments
Annual Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 23, 2013
8:00 a.m.
Watershed Center at Valley Water Mill Park
Springfield, MO**

Attendance

Members:

Jim Viebrock, Greene County
Richard Harralson, Pleasant Hope
Garrett Anderson, Branson
Ed Westerman, Clever
Ken Owens, Seymour
Stan Whitehurst, Webster County
Tim Smith, Greene County
J. Howard Fisk, Fisk Transportation
Brian Daugherty, Mid-Missouri Bank
Max Springer, Mt. Vernon
Nancy Edson, Rogersville
Todd Wiesehan, Christian County
Dennis Wood, Stone County
Cindy Stephens, OTC

Partners/Guests:

Steve McIntosh, Senator Blunt's Office
Bill Cheek, MSU
Stacy Burks, Senator Blunt's Office
Gail Melgren, Senator McCaskill's Office
Tammy Jahnke, MSU
Mary Ann Rojas, Ozark Region WIB
Jered Taylor, Congressman Billy Long's Office
Andy Mueller, MoDOT
Ronda Long, Solid Waste District O
Valerie Robinson, MoDNR
Bruce Hively, USDA Rural Development
Andrew Seiler, MoDOT

Staff:

Diane May
Jane Hood
Dan Watts
Dave Faucett
Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren
Derek Wu
Lynda Jochims

Open Meeting

Guest Speaker: "50 Shades of Recycling"—Tim Smith, PE

Mr. Tim Smith, Chairman of the Solid Waste management, District O spoke about the various activities in District O throughout the past years.

**Following Breakfast Buffet, Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance – Chris Coulter
Introductions and Announcements—Chris Coulter**

Approval of October 23, 2013 Meeting Agenda—Chris Coulter

Nancy Edson motioned and Cindy Stephens seconded to approve the October 23, 2013 agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of June 26, 2013 Meeting Minutes—Chris Coulter

Todd Wiesehan motioned and Garrett Anderson seconded to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2013 meeting. Motion carried.

Legislative Reports

Senator McCaskill's Office—Gail Melgren

On the federal level, affordable health care is continuing to be the largest issue. Senator McCaskill furloughed all but 5 staffers in her office.

Senator Blunt's Office—Stacy Burks/Steve McIntosh

Mr. McIntosh reported that work in D.C. is deadlocked and hopes for more bipartisanship starting in January. He reported on the Water Resource Development Act. It is expected that it will deal with some issues regarding Table Rock Lake. It is expected to move through the house next week.

Ms. Burks reported that the continuing resolution expires January 15th and the debt-ceiling expires in February. She reported that flooding assistance is tied up in the Farm Bill.

Business

Financial Report – June through September, 2013--Diane May

SMCOG still has a small deficit to carry forward. August and September numbers show where we are at the beginning of the new fiscal year. The deficit is \$16,970. This number does not include the carry over. No invoicing went out over the summer and there is no local match included. Normally we would invoice on a monthly basis but MSU financial staff is incredibly busy. If CDBG money had been invoiced we would be on par for the year. The EDA grant is still on hold because we don't have the 50/50 local match for the grant.

Annual Report—Chris Coulter

The annual report will be sent out via email. Diane May gave a report that highlighted what SMCOG staff have been working on. The Hazard Mitigation plans are back on track including approval of Polk, Lawrence, and Dallas County being submitted. Dade County will be submitted in the next couple of weeks. Dave Faucett has been making progress on the Broadband Now plan and the CDBG grant putting together a Land Suitability Analysis.

Partner Agency Updates

USDA-Rural Development, Bruce Hively
USDA is back and working.

MoDNR— Valerie Robinson

Staff is working on a review of local streams broken down by county.

This past May, Spring River Watershed Conference took place. It was a large success. The department is looking at the next watershed for the next watershed initiative.

MoDOT SW District—Andrew Seiller

MoDOT is working with the Planning Partners on the "On the Move" initiative. We are focusing on multi-modes. SMCOG is working on the county meetings currently. MoDOT is currently working on an ADA plan. The design/build process for Rte 60 in Rogersville has been approved by the Highway Commission.

Ozark Region Workforce Investment Board—Mary Ann Rojas

Unemployment has been stable for the past year. We are about 7.4% right now. We see many people come through each year and we trained around 330 people last year. ORWIB just completed their board

retreat and it was a great success. WIB is focusing on outreach this year and its employer relationships this year. They are also focusing on budget issues.

Adjourn

Cindy Stephens, Secretary/Treasurer

Date Approved