



Enhancing the quality of our communities through regional cooperation

**Southwest Missouri Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 22, 2011
9:00 a.m.
Library Station, Frisco Room
Springfield, MO**

Attendance

Members:

Nancy Edson, Rogersville
Howard Fisk, Transportation
Billy Dryer, Polk County
Susie Knust, Webster County
Kenneth Bacon, Dallas County
Garrett Anderson, Branson
Gail Noggle, Republic
Dennis Wood, Stone County
Ed Westerman, Clever
Dana Louderbaugh, Fair Grove
Karen Robson, Willard
Lisa Bernet, Fair Grove
Diana Shanks, Pleasant Hope
Bill Monday, Dallas County
Jim Viebrock, Greene County
Mike Chipman, Forsyth

Partners:

Mark Hultgren, USDA
Frank Miller, MoDOT District 8
Chris Berndt, SMESO
Bill Cheek, MSU
Stacy Burks, Senator Blunt's Office
Nick Maddux, Congressman Long's Office
Ronda Headland, MDC
Jeff Seifried, SREP
Gary Tate, Missouri Career Center
Dawne Gardner, MoDOT District 8
Becky Baltz, MoDOT District 7
Jason Sivils, Great River Associates

Staff:

Diane May
Jane Hood
David Faucett
Dorothy Wittorf-Sandgren
Dan Watts

Open Meeting

Introductions and Announcements—Ken Bacon

Approval of May 25, 2011 Meeting Agenda—Ken Bacon

Nancy Edson motioned and Howard Fisk seconded to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

Approval of March 23, 2011 Meeting Minutes—Ken Bacon

Howard Fisk motioned and Nancy Edson seconded to approve the minutes. Motion Carried.

Guest Speaker - Bolder Five Year Direction—Becky Baltz, MoDOT

The plan has been approved by the MODOT Highway Commission. One revision is that the new boundaries have been changed to reflect the boundaries of the Regional Planning Commissions. The Southwest District will have 21 counties. The MODOT Joplin office building is being vacated now so that the Joplin school district will have use of the building. The building will be used as the Joplin R-8 administration building. Dan Salisbury will be the Assistant Engineer working out of a Joplin location. Andy Mueller will be the assistant District Engineer over the operations side. We are working on filling the assistant to the district engineer position. The SW District should have all the management positions

filled by September 15. The role of the area engineers is going to expand. The Area Engineer has always been involved in the maintenance side in the rural areas, but in the urban areas they have played more of a planning role as well. Becky's office is now located in the Springfield office.

Legislative Reports

Senator Blunt's Office—Stacy Burks

The debt ceiling increase is the object of much debate in DC at this time. Senator Blunt still has a Balanced Budget Amendment out there. Senator DeMint also has a similar Amendment. Neither bill is moving very quickly. The EDA reauthorization bill was blocked due to moving not to discuss the bill. They're going to try to clean up the amendments and get the bill passed.

Congressman Long's Office—Nick Maddux

Congressman Long's main priority is Joplin. There has been a disaster declaration for Lawrence County. There is a deadline for debris removal in order to get the FEMA reimbursement. There is also a July 15th deadline to apply for FEMA assistance. The Farm Subsidy bill has been a battle right now. Mr. Dryer asked that Congressman Long be made aware of the importance of the BRO (Bridge Replacement Off-system) to the counties. These funds are given out by formula but with the current funding issues, MoDOT has had to borrow money to fund the BRO program.

Business

Election of Officers—Ken Bacon

The nominating committee consisted of Ed Westerman, Dana Louderbaugh and Howard Fisk.

The slate of officers:

Mike Chipman, Chair

Chris Coulter, Vice Chair

Bill Monday, Secretary/Treasurer

Dana Louderbaugh motioned and Howard Fisk Seconded to accept the officers. Motion carried.

Appointment of Executive Committee

Mike Chipman, Chair

Chris Coulter, Vice Chair

Bill Monday, Secretary/Treasurer

Ken Bacon, Past Chair

Brian Bingle, Christian

Nancy Edson, Webster

Dennis Wood, Stone

Mike Chipman motioned and Howard Fisk seconded to accept the executive committee. Motion carried.

Re-appointment of TAC Members

New appointees include Tony Stonecypher and Susie Knust.

Dana Louderbaugh motioned and Howard Fisk seconded to accept the appointment/reappointment of TAC members. Motion carried.

Approval of By-Laws Amendments

Bill Monday motioned and Nancy Edson seconded to accept the by-laws as written. Motion carried.

Approval of FY-2012 Operations Budget

This report goes through May. As normal, the first page shows without the Homeland Security money since it is a pass through. Due to the delay on the Hazard Mitigation plans we have added those revenues to FY12. There are a negative number when we include the Homeland Security pass through. This is due to not receiving the reimbursements at this point. Ms. May went over the operations budget line by line for the upcoming year. SMCOG will be working with the Executive Committee over the next year to address SMCOG's future whether it go independent or remain under the University. Ms. May also noted that Sandra Dane will be retiring in January.

Bill Monday motioned and Billy Dryer seconded to accept the operations budget. Motion carried.

Transportation Report- Dan Watts

Barry County low-water crossing inventory has been finished. We are also working on sidewalk inventories. We have completed Mt. Vernon and Marionville. The work program has been approved.

Homeland Security Regionalization Program- Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren

FY- 2009 is at a \$126,000 balance and will probably be opened for reallocation. FY-2010 money is now being approved. We just went over FY-2011 money and we have been cut to \$319,000. It's a big cut but we are still better off than other regions. We are going to get a "Bear Cat" for the region. It will be made available for SWAT teams in the region. We also voted to sustain the equipment that is already purchased. Web EOC will be sustained. We also have the money for training for search and rescue.

MoBroadBand Now—Dave Faucett

Mr. Faucett discussed the MoBroadband project. He asked the board members to visit the website and take the survey. He announced that there will be a meeting on July 21 to develop strategies so that private industry can develop goals to meet the needs of the communities. They would like to have at least 100 business surveys and currently they have 31 completed.

Director's Report—Diane May/Jane Hood

Ms. May reported that we have the formal approval for Webster County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Christian County lacks just one adoption letter and then it will be approved. We will be gathering information from the counties as to needs that could be addressed with the CDBG Disaster Grant money. Ms. Hood discussed the Municipal Officials Training Workshop.

Other Business

None

Partner Agency Updates

USDA-Rural Development—Mark Hultgren

Rural development has all been obligated on these programs. Any program that has not been funded yet will be competing on a national basis. They are expecting cuts in the 2012 budget with some programs being unfunded. USDA is involved in an ongoing law suit. They are currently advertising to make sure that anyone affected by this lawsuit is aware.

MoDOT District 8—Dawne Gardner

Safe Routes to School projects are being decided today. We should know the projects that were granted funding within a couple of weeks. The draft STIP is available on the web site.

Missouri Department of Conservation—Ronda Headland

MDC has started to receive requests for assistance for the tornado relief. The agency is working on putting together some workshops for low-impact development. Funds have been opened for replanting operations in the damaged area in Joplin. MDC has completed inventories around the state and now priorities are being developed statewide. Stakeholder areas are higher priorities for the Department.

Ozark Region Workforce Investment Board--Gary Tate

Funding information has been received and we have had an 18% cut. The WIB is currently looking to identify grant funding for our programs. Jobs are increasing minimally.

Member Announcements

None

Adjourn

Howard Fisk motioned and Diana Shanks seconded to Adjourn. Motion Carried.

Cindy Stephens, Secretary/Treasurer

Date Approved