

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**

**September 9, 2021
PIEDMONT PARK SHELTER #2, CLEARWATER LAKE
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:52 p.m. by Brian Polk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

The minutes of the meeting held June 10, 2021, and financial statements for the quarter ending June 30, 2021, were reviewed. Member Darrell Dement made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2021, meeting and financial reports. Commissioner Jesse Roy seconded. No opposition. Motion carried.

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Director Jones spoke on behalf of Coordinator Andrew Murphy who could not be present. Director Jones reported on the top 5 priorities established by the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) as follows:

2021 Maintenance List:

- 1) Add shoulders on 160 West from Doniphan to C Highway in Ripley County;
- 2) Resurface Route O in Butler County;
- 3) Highway 72 overlay, from 72- 21 Junction to 72-32 Junction in Reynolds County;
- 4) Highway 41, resurface from Williamsville to Iron County line in Wayne County;
- 5) Redesign median crossover of Highway B and Highway A at Highway 60 in Ellsinore, Carter County.

2021 Multi Model priority List:

- 1) Add repairs to sidewalk on Walnut Street from Summit Street to Highway Street and Highway Street from Layfette to Walnut Street, for safe pedestrian and wheelchair access to the North end of Shopping Center in Ripley County;
- 2) Extend the Poplar Bluff Airport runway in Butler County;
- 3) Add a bike lane for Trans America Bike Trail on Highway 76 bike route in Reynolds County;
- 4) Construct new helipads in Carter County;
- 5) Side walk construction on Cemetery Road in Williamsville in Wayne County.

2021 Project Priority List:

- 1) Guard Rails on Highway 21 from Highway H to Highway 60 in Reynolds County;
- 2) 4 Lane-Highway 67 from Highway 160 to the State line in Butler County;
- 3) Safety shoulders on Highway 49 from Highway 67 to Mill Spring in Piedmont to Iron County line and widen existing box culverts in Wayne County;
- 4) Low water crossing on Highway K between County Road K-5 and County Road K-6 in Ripley County;
- 5) Overlay and add shoulders to D Highway in Carter County.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Recycling Center Supervisor, Jamie Lansford reported that the Recycling Center purchased a new Baler and should receive it around the middle of October, 2021. Cardboard prices are up, they have been going up \$10-\$20 every month. Cardboard started at \$85 to \$90 per ton, now it is up to \$215 per ton. Plastic was 3 cents per pound now it is 10 cents per pound.

Director Jones reported on the Annual Report for the Solid Waste Management District. This last fiscal year, the number of tons diverted at the Recycling Center was 1,156, and last fiscal year the number of tons diverted was 688. The Recycling Center has been working very hard to nearly double the tonnage for the Recycling Center. Staff was reduced by 1 employee due to budgetary challenges last year.

A Motion to approve the Solid Waste Management District-Region Q Annual Report Board Resolution #OFSWMD-2021-01 was made by Mayor Dennis Cox and seconded by Commissioner Vince Lampe; with no opposition, adoption of the resolution was approved.

Director Jones further reported on the Baler for the Recycling Center. CDBG has a Covid-19 relief grant program that is currently open. Coordinator Andrew Murphy is our Solid Waste Planner and he is working on a grant application to CDBG. Recycling is one of CDBG's priorities with the grant money.

OZARK FOOTHILLS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Director Jones informed the group that we have received an application for our final incubator space. All of our other incubator spaces are full. The Executive Committee approved moving forward with that application.

OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Director Crystal Jones reported upon activities of the Ozark Foothills Regional Community Foundation (OFRCF). At the beginning of August 2021, the market value of funds was \$1.4 million.

Director Jones informed the group that we received a new endowed scholarship fund. This is a general scholarship fund for people in our 5-county region. This new scholarship will available for the 2022-2023 school year.

RIPLEY COUNTY PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY

Housing Coordinator Niki Harp reported upon the Section 8 Rental Assistance Program. The Ripley County Public Housing Agency is assisting 395 families in our five-county region. RCPHA currently has 174 families on the waiting list. The waiting list is currently closed. RCPHA also has 50 VASH vouchers. These are used to house homeless Veterans that are referred to the RCPHA by the VA Hospital. 48 of these vouchers are filled.

Coordinator Harp informed the group about the Foster Youth Initiative (FYI) vouchers. FYI vouchers help youth that are aging out of the foster care system to keep them from homelessness. We have had several referrals and have recently filled a voucher with a youth in our area.

Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Coordinator Rachel Coleman reported that there were 32 families participating in the FSS Program who are working towards goals such as acquiring reliable transportation, obtaining a college degree, etc. 10 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.

Housing Coordinator Coleman also reported that there are now 13 families on the Homeownership program. We also have 7 families that are working on repairing their credit so they can work towards the goal of home ownership.

NEW GRANTS RECEIVED

Director Jones reported that she had just learned of 2 awards that day and will announce them officially at the December, 2021 meeting.

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 #315*. A motion was made by member Darrell Dement and seconded by vice-chairman Paul Johnson; with no opposition, adoption of the resolution was approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Jones discussed with the group the FY21 Annual Report. A copy was handed out at the meeting. This is a report of our activities of the last fiscal year. Some highlights were that we had 52 grants awarded over the last fiscal year which resulted in \$8.6 million for the region. Contact Director Jones with any questions.

Chairman Polk thanked Dean Finch, Babe Mann and Alan Lutes for helping with the fish fry.

Director Jones further discussed with the group the Adoption of the LAGERS Retirement Program (*Resolution #316*). The Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission is looking to join the LAGERS Retirement Program and has been in discussion for 1 year. This retirement program is the local government retirement program and a lot of our cities and counties participate in this retirement program. The LAGERS Retirement Program has been approved by the Executive Committee. This retirement program was discussed at our June 2021 meeting wherein we started a 45-day comment period. We did not receive any comments. We are now presenting *Resolution # 316* to formally adopt the LAGERS Retirement Program for the staff of the Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission.

A motion to adopt the LAGERS Retirement Program, *Resolution #316*, was made by Mayor Dennis Cox and seconded by Commissioner Vince Lampe; with no opposition, adoption of the resolution was approved.

Director Jones further discussed with the group the Lincoln Termination Resolution (*Resolution #316*). With the adoption of LAGERS, we have to freeze our assets in our previous retirement program. The Planning Commission is to join LAGERS in October 1, 2021, and our assets in Lincoln Financial will be frozen as of September 30, 2021. A Board Resolution has to be done to terminate our contribution to Lincoln and to freeze our assets. The assets in Lincoln are allocated to each staff. Those staff can transfer those funds to buy up their service in LAGERS or transfer to an IRA of their choice.

A motion to adopt Lincoln Termination, *Resolution #317*, was made by Commissioner Jesse Roy and seconded by Member Darrell Dement; with no opposition, adoption of the resolution was approved.

Director Jones discussed the Lincoln Trustee Designation. Lincoln Financial advised us that we had Felicity Ray still listed as a Trustee on our portfolio. The Trustee will be changed from Felicity Ray to Crystal Jones and Camille Donnell.

Director Jones informed the group about the Ripley, Butler, and Reynolds Counties' Hazard Mitigation Plans. These counties are currently undergoing updates to the Hazard Mitigation Plans. Ripley counties plan, Felicity Ray has sent 3 revisions to SEMA and they sent some more revision request back today. We are waiting on Doniphan R-1 to adopt a Resolution. We are also in the process of updating the Butler County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Their plan does not expire until August 2022 and is in progress. The Reynolds County Hazard Mitigation Plan expires in April 2022 and is in progress. Counties are encouraged to attend the county meetings. The jurisdictions in your county have to participate in the development of the plan or they are not eligible for FEMA assistance.

Director Jones advised the group about the CDBG Application Cycles-CV & FY21. The CV is the Covid-19 program of CDBG and you can apply for those funds for a variety of projects. We are working on applications for Ripley County, Carter County and Williamsville. The regular competition, the FY21 cycle that we normally see open in March or April, has not yet opened. We anticipate it opening by the end of the year. If you have a project in mind, please contact our office.

Director Jones further advised the group that EDA has some funding through the American Rescue Plan that is available for economic adjustment assistance projects, which are infrastructure related projects. The biggest category we have seen in our region is the travel and tourism projects. Let us know if you have a project in mind.

Director Jones discussed with the group the Volkswagen Trust. DNR has opened their Volkswagen Trust Application Cycle for the government trucks program. Applications are due October 12, 2021. We are working on applications for Reynolds, Carter and Butler counties.

Director Jones further discussed with the group Special Interim Committee on Broadband Meeting that is led by Representative Louis Riggs will be at the Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission on September 27, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Director Jones has spoken with Representative Riggs and he is very interested in hearing our challenges in the Ozark Foothills Region.

Director Jones informed the group of new staff changes to the Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission. Introductions of Lydia Keller, Disaster Recovery Coordinator; Rachel Coleman, Family Self Sufficiency Coordinator and Debbie Tarvid, Project Administrator.

Director Jones announced our State Legislators in attendance. Missouri State Representative, Darrell Atchison reported that they are out of session right now and there is no major legislation going on at this time. Broadband Committee is currently active and Representative Louis Riggs has set up meetings to discuss broadband.

State Representative, Chris Dinkins reported that Veto Session is next week. There are a couple line-item budget items that will be looked at. She has been dealing with constituent issues across the districts.

Matt Bain reported that they are having a lot of calls from Veterans regarding the Afghanistan conflict. They are still seeing a lot of issues with the IRS and people not receiving their tax refunds or stimulus. In our region, they are heavily involved in working on the flood mapping in Butler County. He further discussed the census issue for our regions. They are going to look into ways to address that issue.

Madison Baker reported that DRA can't execute that program until they have a Chief Executive appointed and confirmed by the Senate. The National Medal for Museums and Libraries was released. If you have any outstanding museums or libraries in your community, reach out and we would be happy to nominate you.

Chairman Polk thanked the Legislators and Representatives for attending the meeting.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Assistant Director, Alan Lutes reported on the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA). The date of obligations on the ARPA money is March 3, 2021 through December 31, 2024. We have until December 31, 2026 to extend those obligations that are obligated prior to December, 2024. The eligible uses for this money are as follows:

- 1) Response to COVID-19 public health or economic crisis, including aid to households, small business, not-profits, or impacted industries;
- 2) Premium pay to essential employees, both public and private;
- 3) Provide government services, to the extent of revenue lost due to COVID-19;
- 4) Make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

Compliance and Reporting Guidance (CRG) (6/24/2021)

Interest earned - Not limited to using for eligible uses under SLFRF page 7 – Not part of program income.

Eligibility of beneficiaries and/or sub-recipients – Document eligibility including SAM.gov registration for all including contractors page 7, 8.

Program income – defined paragraph 9, page 8 – has to be calculated, documented and recorded
Procurement – comply with 2 CFR 200.317 – 327 – ensure adherence to all applicable local,
State, & federal procurement laws/regulations! Page 8.

Reporting:

Interim Report for date of receipt of funds (award date) through July 31, 2021 – due by
8/31/2021

Project and Expenditure Reports:

Quarterly for award date through September 30, 2021 - due by 10/31/2021 –all recipients
over/under 5 million.

Annual for recipients of under 5 million – due October 31, 2022 – 2026

Information required for all Projects: Name, ID #, Expenditure Category, Description of project,
status.

Expenditures: current period obligations, cumulative obligations, current period expenditures and
cumulative expenditures.

Additional reporting information listed in “Summary of Treasury Compliance and Reporting
Guidance – 6/17/2021” from Travis Elliot.

If anyone needs this information, please contact Alan.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Member Darrell Dement and seconded by Mayor Dennis Cox, the meeting
was adjourned at 6:48 P.M.

Respectively Submitted,

Mr. Brian Polk, Chairman

Date

Ms. Margaret Carter, Secretary

Date

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

BRIAN POLK	PAUL JOHNSON	DARRELL DEMENT
SANDY JOY	RUSSELL FRENCH	CHAD HENSON
KEVIN BYNUM	BILL MORIARTY	TERESA LEE
JESSE ROY, JR.	VINCE LAMPE	
REBECCA PACHECO		
DENNIS COX	SANDY JOY	

COMMISSION MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

SAMANTHA EVANS		
DOUG LEDBETTER	MARGARET CARTER	DALE DAY
JOHN MURRAY	PAUL WOOD	JOE LOYD
WAYNE OGDEN	CARROLL RAINWATER	
RICK JULIUS	ANGELA CLYBURN	STEVE DAVIS
MIKE HOERNER	BILL KIRKPATRICK	MILDRED COURSEY
GARY CONWAY, JR.	DR. GENE OAKLEY	REV. GREGORY KIRK
STANLEY BARTON	WAYNE GIBBS	RON KEENEY

STAFF

JAMIE LANSFORD	CRYSTAL JONES	ILENE WARD
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RICHARD KETCHUM

CAROLYN MEEKS

RACHEL COLEMAN

DAVEY HICKS

AMY BAUGUS

DEBBIE TARVID

ALAN LUTES

BROOKE HINKLIN

LYDIA KELLER

NIKI HARP

GUESTS

MADISON BAKER

REP. DARRELL ATCHISON

TAMMY THURMOND

GARY EMMONS

MATT BAIN

REP. CHRIS DINKINS

KEITH WHITESIDE

GLORIA DEMENT