

RREC Advisory Board Meeting

Note: Meeting was held at the Rolla City Council Chambers, Rolla MO.

April 17, 2015– 8:00 AM

Attending voting members: Jeff Davis, Mike Woessner, Ben Tipton, Gary Hicks (proxy), Robert Tessaro, Shad Becker, Candace Connell, Lou Magdits, Stevie Kearse, Ed Clayton and Wayne Parry.

Absent voting members: Keith Strassner and Dusty Cruise.

Guests: Tony Floyd, Dr. Aaron Zalis, Bill Jenks, John Butz, Steve Hargis, Preston Kramer, Lonna Sowers, Cameron Schwiess of Archer Elgin Engineering and Vicki Cason.

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order by President Wayne Parry at 8:00 a. m. Wayne asked the board members to review the February minutes which had been sent electronically prior to this meeting. **A motion was made by Ben Tipton and seconded by Mike Woessner to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried.**

Director Lorey noted the 1st quarter and year end financials were not available to be reviewed at this meeting. They should be available at the May meeting and it was suggested to send the reports to the board members when they are available for their review prior to the May meeting.

Old Business:

- Update on Project Fish: Director Lorey updated the members on the progress of the company looking to build a 140,000 square foot building at the Hypoint West site. The Distribution Center developer had signed a sales agreement with RCDC. 30-50 jobs would be created plus seasonal jobs as needed. Arch Elgin is working with the developer for the due diligence work. This project is looking to be finished by mid-2017. Additional infrastructure plans are going forward due to the development of this site to make the park more shovel ready.
- Transportation Bill 540: Director Lorey noted RREC sent a leadership letter to the governor in support of Bill 540. The letter included support by MST, the St. James and Rolla Mayors, RCDC, and Phelps County commissioners. The audience heard an update on this bill from Preston Kramer, MODOT Engineer. The original 504 Bill was for .02+.02+.02+I increase in the gas tax. The Governor's office indicated he would veto this bill if it passed both houses and came to his office. The bill was amended to only include .02 cents increase and if it passes, MODOT would have the funds to match federal dollars in 2017 but not 2018 or 2019 without another tax increase. Preston encouraged everyone to continue to send you supportive comments to the Representatives in the House. MODOT staff understands the amended bill has support in the Senate.

- RREC Website: Director Lorey presented an overview of the new RREC website to the audience. She encouraged everyone to review the site and she welcomes your feedback. Updated community pictures will be added to the site in the near future. RREC staff will be able to update the website as needed without paying the web designer. Director Lorey encouraged businesses and community news releases to be sent to her and they will be posted to the website. A request was made that viewer data be tracked and presented on a quarterly basis.

New Business:

- New Certified Site Process: Director Lorey will be helping the City of Rolla Airport and the City of St. James Industrial Park in the Site Certification process.
- New Director of Mo. Partnership: Steve Johnson is the new Chief Executive Director. A meeting is planned for April 27 with Mr. Johnson at the Big Industrial Building location at Hypoint West. She will be introducing him to economic development leaders in our community.
- First Quarter Project Activity: Director Lorey reviewed the activity report with the group. (see handout)
- Rolla Regional Transportation Strategy Agenda, Stakeholder and Public meetings. May 5th Notice. (See handout.)

Presentation: *The Purpose of the Rolla Major Transportation Study.*

Speakers: Mayor Magdits, John Butz and Steve Hargis .

Adjourned at 9:00 AM

Ben Tipton, Secretary/Treasurer

Prepared by Lee Flowers