

**800 E. Pennell**

**Carl Junction, MO 64834**

# **Harry S Truman Coordinating Council**

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**MINUTES**

**Harry S Truman Coordinating Council**

**Membership Meeting**

**February 25, 2015 11:30 a.m.**

**HSTCC Office  
800 E Pennell, Carl Junction, MO**

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| **Call to Order:** | Steve Lawver, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 11:55 a.m. |
| **Consent Agenda:** | Steve Lawver, Chairman, asked if any changes were necessary to the consent agenda. There were no objections. The Consent Agenda stood as approved. |
| **Financial Report:** | Carl Rabey, Staff, presented the January financial report. Jill Cornett, Executive Director asked Carl to review the year-to-date actual financials compared to budgeted expenses and revenues. Carl did not have a year-to-date report readily available but noted expenses for the HSTCDC were much higher than budgeted and higher than YTD revenues. He also noted that the organization has not accounted for depreciation this year and that the CDC owes HSTCC for salaries. |
| **Staff Announcements:** | Staff reports were distributed within the meeting packets. |
| **Board Elections:** | Jason Ray, Deputy Director, reviewed the results of the Board elections as shown in the meeting packet. He noted only nine members participated in voting and that the Board would hold a special meeting to elect Executive Board members in March. |
| **Director’s Report:** | Jill Cornett, Executive Director, discussed progress on the Spring River Watershed Management Plan. She said HSTCC, along with Kansas State University and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) completed the last of a series of four public engagement rounds to gather feedback for the plans. HSTCC will serve as a repository of the Plan once it is finalized.  Jill stated that she and Jason Ray, Deputy Director, participated in a Peer Review with the Economic Development Administration (EDA) in Springfield on February 19 along with other Missouri Regional Planning Commissions (RPCs) and one Peer RPC from Iowa. They discussed improvements to HSTCC’s Economic Development Planning program based on experiences from peer RPCs.  Jill asked Bryan West, staff, to provide an update on the HSTCDC’s progress on the Patriot Park development in Carterville. Bryan West stated that preliminary engineering is currently underway while we finish the appraisal of the land and plat for the project as well as securing financing from Southwest Missouri Bank. James Ledford Construction will build the first 12 units of the development and we will host a groundbreaking ceremony in a few months. Jill noted that she would like to see several Board members at the groundbreaking ceremony.  Jill noted that we are about to finish the “CJ2” units (the second phase of the Carl Junction Senior Housing development). She stated that most duplexes are completed and occupied. Bryan West added that he is working with several new tenants and hopes to have all units occupied by mid-April. Jill then noted that there is amazing demand for senior housing in the area.  Jill stated that we are looking to perform feasibility studies for brownfield sites. There is contact information included in the meeting packet for MDNR – they can help determine whether it is feasible to redevelop a brownfield site or not. MDNR is also funding feasibility studies for small community wastewater service. Small communities can tie on to nearby sewer districts and the study would help determine the costs associated with that.  Jill then introduced a new staff member, Kelli Podleski who is a Program Assistant and will be helping with meeting planning, answering phones, etc.  Jill introduced Dave McElhaney, Construction Supervisor. Jill stated Dave has great experience and helps maintain our building and rental properties. Dave has worked with us for several years as a contractor. |
| **Legislative Reports** | Jake Heinsten, Congressman Billy Long’s office, asked Jill Cornett to discuss the agricultural impacts on the Spring River Watershed. Jill stated the concern is high levels of E. coli in the water which comes from livestock standing in the stream.  Jake then noted that funding for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) runs out at the end of the week. He said their office is working on some local projects including an agricultural tour for the Congressman in Jasper County.  Steve McIntosh, Senator Roy Blunt’s office, said the President vetoed the Keystone Pipeline Bill. He noted that in the Senate version of the bill that Senator Blunt sponsored, it directed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to take regulations to independent groups to determine the affordability to implement the regulations.  David Stokely, Senator Claire McCaskill’s office, stated the Keystone Pipeline had bipartisan support and that Senator McCaskill will vote to override the President’s veto. David also noted the Senator took a trip to Cuba and that she is in favor of eliminating the embargo. There is a lot of opportunity for Missouri industry and farmers to trade in Cuba. He also stated that Senator McCaskill is in favor of funding DHS through a “clean” bill. |
| **Roundtable Discussion:** | Greg Bramwell, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), stated their budget is good through the end of September. There is money available for the Community Facilities Loan program; about $10 million for Southwest Missouri. There is $66,000 in grant money for Southwest Missouri which must be paired with a loan from that program. There is direct loan funding for housing through the 502 program, the 504 grants for individuals 62 years or older which provides $7500 for repairs such as a new roof, electric heating, etc.  Several HSTCC members then provided brief updates about what is happening in their respective communities. |
| **Regular Session Adjourned:** | Steve Lawver, Chairman, adjourned the meeting at 1:03 p.m. |
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