

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

ST. CHARLES COUNTY FLOODPLAIN VISION BOARD

DATE: June 9, 2022

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

PLACE: COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
201 N. SECOND ST.
ST. CHARLES, MO 63301

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Boerding; Nathan Dunkmann; Herb Iffrig; Danny Kluesner and William Schaul

MEMBERS ABSENT: Janet Neustadt and Dennis Wappelhorst

STAFF PRESENT: Robert Myers, Planning & Zoning Director, Mark Price, Senior County Planner; Doug Moslehi, County Planner; Jared Young, County Planner; and Mariza Almstedt, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Danny Kluesner called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and roll call was taken. There was a quorum of Board members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Danny Kluesner asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2022 meeting. The motion was made by William Schaul and was seconded by Nathan Dunkmann. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice acclamation.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public speakers.

OLD BUSINESS

Update regarding funding for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Robert Myers provided a presentation regarding the submission of Grant Application for CDBG-DR4451 that was presented to the County Council on May 31, 2022 requesting that they authorize County staff to apply for a Community Development Block Grant from the State of Missouri. He

stated the State of Missouri has informed St. Charles County they are prepared to accept applications from interested homeowners. This is being done now because other types of assistance available in 2019 were for immediate response to a disaster. These funds are for long term recovery.

Robert stated the State of Missouri has allocated \$15,780,460 to St. Charles County through the Missouri Department of Economic Development and a State Action Plan has also been prepared and approved. Through the State Action Plan, the County has been informed that the County's primary focus has to be the Local Voluntary Buyout Program. Robert explained the buyout program process and how applications would be ranked.

Robert Myers explained what a buyout zone is. He added HUD and MO Dept. Economic Development would like applications taken from potential voluntary buyout homes in designated areas but do not want to see an area become a giant buyout zone. Robert explained they'd like the majority of owners to be either in favor of being included in a buyout zone or at least not object to being in one. Slides were presented showing the location of damaged homes and where interested people in the buyout program live.

Robert Myers said we are at the early phase of the buyout program process where an application has been created by County staff and the County Council recently authorized staff to submit it. There is July 31st deadline, but it will likely be submitted mid-June. Should it be approved, St. Charles County would undergo an engagement process with homeowners in each of the buyout zones. Robert stated the first priority would be to purchase homes in the floodplain and closest to the river, demolish them, then create open spaces. Robert Myers noted that not only do these funds help with the purchase of a home but will also assist in finding comparable housing if needed.

Robert asked if the Commission would be interested in providing their recommendations to County staff or the County Executive regarding what should be done with the future use of County owned properties.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Upper Mississippi River Comprehensive Study (Plan H)

Dawn Boerding said the North County Consolidated Levee District is having a meeting at the Machens shed on June 16th with the Corps of Engineers at 9 am. to get the Corps in line with the area due to numerous personnel changes. They will also go to Elsberry and the Kissinger Levee District.

Support for Development along Hwy 94 and drainage concerns along Missouri Bottoms

Nathan Dunkmann stated additional rainwater consistently backs up further. He stated there is an unofficial group that manages the drainage ditch that is made up of volunteers that everyone pays into. He expressed it needs to become official in order for fees to be assessed to maintain it as the water is not being maintained by retention basins as engineers say they do.

Nathan Dunkmann explained the group is seeking avenues to form a legitimate drainage association and is a constant fight dealing with the ditch that goes to Marais Temp Clair division. Beaver dams are built there, and farmers cannot go into the area to fix the problem because it's part of Missouri Department of Conservation ground. Robert Myers asked if this is part of North County Consolidated Levee District and Nathan Dunkmann answered in the affirmative. Robert Myers suggested forming a subdistrict. Nathan Dunkmann said the levee district wants to be a levee district and, and pointed out, it is so far away from West Alton, that the levee district is not spending any time or effort maintaining this area. Robert Myers said he found a Reclamation Plan in the Recorder's office for the North County Consolidated Levee District that states their plans. He added the Plan could state that levees and drainages could be done. Nathan Dunkmann said if this was going to be done, the entire North County Consolidated Levee District area would have to be taken to form a permanent drainage district. Nathan Dunkmann said it would not be fair for someone from West Alton who

doesn't care what happens to the water on the other end of the County to have any money at stake in this endeavor.

Robert asked for the name of the voluntary organization. Nathan Dunkman said it's the Marais Temp Claire Drainage District which has a State ID No. that has been ran by the same farmers for years. Denny said it's going to take a structure, a drainage district, and seed money to get the project started. Nathan said no one has been paying money yearly, as payments are made only when maintenance has to occur and then it all gets used.

TABLED ITEMS

HEC-RAS study for Upper Mississippi Update

There were no updates for this item and the item remained tabled.

AGENDA SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING, September 8, 2022

1. Update regarding funding for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).
 2. Update on the June 16th meeting with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
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ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Danny Kluesner called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Dawn Boerding and was seconded by William Schaul. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous voice acclamation at 2:48 p.m.
