

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

**MARCH 12, 2020
ELLINGTON CITY HALL
100 TUBBS STREET, ELLINGTON, MO 63638
7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:52 p.m. by Second Vice -Chairman Paul Johnson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

On a motion made by Commissioner Jesse Roy and seconded by Ms. Margaret Carter, the minutes of the meeting held December 9, 2019 and financial statements for the quarter ending December 31, 2019, were approved.

SPECIAL GUEST PRESENTATION

Tami Hale of Ozark Vitality presented to the group 2 episodes of “My Ozarks” documentary film.

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Coordinator Murphy advised that the Governor’s Bridge program has freed up money to the Surface Transportation Program (STP). Murphy also advised that he has been meeting with the counties, and MODOT will possibly have extra money for some of the projects on our counties lists. The next TAC meeting is scheduled for April 9, in Piedmont.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Recycling Center Supervisor Jamie Lansford reported that recycling prices are gradually increasing.

In an effort to increase revenue, Director Jones, suggested researching other recycling centers about what they are doing about cardboard. Member Chad Henson suggested charging for commercial cardboard service.

The Solid Waste Management District grant was awarded to the Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission for the operation of its Recycling Center on a motion made by Commissioner Jesse Roy, and seconded by Mr. Russell French.

OZARK FOOTHILLS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Director Jones informed the group that eight incubator spaces are currently occupied. A ninth incubator space will possibly fill by April 1.

OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Director Crystal Jones reported upon activities of the Ozark Foothills Regional Community Foundation (OFRCF). The OFRCF fund balance was reported as \$ 1,484,135.38.

The Big Springs RC&D Scholarship fund reached endowment level and will begin awarding Scholarships in areas related to agriculture in 2021.

Director Jones informed the group that the Naylor Restoration Fund was established to support community activities in Naylor.

RIPLEY COUNT PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY

Housing Coordinator Carolyn Meeks reported upon the Section 8 Rental Assistance Program. The Ripley County Public Housing Agency is currently assisting 354 families in our five county region. In addition, the Ripley County PHA has 44 VASH vouchers that are used to house homeless veterans. All 44 of these vouchers are filled. There are 17 families currently on the waiting list. The waiting list is scheduled to open on May 1, 2020.

Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Coordinator, Tiffany Sheffy reported that there were thirty-four families participating in the FSS Program. In the calendar year 2019 we had a total of 47 households enrolled in the FSS program. Two of those families successfully graduated the program by either getting their total household income over the HUD limit for their family size or by accomplishing the goals they set.

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 closed on a home in 2019.

Director Jones introduced two board resolutions for consideration by the Ripley County Public Housing Agency board: a *Civil Rights Certification* and *PHA Certification of Compliance* both are required for the Ripley County PHA's Annual Plan and consequent funding.

A motion to adopt the *Civil Rights Certification* resolution was made by Commissioner Ron Keeney, and seconded by Commissioner Jesse Roy; with no opposition, adoption of the resolution was approved.

A motion to adopt the *PHA Certification of Compliance* was made by Commissioner Jesse Roy, and seconded by Commissioner Ron Kenney; with no opposition, adoption of the resolution was approved.

NEW GRANTS RECEIVED

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

- Carter County, MO DED, CDBG Disaster Recovery program, \$3,757,233;
- City of Doniphan, MO DED, CDBG Disaster Recovery program, \$3,015,575;
- City of Doniphan, MO DED, Downtown infrastructure upgrades, \$318,126;
- City of Fisk, MO DED, CDBG, Paving of city streets; \$249,077;
- City of Poplar Bluff, MO DED, Three Rivers College Industrial Park Simulation Lab, \$424,344;
- City of Van Buren, MO DED, Voluntary residential buyouts, relocation, tenant relocation benefits, and down payment assistance to residents through the CDBG Disaster Recovery program, \$4,562,876;
- Greater Poplar Bluff Area Chamber of Commerce, EDA, Retail trade and industrialization w/ labor shed study for five-county region, and downtown revitalization strategy for Poplar Bluff, \$79,800;
- Ripley County, MO DED, Construction of a new building for the Ripley County Nutrition Center, \$500,000;
- Ripley County Public Housing Agency, U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development, U.S. Veteran's rental housing through Section 8 Rental Assistance Program and in partnership w/ John J. Pershing Veterans Administration, \$17,247; and
- Ripley County Public Housing Agency, U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development, Family Self-Sufficiency program, \$43,605.

GRANT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

Director Jones reported that twelve grant applications were submitted during the prior quarter. A summary of each proposal was provided to those in attendance as an attachment to *Resolution #304*. A motion was made by Commissioner, Ron Keeney and seconded by Vice Chairman, Paul Johnson authorizing submission of the proposals.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director Jones reported Senator Wallingford has proposed bill, SB #771, which modifies provisions relating to solid waste management districts. This bill, if passed, would provide an increase to minimally funded districts and reduce the percentages available for administrative costs. Member Chad Henson suggested sending letters of support for Bill #771.

Audit reports for the FY 2019 are done. Fiscal Officer, Camille Donnell will provide those to anyone who would like to see them.

Felicity Ray is working on updating the Ripley County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Participation from jurisdictions and special districts is required for future Hazard Mitigation Program grant funding. Attendance at planning meetings was encouraged.

Director Jones provided members with a copy of the Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission Members list as of March 12, 2020 and asked that representatives make suggestions of anyone else we can add to the list.

Director Jones introduced new employees Amy Baugus, Project Officer and Ashley Hart, Community Development Specialist.

Commissioner Brian Polk’s wife, Ronda Polk, presented Debbie Toney with the 2019 Melvin Brinkley Public Service Award. Commissioner Polk was unable to attend the meeting. The Melvin Brinkley Public Service Award is presented to someone who selflessly exemplifies public service well above and beyond the daily norm. The award was accepted by Mrs. Toney and photos were taken.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

No general discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Vice Chairman, Paul Johnson and seconded by Ms. Margaret Carter, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

Respectively Submitted,

Dr. Gene Oakley, Chairman	Date	Ms. Margaret Carter, Secretary	Date

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

JOE LOYD	PAUL WOOD	PAUL JOHNSON
DARRELL DEMENT	CHAD HENSON	MARGARET CARTER
RON KEENEY	RUSSELL FRENCH	JESSE ROY, JR
GARY EMMONS	RODGER LESH	

COMMISSION MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

ROBERT SMITH	DENNIS COX	SAMANTHA JOHNSON
JOHN MURRAY	BERNARD ALLEN	DR. GENE OAKLEY
GLEN SEDRICK	BRIAN POLK	SAMANTHA PENNINGTON-EVANS
WAYNE OGDEN	CARROLL RAINWATER	REV. GREGORY KIRK
RICK JULIUS	ANGELA CLYBURN	MILDRED COURSEY
MIKE HOERNER	BILL KIRKPATRICK	SANDY JOY
GARY CONWAY, JR.	WAYNE GIBBS	
STANLEY BARTON	KEVIN BYNUM	

GUESTS

MIKE TONEY

KELLY BARNETT

SARAH FRENCH

DEBBIE TONEY

JENNY BARNETT

GINA LOYD

JOE TONEY

BILL MORIARITY

RHONDA POLK

TAMI HALE

RICKIE MAPLES

STAFF

JAMIE LANSFORD

DAVID FOSTER

CHELSAE CORDIA

CRYSTAL JONES

RICHARD KETCHUM

BROOKE HINKLIN

CAMILLE DONNELL

ALAN LUTES

TIFFANY SHEFFY

ANDREW MURPHY

CAROLYN MEEKS

ASHLEY HART

ILENE WARD

AMY BAUGUS