



*Enhancing the quality of our communities through regional cooperation*

**Southwest Missouri Council of Governments  
Board of Directors Meeting Notice  
Wednesday, March 29, 2017  
9:00 a.m.**

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

### **Attendance**

#### **Members:**

Angela Leist, City of Forsyth  
Chris Hopkins, City of Billings  
Steve Bodenhamer, City of Strafford  
Steve Childers, City of Ozark  
Dennis Pyle, City of Monett  
Mike Randall, City of Aurora  
Chris Berndt, SMESO  
Dana Louderbaugh, City of Fair Grove  
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  
Chis Coulter, Greene County  
Doris Rapp, City of Marionville  
Chris Murphy, City of Marionville  
Nancy, Edson, City of Rogersville  
Allen Kunkel, MSU  
Roger Bradley, Dallas County  
Holli Elliot, Dallas County  
Gale Noggle, City of Bolivar  
Rick Davis, Polk County

#### **Partners and Guests:**

Joelle Cannon- Senator Blunt's Office  
David Stokely- Senator McCaskill's Office  
Jeremy Pruett- Congressman Long's Office  
Suzanne Murphy,-USDA Rural Development  
Dennis Wiggins- City of Springfield Career Center  
Amanda Bybee,-Trek Design Group  
John Forrester- Allgeier, Martin, & Associates  
Sara Fields- Ozarks Transportation  
Frank Miller- MoDOT  
Justin Coyan- SREP, Springfield Chamber of Commerce

#### **Staff:**

Jason Ray  
Jane Hood  
Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren  
Megan Clark  
Simon Nogin  
Theresa Moncrief  
Jared Follin, Intern  
Brandon Jensen, Intern

## **Open Business Meeting**

### **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance—Steve Childers**

### **Introductions and Announcements— Steve Childers**

### **Approval of March 29, 2017 Meeting Agenda— Steve Childers**

*Dana Louderbaugh motioned and Howard Fisk seconded to approve the agenda for the March 29, 2017 meeting. Motion Carried.*

### **Approval of January 25, 2017 Meeting Minutes— Steve Childers**

*Dana Louderbaugh motioned and Dennis Pyle seconded to approve the minutes for the January 25, 2017 meeting. Motion Carried.*

## **Legislative Reports**

### **SMCOG- Jason Ray**

Jason wanted to acknowledge and appreciate the response to the board meeting time and date changes. He attended the NADO policy conference in Washington DC for discussions regarding the President's Budget blueprint for FY18, and meetings with Congresswoman Hartzler, Congressman Long, and Senator Blunt. The meetings were productive and targeted areas were the budget on how Congress will continue to fund the current FY and how to save the current, EDA, CDBG, FEMA Pre-Disaster Programs and USDA Water programs as well as smaller programs. Good relationship building meetings. Thank you to local district staff for helping set up those meetings.

Jane Hood and Jason Ray attended the Springfield Area Salute to Legislators in Jefferson City, which was an opportunity to meet with State Legislators and network with them and other organizations.

Planner's Day at the Capitol was facilitated on 2/1/17 to interact with State Legislators and we were introduced on the both the House and Senate Floors.

### **Senator McCaskill's Office – David Stokely**

The proposed budget will eliminate grant programs and will be detrimental to counties and will negatively affect the State budget. Senator McCaskill is strongly committed to rural communities but the budget cuts will devastate rural America. She will continue to fight hard for these serious issues. Contact the Senator's office if there are issues that are impacting your community.

### **Senator Blunt's Office – Joelle Cannon**

Joelle provided a different viewpoint on the budget and reassured the budget is just a proposal. She said she previously worked on Budget for 12 years and only one year did she see a cut in total spending. The most important focus should be the spending bill. She asked to continue to notify her ahead of time as to which programs you are using and are helping the most. Senator Blunt sets on the Appropriation Committee and is Chairman of Health and Human Services and Education. Anything that falls under those areas, he will have direct involvement. The Senate is doing Congressional reviews for pulling back proposed regulations. For the next few weeks the concentration will be Supreme Court nominee. There is currently not an infrastructure bill, but be thinking of what your community priorities are should there be one. There is no money for jails or buildings.

### **Congressman Long's Office –Jeremy Pruett**

Expressed the Congressman's disappointment in pulling the Healthcare Bill. No new communication regarding another Healthcare Bill at this time. The next focus is Tax Reform and are optimistic that progress will be made with tax reform. Mr. Pruett reaffirmed that the discussion about healthcare reform has

been postponed.

## **New Business**

### **SMCOG/ CRPM Budget Separation - Jason Ray**

Several work sessions were conducted with the MSU Financial Services Staff and the SMCOG Executive Board to discuss how to separate the two budgets. The CRPM budget has only 3 projects, which is a lease payment from Missouri Department of Conservation that leases office space, an administrative contract with APA Missouri Chapter, and a Comprehensive plan with Village of Four Seasons at Lake of the Ozarks which is not within the SMCOG region. We are helping out the other COG on this.

The University has set up a new organization code and budget for CRPM. An actual separation of the 2 budgets will take place in FY 18. Also, MSU has encouraged bringing additional project revenues to CRPM, which will include utilizing new faculty members to help enhance CRPM projects.

In addition, SMCOG budget has never paid for the Executive Director position. It has always come out of the Universities budget. The University had given us 3 years to come up with a way to cover that. With the State cuts to the University, we now have a year to make these changes. We have identified a process to pay the Executive Director's salary through SMCOG programs. At this time that would be about 50% covered. We hope to capture all of it by next year. It will show that SMCOG is self-sustaining.

Also, SMCOG has 12 new local government members and 2 new associate members.

For FY18 the by-laws state there should be budget committee. Last year's committee ended up deferring it to the Executive Committee. A discussion was held regarding who should create the SMCOG budget (Budget committee vs Executive committee). Nancy Edson suggested that if anyone wanted to be a part of working on the Budget that they could do so with the Executive Committee. Steve Childers welcomed that.

*Howard Fisk motioned for the Executive Committee to assume responsibility for creating the budget and John Benson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motioned carried.*

### **Review of SMCOG Proposed By-Laws Changes – Jason Ray**

The changes to the SMCOG By-Laws which were worked on by the By-Laws Committee were presented and it was encouraged to review the By-laws and provide any questions or feedback. One change was the addition of an inclusion clause in order to purchase insurance. The vote of the By-laws will be at the next meeting.

### **MACOG By-Laws Resolution- Jason Ray**

The MACOG Board of Directors are requesting SMCOG to approve changes to MACOG By-Laws. Their by-laws require that a majority of the 19 RPC's pass a resolution to make changes to their by-laws. *Ed Westerman motioned for the approval of the MACOG By-Laws and Todd Wiesehan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion Carried*

### **SMCOG/MSU Operating Agreement - Jason Ray**

The major changes include removal of Diane May as the Executive Director. In addition, concerns were expressed with how SMCOG works with the university regarding EDA programs. Jason met with EDA in Denver and discussed how we operate with the University. EDA appears to feel more comfortable with our operation. One major change in the Operating Agreement is anything purchased by SMCOG (equipment, computers, etc.) becomes property of SMCOG rather than MSU; however, the university will continue to provide IT services and Telecommunications. The article regarding independent contractors was removed and SMCOG retains rights to any intellectual properties. The approval will be voted on at the May meeting.

### **Nominating Committee**

Nominations for Officers, Executive Committee, Non-governmental, and Transportation Advisory Committee. The role of the nominating committee is to find individuals who attend board meetings and are involved in SMCOG. The following people volunteered:

1. Nancy Edson
2. Howard Fisk
3. Dana Louderbaugh
4. Rick Davis

### **Program/Project Reports**

#### **New SMCOG Website (smcog.org) - Simon Nogin**

The domain name has changed because the university will no longer host external sites. Simon displayed the website updates and highlights.

#### **Transportation Planning/Programs - Megan Clark**

Jason Ray and Megan Clark attended a MODOT Planning Partners Meeting which was very educational. Some new programs regarding Phone Down - Buckle Up programs. Got a good run down on the projected budget funding. A potential Federal infrastructure bill if proposed could possibly not be utilized due MODOT not being able to match federal funds. Anticipating responses for the transportation surveys. Please share the surveys on your local websites. The Transportation Prioritization list will be moved up to October. So TAC process will begin in the next couple of months.

#### **Homeland Security - Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren**

FY15 reallocated \$45,000 for remaining projects

FY16 has only spent \$10,000

FY17 applications are now available

#### **Grant Writing and Administration - Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren**

Marshfield Senior Center is completed and the close out was last week. The Grand opening will be in June.

The Osage Nation wanted a Cultural Resource Survey completed and the MSU Archeological department were able to assist in the completion of finding and preserving artifacts.

Completion of the CDBG application for the Buffalo Center is due Monday.

#### **Hazard Mitigation Planning – Jason Ray**

In 2017, SMCOG has six Hazard Mitigation Projects that have been funded through SEMA and FEMA. Are anticipating utilizing student interns to help meet project deadlines.

#### **Other Activities- Jason Ray**

Jane Hood and Simon Nogin worked on a DNR wastewater plan for the City of Miller, which had a \$12,000 budget and was all spent by 2/28/17. This was funded by DNR. Currently working on the Clever and Fair Grove Comprehensive plans. Received James River Watershed Plan contracts. We will be doing the administration and will be partnered with JRBP, OWW and OEWRI. Will be completing a Bolivar Sidewalk project.

**Partner Updates**

**Suzanne Murphy– USDA – Rural Development**

Working under a continuing resolution. Funds are available for loans and grants. If interested please contact USDA offices.

**MoDOT SW District – Frank Miller**

Bringing back the Cost Share Program. If you are interested please let them know. Will be 50/50. Summer construction projects in Lawrence County, Webster County ,Ozark Mountain Highroad, etc. Check MoDOT website. The Phones Down - Buckle Up initiative will focus on the increase of causalities and decrease in injuries. MoDOT employees cannot use phones at all while driving.

**Ozarks Transportation Organization – Sara Fields**

Regional Trail Plans with connecting downtown to downtown will be completed by end of July or early August. Public meetings in April. Ozarkscommute.com (carpooling website) is operating again, and there is a new sign up on the website. A flyer will be emailed to promote the ride-sharing program.

**Ozark Region Workforce Investment Board – Dennis Wiggins**

Ozarks Promise Healthcare grant is moving forward with approval. Momentum Event was a success and survey results have been received. On April 4<sup>th</sup> the North Cox Career Center will have a hiring event.

**Member Announcements**

Hank Smythe will be replacing Dennis Wood as Stone County’s Representative since Dennis will not be seeking re-election next year.

A reminder to vote in the upcoming April 4<sup>th</sup> Election.

Megan Clark was recognized for a writing a Blog post regarding legislative efforts in Jefferson City.

Weather Warning from EMS

Next SMOG Meeting will be held May 24, 2017

**Adjourn**

*Dana Louderbaugh motioned and Nancy Edson seconded to adjourn. Motion Carried.*

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Todd Wiesehan, Secretary/Treasurer

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Date Approved