

## **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**

**December 10, 2020  
VIRTUAL MEETING  
6:00 PM**

#### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Vice Chairman Darrell Dement.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

The minutes of the meeting held August 27, 2020 and financial statements for the quarter ending September 30, 2020, were reviewed. Director Jones noted that the August 27, 2020 minutes reflected that Margaret Carter was absent from the meeting but she was present. The August 27, 2020 minutes will be amended. Secretary Margaret Carter made a motion to approve the amended minutes of the August 27, 2020, meeting. Member Rebecca Pacheco seconded. No opposition. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Darrell Dement made a motion to approve the quarterly financial statements of the August 27, 2020, meeting. Vice Chairman Paul Johnson seconded. No opposition. Motion carried.

#### TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Coordinator Andrew Murphy reported that since the last meeting in August, the Transportation Advisory Committee held a virtual meeting in September and there will be another virtual meeting held in January. The 2020 project priority list that was delayed was finalized at the September 2020 TAC meeting. The 2020 TAC Project Priority list includes the 4-lane Highway 67 from Highway 160 to the state line in Butler County; Highway K: Ellington to Annapolis, add shoulders in Reynolds county; Highway 142 West a Gatewood-Narrow bridge in Ripley County; Safety Shoulders on Highway 49 from Highway 67 to Mill Spring and Piedmont to Iron County line and widen existing box culverts in Wayne County; Repair small bridge on A Highway (1/2 mile west of Highway 67) with large box culvert in Wayne County.

Regarding Maintenance Needs, add shoulder on Highway 160 W from Doniphan to C Highway in Ripley County; Highway 72 overlay from 72/21 Junction to 72/32 Junction in Reynolds

County; Highway 49: Resurface from Williamsville to Iron County Line in Wayne County; Redesign median crossover of Highway V & Highway A at Highway 60 in Ellsinore in Carter County; Resurface Route O in Butler County.

In the Multi Modal needs, add a bike lane for TransAmerica Bike Trail on Highway 76 Bike Route in Reynolds County, extend the Poplar Bluff airport runway in Butler County; Sidewalks on Highway 142 E (Walnut Street) and west on Washington Street to Courthouse in Ripley County; Add/Repair sidewalks on Walnut Street, from Summit to Highway Street, and Highway Street from Lafayette to Walnut Street, for safe pedestrian and wheelchair access to north end of shopping center in Ripley County; Sidewalk construction on Cemetery Road in Williamsville in Wayne County.

If anyone would like to see the list of 2020 TAC Projects, they can contact Coordinator Murphy.

### SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Recycling Center Supervisor, Jamie Lansford reported that cardboard prices are going up. Since acquiring Briggs & Stratton's cardboard the Recycling Center is receiving 90 bales to 108 bales. Cardboard is up to \$95 per ton where it was \$65 per ton. Newspaper is up to \$175 per ton. Plastic is up from 1.5 cents to 3.5 cents at \$70 per ton.

Director Jones advised that the account we acquired from Briggs & Stratton is helping the Recycling Center budget. While the Recycling Center is still operating under a loss this last quarter, they have cut their loss by half.

Director Jones further discussed with the group the Sunshine Law Policies and Procedures (*Resolution #OFSWMD-2020-02*). It was brought to Director Jones attention by DNR during their audit over the summer that we did not have a formal Missouri Sunshine Law Policy in effect for the SWMD. Director Jones presented to the group Ozark Foothills Solid Waste Management District-Region Q Board Resolution #OFSWMD-2020-02. This resolution states that the OFSWD will formally adopt the Missouri Sunshine Law and list the specific sections that the auditors deemed necessary. We will adopt this law and applicable sections as the official open meetings and records policy.

A Motion to approve Board Resolution #OFSWMD-2020-02 to approve the Missouri Sunshine Law was made by Commissioner Jesse Roy and seconded by Mayor Dennis Cox; all board members approved. With no opposition, the motion carried.

## 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 still available. If anyone is interested in viewing it, they can contact our office.

Director Jones further informed the group that the OFRPC has received a couple of grants to remodel the building. Covid Admin funds from HUD are also being used to add some office space to the building. The OFRPC was also the recipient of a grant from USDA Rural Development for \$75,000 which will help put a new roof on the building. The funds will also be used for directional signage outside our building to direct people where to go in the building and incubator spaces.

The OFRPC was also the recipient of the CARES Act funds from Missouri Technology Corporation. The MTC provides funding to business incubators across Missouri. We were able to apply for funding to do updates to the building such as touchless faucets and fixtures in our 4 restrooms, painting bathrooms and hallways, sanitizer stations and new conference room chairs. A sliding touchless entrance door in the front of building is being installed with the HUD COVID Admin funds. Work is in progress.

## OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Director Crystal Jones reported upon activities of the Ozark Foothills Regional Community Foundation (OFRCF). The Board last met on September 8, 2020; the October, 2020 meeting was postponed. The next meeting will be held in January, 2021. Director Jones will email board members to discuss a date. There is no update for the market value of funds. The CFO's website had errors and did not have accurate information. As of September 2020, market value was \$1.4 million.

## RIPLEY COUNTY PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY

Housing Coordinator Ilene Ward reported upon the Section 8 Rental Assistance Program. The Ripley County PHA is currently assisting 370 families in our five-county region. We currently have 40 families on the waiting list. The waiting list will be open beginning February 1, 2021. We will accept applications through the end of the month. Ripley County PHA also has 44 VASH Vouchers. These vouchers are used to house homeless veterans that are referred to us by the VA Hospital. 43 of these vouchers are filled.

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. HUD announced on Monday that they plan to have the FY2020 FSS Award Announcements published before the end of the year.

Housing Coordinator Sheffy also reported that there are now 14 families on the Homeownership program. Two 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 reported to the group that the RCPHA was a recipient of 40 additional mainstream vouchers which start January 1, 2021. These vouchers will apply to any non-elderly disabled person in a household. Coordinator Niki Harp will be taking on the additional 40 vouchers.

### NEW GRANTS RECEIVED

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

- City of Piedmont, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) will extend the city's pedestrian trail to tie Handy Park to the existing trail system in Ash Park, \$89,466;
- City of Poplar Bluff/Poplar Bluff Park Department, Missouri Department of Conservation, The Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance (TRIM) grant provides financial assistance for the management and improvement, or conservation of city trees, \$7,043.50;
- City of Van Buren, Missouri Department of Economic Development, requested funding through the Community Development Block Grant program to fund water improvements, \$750,000;
- Ozark Foothills Development Association, Missouri Technology Corporation, incubator facility upgrades including restroom improvements, pain in common areas, HVAC HEPA filters and conference room chairs, \$50,000;
- Ozark Foothills Solid Waste Management District, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, funding is sought to continue operation of the Ozark Foothills Solid Waste planning efforts consisting of a district operation grant of \$8,438 and a district subgrant of \$90,000, \$98,438;
- Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission, Ozark Foothills Solid Waste Management District, funding is sought to continue operation of the Ozark Foothills Recycling Center; \$90,000;
- Purman Volunteer Fire Department, Federal Emergency Management Agency, to provide the funds needed to recruit additional volunteer firefighters and obtain gear needed for new volunteers, \$271,340;
- Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission, Federal Emergency Management Agency, to complete an update of the Reynolds County Hazard Mitigation Plan, \$25,801.96;

- Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission, Federal Emergency Management Agency, to complete an update of the Butler County Hazard Mitigation Plan, \$25,474.99;
- Ripley County Public Housing Agency, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, receipt of 40 mainstream vouchers to serve non-elderly disabled persons in the Ozark Foothills region, \$150,888.

### 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 #311*. A motion was made by Commissioner Jesse Roy and seconded by Mayor Dennis Cox; with no opposition, adoption of the resolution was approved.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Jones informed the group the CDBG regular competition ran behind this year. The application cycle typically opens in the Spring and it just opened in October, 2020. The deadline is the end of December, 2020 to submit applications for this year's round of CDBG applications. Coordinator Andrew Murphy has a lengthy list of paving projects he is working on. Grant writers, Chelsae Cordia, Ashley Hart and Felicity Ray, each have a few projects as well. We will be submitting about 10 applications in this application round. If you did not get with us to discuss a project and you want to submit a project, CDBG says they will open next year's application cycle on time. Director Jones asked that everyone begin thinking about what projects they may want to submit in preparation for the Spring application cycle and contact our office about those projects.

Director Jones discussed with the group that Felicity Ray is working on the Ripley County Hazard Mitigation Plan update and is in the middle of this plan update. Felicity reported the next meeting date of the Ripley County planning team is January 12, 2021 at the Ripley County Caring Communities Building. Felicity will follow up with everyone about the time. Director Jones asked for participation in those meetings. We need the participation for the required match dollars. If your jurisdiction does not participate, then you will not be able to receive the hazard mitigation program grant dollars when those become available. It is very important that jurisdiction participate in those meetings.

Director Jones further discussed the March, 2021 commission meeting date. We are planning to have our next commission meeting in person on March 11, 2021. Location is to be determined.

### GENERAL DISCUSSION

Director Jones informed the group that DNR is asking cities and counties to respond to a survey about the remaining Volkswagen trust monies that they have available. There is still money available and want to hear from communities and get your feedback on how you would like to

see this remaining money spent. Director Jones will have Brooke forward all Cities and Counties this information so they can take this survey.

Director Jones also recognized coordinator, Ilene Ward for her 35 years of service with Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Vice Chairman Paul Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Vince Lampe, the meeting was adjourned at 6:41 P.M.

Respectively Submitted,

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Mr. Brian Polk, Chairman

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Date

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Ms. Margaret Carter, Secretary

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Date

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

DARRELL DEMENT	BILL MORIARTY	KEVIN BYNUM
RUSSELL FRENCH	VINCE LAMPE	JOE LOYD
DENNIS COX	MARGARET CARTER	PAUL JOHNSON
JESSE ROY, JR.	REBECCA PACHECO	

COMMISSION MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

CHAD HENSON	RON KEENEY	DALE DAY
DOUG LEDBETTER	BRIAN POLK	ROBERT SMITH
JOHN MURRAY	PAUL WOOD	SAMANTHA PENNINGTON-EVANS
WAYNE OGDEN	CARROLL RAINWATER	MILDRED COURSEY
RICK JULIUS	ANGELA CLYBURN	REV. GREGORY KIRK
MIKE HOERNER	BILL KIRKPATRICK	SANDY JOY
GARY CONWAY, JR.	DR. GENE OAKLEY	
STANLEY BARTON	WAYNE GIBBS	

GUEST

KATHY STREET	SANDRA CABOT
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STAFF

JAMIE LANSFORD

RICHARD KETCHUM

CHELSAE CORDIA

CRYSTAL JONES

DAVEY HICKS

BROOKE HINKLIN

CAMILLE DONNELL

ALAN LUTES

TIFFANY SHEFFY

ANDREW MURPHY

CAROLYN MEEKS

ASHLEY HART

ILENE WARD

AMY BAUGUS

FELICITY RAY

NIKI HARP

DAVEY HICKS