



**Southwest Missouri
Council of Governments**

**Southwest Missouri Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 25, 2010
9:00 a.m.
Library Station, Frisco Room
Springfield, MO**

Attendance

Members:

Ken Bacon
John Homer
Howard Fisk
Cindy Stephens
Allen Kunkle
Billy Dryer
Cy Murray
Mike Chipman
Garrett Anderson
Ed Westerman
Bill Marshall
John Rice
Ron Mersch
Dana Louderbaugh
Nancy J. Edson
Bill Monday
Tony Stonezafer

Guests/Partner Agencies:

Candace Adams
Jeff Seifried
David Rauch
Chris Berndt
Valerie Robinson
Steve McIntosh
Stacy Burks
Eric Kellstadt
Dawne Gardner
Gary Tate
Bill Cheek

Staff:

Jane Hood
Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren
Diane May
Dave Faucett
Dan Watts

Open Meeting

Ken Bacon called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of August 25, 2010 Agenda

Howard Fisk moved and Cindy Stephens seconded to approve the August 25, 2010 agenda. Motion Carried.

Approval of June 23, 2010 Minutes

Mike Chipman moved and Howard Fisk seconded motion to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2010 meeting. Motion carried.

Legislative Reports***David Rauch, Senator Claire McCaskill's Office***

Mr. Rauch reminded the board that Senator McCaskill would be holding a roundtable meeting at the Library Center in the morning and in Mount Vernon in the afternoon of August 26th. The Senate and Congress are in recess. When they return the Bush tax cuts will be on the agenda.

Stacy Burks, Senator Kit Bond's Office

The EPA delayed finding on ground-level ozone. EPA is going to also include biomass in the consideration of Ozone. The Senator held a conference on biomass recently. Also of note, the USDA community facilities loans could be gone with the money potentially being reallocated for Medicare. A couple of projects that were de-obligated have lost funding.

Steve McIntosh, Congressman Blunt's Office

The tax cuts will be big on the agenda after the recess. Congressman Blunt supported making those cuts permanent in the past and still supports that. The immigration bill and appropriations bills are questionable whether they will be addressed in the next session.

Business Meeting***Appointment of New CEDS Members—Ken Bacon***

Marsha Wallace—Economic Development Director for Empire District Electric
Garret Anderson—Economic Development Director for the City of Branson

Cindy Stephens moved and Dana Louderbaugh seconded to accept the new CEDS members. Motion carried.

Financial Report, April /June 2010—Diane May Appointment of Executive Committee

At the present time, until the end of June, we are in good standing. We still have invoices that need to be entered. On the hazard mitigation plans we can't invoice for any more funds until we get the in-kind participation records to SEMA. The first page of the Financial Report handout includes Homeland Security funds and the second page it is not included. We are currently showing more income than expenses.

Bill Monday moved and Ed Westerman seconded to accept the April-June financial report. Motion carried.

Authorize Application for Annual State Grant for FY-11—Ken Bacon

The grant will be about half of what it was last year. This year it will be around \$4,500-\$4,700. We use this money to match the various grants. We match this grant dollar for dollar with membership fees. This money will go to the transportation grant match this year.

Nancy Edson moved and Dana Louderbaugh seconded to authorize application for the Annual State Grant for FY-11. Motion Carried.

EDA Program FY-11—Diane May

We were informed that we will not be invited to participate in the EDA program for next year due to late reporting. We are submitting an appeal of this decision detailing the changes we have made to this program to bring us into compliance. We have not heard back regarding the decision. Currently we are completing the program for this year, however, if we are not invited to participate for next year we will try to continue the services of the program. This could affect the number of students we can hire.

Transportation Report—Dan Watts

We are still working on the Barry County low-water bridge inventory. Plans are to finish up the project in late October. Stacey Macdonald is working on sidewalk inventory in Polk County. She is currently designing a survey for communities in Polk County. We have been invited to serve on the subcommittee for transportation funding for MACOG. This committee examines the formula for distributing funds to the various RPCs/COGs around the state. The TAC held its prioritization meeting at the August meeting. We will have the final results for the October meeting. There are also enhancement funds that will be available soon.

Homeland Security Regionalization Program—Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren

There is approximately \$200,000 remaining from the 2008 money which was reallocated at the July meeting. About half of the 2009 money has been spent. Most of the money that has been spent is for the full-time positions, CERT and a couple of exercises. We will send out an email that details where this money has been spent. The 2010 money is not official as of yet, but we have been told unofficially that we will be receiving approximately \$877,000. The M&A (administrative fees) will increase from 3% to 4%. An audit has been completed at the Office of Homeland Security (OHS) for the 2005 and 2006 funds and some issues on the details for reporting were raised. We were told that the program will continue for about 3-5 years with little to no cuts. OHS has suggested that the regions eventually will need to hire someone to write a regional strategic plan to mirror the State plan.

Economic Development Planning Program—Jane Hood

The Municipal Officials Training workshop was held on July 29. We partnered with OREP, the University of Missouri Extension and the Greene County Mayors Association. We had about 50 in attendance. We will hold a workshop in September for the Missouri Location One. This is a system that industry officials can log into to get information about communities and available office/industrial buildings and sites. We are partnering with MEDC and OREP on this training. We are in discussions to have an EPA-lead

base paint workshop. We are also looking into a workshop on Enhanced Enterprise Zones. We have put together a template for the Website Assistance Program. We are using the Google format.

Director's Report—Diane May

MACOG Activities Update

Jane Hood has been attending MACOG meetings. Hazard Mitigation funds have now been released by FEMA. Applications are being processed. MACOG has a contract to do the Hazard Mitigation plans for the Electric Coops.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates Status

We are still waiting for agency action on the Webster County Hazard Mitigation Plan. We are seeking an extension on the Polk and Dallas County plans due to the other plans not being reviewed and the issues across the state with all the plans.

Water Quality 604B Grant Status Update

The surveys have been sent out to communities that have a population of 5,000 or less. We have about 50% of the surveys returned. This project is on time and progressing well.

Other Business

The annual meeting for the Homeland Security will be October 20th. All equipment purchased will be on display. Last year we had over 200 people in attendance. Additionally we will be having our annual breakfast meeting, October 27th.

Partner Agency Reports

Valerie Robinson, MoDNR

As a result of budget concerns we have had some decreases in personnel. The good news is that we have been able to hire two engineers back for wastewater. We have had great attendance at our wastewater workshops.

Dawne Gardner, MoDOT District 8

On the state side, Route 76 ADA improvements have been let. Estimated cost was \$679,000 and bids came in at \$345,000. Coming up in September, we are letting a project in Republic on 174 we are partnering with District 7. Enhancement funds for this round are \$1.5 million for rural projects in District 8, but project timelines are very tight.

Eric Kellstadt, MoDOT District 7

Lettings for District 7 include Lawrence County Route H from I-44 to Cleveland Street in Monett and Route 96 between YY and UU. In November, bridge lettings in Lawrence County Route 60 over Spring River and Dade County letting on Route Y over Stockton Lake. There is \$1.9 million available for District 7 enhancement funds this round.

Tim Conklin, Ozarks Transportation Organization

We continue to monitor the EPA regulations on Clean Air. We called MoDNR and spoke with Tiffany Drake regarding the postponement of the announcement. It will be late September or October before they will be down in our area to discuss this issue. The counties affected in our area are portions of Greene, Christian, Stone and Taney counties. We are currently still under 70 ppm in our region.

Candy Adams, SEMA

The Homeland Security grant process is working well and we are spending all the money. On October 13th, SEMA will hold a New Madrid Fault earthquake table top exercise. This is for 18 counties. We will examine what the rolls will be if the fault goes. This will be from 10am to 2pm at the E-plex. This is all in preparation for the major exercise in May 2011. This will be an all week exercise that will simulate a 7.7 level earthquake.

Gary Tate, Missouri Career Center, Ozark Region

We have added a fourth location for the mobile career center in Crane. We have continued success at the Bolivar center. June 2010 unemployment for Springfield was 8.4%, June of 2009 was 9.4%. For Branson in June 2010 it was 9.9% in June 2009 it was 9.4%.

Jeff Seifried of OREP announced the addition of Expedia and the addition of 500 additional jobs for the region. The Springfield Chamber has just hired Rob Dixon. You may see him at the SMCOG Board meetings.

Meeting Adjourned.

Cindy Stephens, Secretary/Treasurer

Date Approved