

## MINUTES

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

**JUNE 20, 2019  
OZARK FOOTHILL REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
3019 FAIR ST.  
POPLAR BLUFF, MO 63901  
7:00 PM**

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 P.M. by Vice-Chairman Brian Polk.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

On a motion made by Commissioner Jesse Roy and seconded by Commissioner Vince Lampe, the minutes of the meeting held March 14, 2019 and financial statements for the Quarter ending March 31, 2019 were approved.

### SPECIAL GUEST PRESENTATION

Mr. Steve Etcher of Marks Nelson, LLC, presented the findings from the recently-completed *Ozark Foothills Regional Housing Study*.

### TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Transportation Planning Coordinator Andrew Murphy informed the group that the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) held a county-specific project prioritization meeting during April 2019. The next meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2019. An electronic copy of the draft 2019-2024 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program is available.

The *Ozark Foothills Regional Transportation Plan* was presented to the commission on March 14, 2019 allowing three months for review and feedback. The plan was presented for approval by Director Ray. On a motion made by Mr. Darrell Dement and seconded by Commissioner Jesse Roy, the *Ozark Foothills Regional Transportation Plan* was adopted by the commission with no discussion.

## SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, REGION Q

Recycling Center Supervisor Jamie Lansford reported that the Center is unable to sell some collected commodities due to import reductions imposed by China. The price of plastic and cardboard are decreasing; while, white paper and newspaper prices remain steady.

## OZARK FOOTHILLS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Director Felicity Ray reported upon the business incubator. Two of the four spaces previously-available have been occupied by Empire Comfort Systems. Mr. Jay Eaton, V.P. of Operations with Empire Comfort Systems, shared with those in attendance plans for the company's expansion into Butler County.

## OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Assistant Director Crystal Jones reported upon activities of the Ozark Foothills Regional Community Foundation (OFRCF). The OFRCF fund balance as of June 20, 2019, was \$1,515,344.34.

The CFO's Rural Ozarks Health Initiative (ROHI) award was re-granted in May 2019 to Missouri Highlands Healthcare for their tele-dentistry program. In addition, an endowed scholarship fund was established for students pursuing higher education.

Assistant Director Jones introduced new foundation board member Ted Thompson who represents Ripley County.

## RIPLEY COUNTY PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY

Housing Coordinator Ilene Ward reported upon the Section 8 Rental Assistance Program. The Ripley County Public Housing Agency currently has 379 regular vouchers filled. In addition, thirty-nine VASH vouchers, dedicated specifically for homeless veterans, are also filled. Exactly 278 families remain upon the Section 8 Rental Assistance Program waiting list. The waiting list is currently closed.

Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Coordinator Carolyn Meeks reported there are forty-one families participating in the FSS Program, and fourteen families participating in the Home Ownership Program.

Director Ray introduced a revision to *Resolution #RCPHA-2019-01*. On a motion made by Commission Vince Lampe and seconded by Commissioner Joe Loyd, the revised resolution was adopted.

## NEW GRANTS RECEIVED

Assistant Director Crystal Jones reported upon the grant awards received during the prior quarter. They were summarized as follows:

- Wayne County, MDNR, Volkswagen Trust, \$50,000;
- Butler County, MDNR, Volkswagen Trust, \$140,000;
- Poplar Bluff Chamber of Commerce, MO Division of Tourism, Marketing Matching Grant, \$40,449;
- Harviell Community Center, CFO, Coover Grant Program, \$15,000;
- City of Poplar Bluff, MO DED, Industrial Infrastructure Project, \$792,168; and,
- Carter County, MDFB, MIDOC Loan, \$150,000.

## GRANT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

Director Ray reported that twenty-one grant applications were submitted during the prior quarter. A summary of each proposal was provided to those in attendance as an attachment to *Resolution #300*. A motion was made by Mayor Kirkpatrick and seconded by Commissioner Vince Lampe authorizing submission of the proposals. No opposition was expressed, and the motion carried.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Felicity Ray and the commission took a moment of silence to honor the life of long-time commission and executive committee member, Mr. Edward Coursey.

Director Ray reported the Ripley County Public Housing Agency has been pre-selected for designation as a Section 8 Moving to Work (MTW) agency. Final selection of MTW agencies will be conducted by HUD via a lottery system.

Director Ray presented the FY 2019 Budget for Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission, the Ozark Foothills Development Association, the Ozark Foothills Solid Waste Management District and the Ripley County Public Housing Agency. Director Ray explained areas of interest within the FY 2020 Budget. A \$56,000 loss is anticipated for operation of the Ozark Foothills Recycling Center. Administrative revenues are anticipated to increase when compared to FY 2019 due to the extraordinary increase in the number of projects administered following the 2017 Presidential Disaster Declaration. Expenses for the Ozark Foothills Solid Waste Management District operations are estimated at \$11,000 for the fiscal Year. A housing deficit is shown within Housing Assistance Payments for the Ripley County Public Housing Agency. This is because the agency has accrued reserves that must be spent down over the next twelve months.

A summary of the budget was provided as an attachment to *Resolution #301*. A motion was made by Commissioner Jesse Roy and seconded by Commissioner Vince Lampe to adopt *Resolution #301* thereby approving the budgets.

Director Ray introduced Chad Henson for consideration as a representative of the Solid Waste Management Sector, Bill Moriarty for consideration as a representative of the Retired Persons Sector, and Samantha Reed for consideration as a representative of the Business Sector. On a motion made by Rev. Gregory Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Vince Lampe, all three memberships were approved.

Director Ray acknowledged the life and passing of long-time board member Mr. Edward Coursey.

The Melvin Brinkley Public Service Award nomination deadline is August 15, 2019. Communities are encouraged to provide a brief written description of their nominee to Director Ray by the deadline. The awardee will be recognized at the December 2019 commission meeting.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Director Ray informed the group of the unexpected passing of Dr. Mike Redlich, Superintendent of Southern Reynolds County R-II School District and inaugural president of the Ozark Foothills Regional Community Foundation.

The Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission will be closed, June 21, 2019 for the annual staff retreat to be held in Ripley County.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 P.M.

Respectively Submitted,

_____	_____	_____	_____
Mr. Brian Polk, Vice Chairman	Date	Ms. Margaret Carter, Secretary	Date

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMEBERS IN ATTENDANCE

RON KEENEY  
BRIAN POLK  
RUSSELL FRENCH  
JOE LOYD  
WAYNE GIBBS

DARRELL DEMENT  
SAMANTHA EVANS  
MATT MICHEL  
PAUL JOHNSON

WILLIAM  
KIRKPATRICK  
REV. GREGORY KIRK  
VINCE LAMPE

COMMISSION MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

ROBERT SMITH  
JOHN MURRAY  
KEVIN BYNUM  
GLEN SEDRICK  
WAYNE OGDEN  
RICK JULIUS  
MIKE HOERNER  
GARY CONWAY, JR.

STANLEY BARETON  
PAUL WOOD  
DENNIS COX  
BERNARD ALLEN  
CARROLL RAINWATER  
ANGELA CLYBURN  
ANGELA SMITH  
DR. GENE OAKLEY

MS. MARGARET  
CARTER  
MRS. MILDRED  
COURSEY  
SR. ANNE FRANCONI

GUESTS

RONDA POLK  
GARY EMMONS  
STEVE ETCHER  
PAMELA KIRK  
GINA LOYD  
SHAD BURNER  
MIKE GRASSHAM

BILL MORIARTY  
SAMANTHA REED  
JASON JOHNSON  
MATT BEDELL  
BRANDON RAY  
LEONA STEPHENS  
CHAD HENSON

MATT BAIN  
BECKY GIBBS  
RICHARD STEPHENS  
TED THOMPSON  
SANDY JOY  
GERRI FLATT

STAFF

ILENE WARD  
CAROLYN MEEKS  
KEONA FERGUSON  
NIKI HARP  
ANDREW MURPHY

ROBYN BALLARD  
CAMILLE DONNELL  
FELICITY RAY  
CRYSTAL JONES  
ALAN LUTES

CHELSAE CORDIA  
JAMIE LANSFORD  
DAVEY HICKS