

MINUTES

JOINT MEETING OF THE OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION, THE OZARK FOOTHILLS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, THE OZARK FOOTHILLS SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT COUNCIL & ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE RIPLEY COUNTY PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY

**AUGUST 27, 2020
EAGLE POINT PAVILION, WAPPAPELLO LAKE**

6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Chairman Brian Polk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

The minutes of the meeting held June 11, 2020 and financial statements for the quarter ending June 30, 2020, were reviewed. Commissioner Jesse Roy made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2020 meeting and quarterly financial statements. Mayor Dennis Cox seconded. No opposition. Motion carried

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Coordinator Andrew Murphy reported that there was a TAC meeting held in July and TAC did a county-wide prioritization of projects. MODOT would not let the counties roll over their priorities, also, MODOT did not do their State-wide transportation improvement program due to Covid-19 and financial concerns. Andrew further reported that TAC organizes about 45 projects to be prioritized, 15 in multi modal, 15 in maintenance and 15 in projects. Of those 45, 42 stayed the same. Andrew advised we are essentially turning the same list over to MODOT that we did last year. MODOT is still trying to figure out their financial forecast and hoping to know financials possibly after Labor Day. Andrew has the list of the 45 projects if anyone would like to see them.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Recycling Center Supervisor, Jamie Lansford reported that cardboard prices are dropping again. Supervisor Lansford further reported that volume of plastic is good but there is a limited market.

Prices are up on newspaper and white paper but the Center is not receiving much of either from the communities.

Director Jones reported on the OFSWMD Annual Report to DNR. In Fiscal year 2020 we diverted 688 tons of recyclables from the landfills and despite the decrease in revenues, it is actually an increase in tonnage of recyclables from the previous fiscal year. In the previous fiscal year, we diverted 673 tons. Other than that, OFSWMD Annual Report was the same as previous years.

A Motion to approve Board Resolution #OFSWMD-2020-01 to approve the Annual Report was made by Commissioner Jesse Roy and seconded by Commissioner Ron Keeney; all board members approved. With no opposition, the resolution was adopted.

OZARK FOOTHILLS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Director Jones informed the group that not much has changed on the Business Incubator Report since our last meeting. We have one incubator space now available. TRC rented one of the two of the last remaining spaces in July and they will be doing some advanced manufacturing training for employees in the Poplar Bluff Industrial Park and surrounding industries. One of the newer incubator spaces is still available.

OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Director Crystal Jones reported upon activities of the Ozark Foothills Regional Community Foundation (OFRCF). The balance of the OFRCF annual fund as of August 27, 2020, is \$1,402,362.19. The foundation is up about \$40,000.00 since our last report due to improvement of the stock market. No new funds have been added to foundation.

RIPLEY COUNTY PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY

Housing Coordinator Niki Harp reported upon the Section 8 Rental Assistance Program. The Ripley County Public Housing Agency currently has 366 vouchers filled. In addition, we have 43 VASH vouchers filled. These are vouchers that are set aside for homeless veterans. We currently have 202 families on the waiting list. The waiting list is currently closed.

Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Coordinator, Tiffany Sheffy reported that there were 31 families participating in the FSS Program who are working towards goals such as acquiring reliable transportation, obtaining a college degree, etc. Eleven of the families have increased their household earnings from wages since they enrolled for the program. This has made them

eligible to earn escrow money that they will receive if they successfully graduate from the program. Coordinator Sheffy recently submitted the grant application to fund this program next year.

Housing Coordinator Sheffy also reported that there are now 14 families on the Homeownership program. Four families are in credit counseling working toward the goal of home ownership. One family is working on getting pre-approval for a home ownership loan.

Director Jones informed the group that we were contacted by the State of Missouri and Edwin Cooper, Department of Mental Health, about a program that is available to us called Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Program. This program sets aside tenant protection vouchers to youth aging out of the foster care system. These vouchers run similarly to our Section 8 vouchers and that when a child ages out of the foster care system there will be a voucher set aside for them so that they can obtain housing. In order to provide this program, the RCPHA had to update the agency's Administration Plan. Once the Memorandum of Understanding is signed with State of Missouri, Department of Child Protective Services, we will have to have a continuum of care partner, in our region, which will likely be the Family Counseling Center. Details are still being formalized. Board Resolution # 308 is presented to consider approving the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding so FYI vouchers can be obtained once they become available.

A motion to approve Board Resolution #308 was made by Commissioner Jesse Roy, and seconded by Commissioner Ron Keeney, with no opposition, the motion was approved.

Director Jones further informed the group that the RCPHA updated the Administration Plan. The language regarding the Foster to Youth to Independence Program was added to the Administration Plan as required by HUD. The Administration Plan was also updated to reflect our current policies and regulations. The Administration Plan was last revised in 2016. A full copy of the Administration Plan was given to the presiding commissioners and is available for anyone to review if they'd like a copy.

A motion to approve Board Resolution #309 to approve revisions to the Administration Plan was made by Commissioner Ron Keeney and seconded by Commissioner Jesse Roy, with no opposition, the motion was approved.

NEW GRANTS RECEIVED

Director Jones, reported upon the grant awards received during the prior quarter. It was summarized as follows:

- Reynolds County, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, request funding through the Volkswagen Trust program for two dump trucks, \$136,500;

- Ripley County Public Housing Agency, U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, additional administrative funds needed to respond to Covid-19, \$61,851;
- Ozark Foothills Development Association, USDA-Rural Development, Incubator upgrades, \$75,000;
- Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission, Missouri Department of Transportation, to continue the region's transportation planning program, \$64,706;
- Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission, Missouri Department of Economic Development, to provide funding to support educating the region on available Opportunity Zones and to create an investment prospectus, \$15,000;

GRANT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

Director Jones reported the New Grant Application Abstracts. A summary of each proposal was provided to those in attendance as an attachment to *Resolution #310*. A motion was made by member Darrell Dement and seconded by member Dennis Cox; with no opposition, adoption of the resolution was approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Jones discussed with the group the election of officers of the Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission for the next 2 years. A list of the officers was provided to those in attendance. A motion to approve the officers was made by member Russell French and seconded by member Gary Emmons; with no opposition, motion was approved.

Director Jones further discussed with the group the approval of two new sector members for consideration to the Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission. First, Teresa Lee who represents Ripley County and works at the Prospect News. She is interested in representing the Education Sector. Second, Rebecca Pacheco who is from Carter County and is the Executive Director of the Butler County Community Resource Council and sits on the Ozark Foothills Regional Community Foundation Board. She is interested in representing the Social Service Sector.

A motion to approve new sector members, Teresa Lee and Rebecca Pacheco, was made by Commissioner Jesse Roy and seconded by Commissioner Ron Keeney; with no opposition, motion was approved.

Director Jones also introduced additional members of the Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission to the group. Dale Day, new Mayor of City of Naylor and Associate Commissioner Elect, Tom Wilder, for the Eastern District of Carter County.

Director Jones further discussed some new CDBG opportunities with the group. The CDBG regular competition has been delayed and are hoping to open those applications up in an online

format in mid-October. Members should contact Director Jones or any staff member if anyone is interested in doing any projects.

Director Jones also informed the group about the CARES Act funds and the applications that have been submitted to our counties. Director Jones and Assistant Director, Alan Lutes, have reviewed 46 applications for 4 of our counties. The breakdown is 15 for Butler County, 6 for Reynolds County, 16 for Ripley County and 9 for Carter County.

Director Jones discussed the Ripley County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Felicity Ray has been working on this plan for Ripley County. She is in the process of getting the Data Collection Questionnaires completed. The first 2 meetings have been conducted, the Initial Coordination Meeting and Project Kickoff. The next planning meeting will be held late November/early December.

Director Jones also discussed with the group that DNR hired a private auditing firm for the Solid Waste Management District and there were a few findings for our region. Director Jones shared the full list of findings with the Executive Board for Review. If anyone is interested in reviewing the findings or the audit report, when its complete, contact Director Jones.

Director Jones informed the group about the FY20 Annual Report. The planning commission is required to complete an annual report of our activities prior to the next quarter(s) meeting. A copy was provided to each member in attendance. The Annual Report is for the last fiscal year which is from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Chairman Polk thanked the Planning Commission staff for their work during the leadership transition and new staff additions. Wayne County has not noticed any disruption in services. Transition has been seamless.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by member Darrell Dement and seconded by Commissioner Jesse Roy, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 P.M.

Respectively Submitted,

Mr. Brian Polk, Chairman

Date

Ms. Margaret Carter, Secretary

Date

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

BRIAN POLK	DOUG LEDBETTER	
DARRELL DEMENT	CHAD HENSON	BILL MORIARTY
RON KEENEY	RUSSELL FRENCH	GARY EMMONS
DENNIS COX	TERESA LEE	WAYNE GIBBS
JESSE ROY, JR.	REBECCA PACHECO	
DALE DAY	TOM WILDER	

COMMISSION MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

JOHN MURRAY	PAUL WOOD	MILDRED COURSEY
WAYNE OGDEN	CARROLL RAINWATER	JOE LOYD
RICK JULIUS	ANGELA CLYBURN	REV. GREGORY KIRK
MIKE HOERNER	BILL KIRKPATRICK	PAUL JOHNSON
GARY CONWAY, JR.	KEVIN BYNUM	SANDY JOY
STANLEY BARTON	DR. GENE OAKLEY	MARGARET CARTER
VINCE LAMPE	ROBERT SMITH	
	SAMANTHA PENNINGTON-EVANS	

GUESTS

SARAH FRENCH

KATHY STREET

BILL ROBINSON

GLORIA DEMENT

MADISON BAKER

RODGER LESCH

BECKY GIBBS

MATT BAIN

STAFF

JAMIE LANSFORD

DAVID FOSTER

CHELSAE CORDIA

CRYSTAL JONES

DAVEY HICKS

BROOKE HINKLIN

CAMILLE DONNELL

ALAN LUTES

TIFFANY SHEFFY

ANDREW MURPHY

CAROLYN MEEKS

ASHLEY HART

ILENE WARD

AMY BAUGUS

NIKI HARP

DAVEY HICKS