

RREC Advisory Board Meeting

Note: Meeting was held at the Rolla City Council Chambers, Rolla, MO
June 20, 2014 – 8:00 a.m.

Attending voting members: Wayne Parry, Keith Strassner, Jeff Davis, Stevie Kearse, Ben Tipton, Ed Clayton, Mike Woessner, Robert Teresso and Randy Verkamp.

Absent voting Members: Candace Connell, Dusty Cruise, and Shad Becker,

Guests: County Commissioners Gary Hicks and Larry Stratman , Floyd Ferrell, Rodney Bourn, Walt Branson, Bonnie Prigge, Jim White, Intercounty, Electric Coop, John Butz, Rolla City Administrator, Lonna Sowers, Dale Martin, and Cheri Tune.

Call to order: President Wayne Parry called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

President Parry asked the board members to review the May minutes which had been sent electronically prior to this meeting. **A motion was made by Keith Strassner and seconded Stevie Kearse to approve the minutes as presented.** A voice vote on the motion showed nine ayes, zero nays. **Motion carried.**

Due to time constraints, President Parry asked for a motion to suspend the current agenda to allow for discussion of important issues. **A motion was made by Ben Tipton to suspend the current agenda and seconded by Robert Tessero.** A voice vote on the motion showed nine ayes, zero nays. **Motion carried.** The USDA–RD Grant application and the mid -year project activity report will covered in the July meeting.

- **Financials:** Treasurer Ben Tipton reviewed the financial reports which were included in the board member packet. (See reports). Director Lorey noted she is getting quotes from companies to update the RREC web site. Funds for this expenditure will be covered under advertising, marketing or travel expenses.

Old Business:

- Project Topaz update: Director Lorey reported that Caterpillar will not be opening a plant in Rolla. They decided to expand one of their plants operating in Michigan. RREC and the Rolla community want to keep a strong relationship with this company for future consideration of expansion since Rolla was still being considered up until the final decision was made. She is working on a news release which she has sent to Caterpillar for their review before she submits the release to the media.
- Cantex update: Director Lorey met with the CEO at their headquarters in Fort Worth to discuss their plans for the plant and to see if they were interested in selling the property to RCDC. This topic will be brought up at their July board meeting.

New Business:

- BCI property update. Director Lorey will be showing this property to an interested company in a few days. They are interested in the areas due to the rail service available in the area. This inquiry has the potential to create 100-150 jobs.

- RREC Policy regarding Endorsements. Director Lorey is recommending RREC have a policy regarding endorsements. (Included in board packet) After discuss was presented, **Keith Strassner moved to add “local” to bullet #2 and was seconded by Stevie Kearsse.** A voice vote on the motion showed nine ayes, zero nays. **Motion carried.** Bullet 2 will now read: Under no circumstance may the RREC endorse a candidate for any **local**, city, county, state or federal office. **Motion carried. A motion was made by Keith Strassner to accept the RREC Policy regarding Endorsements as amended, seconded by Stevie Kearsse.** A voice vote on the motion showed nine ayes, zero nays. **Motion carried.**
- Conflict of Interest Policy. Director Lorey asked the board members to sign this document at this time and she will get the form signed yearly at the Annual Meeting in December. (document in board packet) She will email the document to the 3 absent members.

Presentation: Amendment 7: Transportation Issue headed for August Ballot.
Speaker: Preston Kramer, Area Engineer, MODOT

Discussion was presented by John Butz during Preston’s presentation regarding the TAC priority list that was submitted to MODOT. MODOT has proposed improvements be made north of Rolla on Highway 63 to Vichy. The City of Rolla is sending a letter to MODOT to consider improvements to the traffic flow on Highway 63 from I-44 to University Drive in place of the TAC recommendation. **A motion was made by Keith Strassner and seconded by Stevie Kearsse for RREC to send a letter of support to change the TAC list in favor of improvements to Highway 63 from I-44 to University Drive.** A voice vote on the motion showed nine ayes, zero nays. **Motion carried.**

President Perry asked for any further business. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:10 am.

Ben Tipton, Secretary/Treasurer

Prepared by Lee Flowers