



Board of Directors BUDGET & PERSONNEL

Mid-America Regional Council • 600 Broadway, Suite 200 • Kansas City, Missouri 64105 • 816/474-4240

April 26, 2022

11:15 a.m.

Hybrid format: limited attendees in MARC's Board Room with a remote option via Zoom

- **Members of the public who wish to participate in this meeting: please email Karina Bielecki at kbielecki@marc.org by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 for instructions to join the teleconference.**

AGENDA

1. Financial and Program Reports and Discussion
 - a. VOTE: Approve Changes to Employee Fringe Benefit Package Effective July 1, 2022
2. Approve Contracts, Grants, and Other Major Expenditures

CORE CAPACITIES

- a. VOTE: Approve an Agreement with John Marshall for Services Related to Office Expansion
- b. VOTE: Approve an Agreement with Odimo for Architectural and Construction Management Services Related to Office Expansion
- c. VOTE: Authorize an Agreement with Kansas City Audio-Visual to Update the Audio/Visual System in the Board Room

SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES

- d. VOTE: Approve an Agreement with GeoComm for the GeoComm GIS Data Hub
- e. VOTE: Approve an Agreement with AT&T for a Switched Ethernet Circuit to Supply Redundant Access to the Regional 911 System
- f. VOTE: Authorize an Agreement with Linn County to Join the Regional 911 System
- g. VOTE: Approve an Agreement with Motorola to Purchase VESTA Call-taking Hardware for Linn County
- h. VOTE: Authorize a Contract Extension with Mike Parker through December 2022 for Emergency Services Support for the Regional COVID-19 Coordination Hub and Related Planning and Recovery Services

THRIVING OLDER ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES

- i. VOTE: Authorize Amendments to SFY 2022 Contracts and Approve SFY 2023 Contract Amounts and Rates for Selected Partners
- j. VOTE: Authorize a Service Agreement with University of Missouri Kansas City to Assist Patients with Heart Failure
- k. VOTE: Authorize the Release of SFY 2023 National Family Caregiver Request for Proposals

EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION AND QUALITY PLACES

- l. VOTE: Approve a Contract with Brungardt Honomichl & Co. for Design Engineering and Construction Management Services to Support the Regional Preventive Maintenance Program



Board of Directors **BUDGET & PERSONNEL**

Mid-America Regional Council • 600 Broadway, Suite 200 • Kansas City, Missouri 64105 • 816/474-4240

3. VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda (Administrative Matters and Minor Expenditures)
 - a. Approve the Minutes of the March 22, 2022 Meeting
4. Other Business
5. Adjournment

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022
Item No. 1-a
Core Capacities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve Changes to Employee Fringe Benefit Package Effective July 1, 2022

BACKGROUND:

MARC's cafeteria, health, dental, and vision insurance plans operate on a July 1 – June 30 plan year. MARC currently offers four health insurance plans, one dental plan, and one vision plan to employees, all obtained through Midwest Public Risk (MPR). In 2020, we completed a full marketing of our health benefits and selected MPR.

In March 2022, the MPR Board of Directors approved premium increases with minimal changes to the plan designs. The percentage of premium increases for our current plans effective July 1, 2022, are below. These increases reflect increasing medical costs, pharmacy benefit costs, and plan utilization.

<u>Plan</u>	<u>MPR Premium Increases</u>
OAP 1500	3%
OAP 2500	3%
HDHP CF 1500	5%
HDHP CF 2500	5%
Vision	0.0%
Dental	0.0%

Evaluation of Plans

The following are goals that have been developed for benefit plan renewal:

- Offer plan options that represent true choice differences
- Offer plans with benefit structures that are competitive to the market
- Offer market competitive employer/employee cost sharing
- Implement a program that is within our budget and is publicly appropriate

The Employee Council reviewed the renewal based on these goals.

MARC uses Hallier Benefit Advisors to assist in benefits management. In comparison with regional and national data provided by Hallier Benefit Advisors, these premium increases are below average. This data also shows that key aspects of our plans such as deductibles, premiums, and employee/employer cost sharing are competitive with the market.

Employee/Employer Cost Sharing

As a basis for cost sharing, MARC designates one plan as a basic "core insurance plan" each year on which to base the cost sharing formula. MARC's current employer premium cost sharing percentages are 72% for family, 78.3% for Tier 2 and 82.3% for individual coverage. The plan with the largest number of employees is the HDHP 1500 so it was selected as the core plan for 2021-2022 plan year.

Other Benefits

Dental and Vision insurance rates did not change. MARC does not contribute towards these plans. Staff recommends continuing to offer both benefits.

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

All employees (whether on MARC’s health insurance or not) currently receive a monthly Cafeteria Allowance which helps offset insurance costs and/or to purchase optional benefits of dental, vision, life, and disability insurance and/or to contribute to a flexible spending account or health savings account. The current allowance is \$200/month. Due to rising inflation and the competitive hiring market, staff recommends an increase of \$20 for this plan year to \$220/month.

For many years, MARC has offered a Health Savings Account pre-fund option for the HDHP plans. This approach provides the employee with some funds available in the HSA to help with any medical expenses that occur early in the plan year. The current pre-fund amount for individual coverage is \$600, and \$1200 for tier 2 or family coverage. Staff recommends no change to this benefit for this plan year.

Staff requested that Hallier Benefit Advisors share new trends regarding benefits in order to ensure our program remains attractive to employees and potential employees. They presented information on optional benefits to the Employee Council. Examples of optional benefits include insurance for cancer, accidental injury, critical illness, hospital indemnity, legal issues, and identity theft. Election of these benefits would be completely voluntary, and 100% employee paid. The Employee Council is reviewing the benefit options and gauging interest and may offer some optional benefits beginning January 1, 2023.

Summary of Recommendations

Recommendations for the 2022-2023 Plan Year are as follows:

- Health Insurance

Plan	Total Premium	Employer		Employee	
Open Access 1500					
Family	\$2010.00	\$1172.00	58.3%	\$838.00	41.7%
Tier 2	1712.00	1076.00	62.9%	636.00	37.1%
Single	746.00	487.00	65.3%	259.00	34.7%
Open Access 2500					
Family	\$1938.00	\$1172.00	60.5%	\$766.00	39.5%
Tier 2	1650.00	1076.00	65.2%	574.00	34.8%
Single	716.00	487.00	68.0%	229.00	32.0%
High Deductible 1500*					
Family	\$1628.00	\$1172.00	72.0%	\$456.00	28.0%
Tier 2	1374.00	1076.00	78.3%	298.00	21.7%
Single	592.00	487.00	82.3%	105.00	17.7%
High Deductible 2500					
Family	\$1464.00	\$1172.00	80.1%	\$292.00	19.9%
Tier 2	1242.00	1076.00	86.6%	166.00	13.4%
Single	518.00	487.00	94.0%	31.00	6.0%

*Core Plan

- Vision and Dental Insurance. Employees who elect Vision and/or Dental plans may use their Cafeteria Plan Allowance for premiums. There is no other cost sharing from MARC.

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

	Employee Total Monthly Premium		
	Family	Tier 2	Individual
Vision	\$ 22.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 8.00
Dental	88.00		36.00

- Cafeteria Plan Allowance at \$220/month.
- Pre-funding option for employees on the high deductible plans of \$600 for individual and \$1200 for family and tier 2.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

All employer share of benefit costs are budgeted in the Indirect and Clearing Fund and funded through our Fringe Benefits allocation rate. Budgeted numbers are calendar year, and include 6 months of one plan year, and 6 months of the next plan year.

Employer Costs	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Projected	
Health Insurance	\$1,302,246	1,173,272	1,304,905	1,268,293	Based on proposed cost sharing
Cafeteria Allowance	\$388,065	358,200	439,200	408,000	With six months of \$20/month increase

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize changes to the employee fringe benefit package effective July 1, 2022, including offering the OAP 1500, OAP 2500, HDHP 1500, and HDHP 2500 with the cost sharing shown above; continuing to offer employee funded Vision and Dental insurance; increasing the Cafeteria Plan Allowance at \$220/month; and prefunding HDHP plan Health Savings Accounts at \$600/\$1200 to be repaid by employees over the plan year.

STAFF CONTACT:

Nancy Weitzel Burry
Carol Gonzales

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022
Item No. 2-a
Core Capacities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve an Agreement with John Marshall for Services Related to Office Expansion

BACKGROUND:

An overview of the expansion and remodel of MARC offices was presented at the March Budget and Personnel Committee meeting. Work is underway on the next phase of the project. MARC was presented with the opportunity of accepting donated used furniture from a private company that is downsizing. MARC staff, along with Odimo representatives (architects) and individuals from John Marshall toured the facility and determined that the furniture was attractive and in excellent condition. We identified approximately 46 cubicles and furnishings, furniture from 9 private offices, 7 conference rooms, a training room, break room, and 2 lounge areas that could be used in the new space.

Costs to disassemble, store, and reassemble the furniture were significantly less expensive than buying the furniture new. Additionally, it is consistent with MARC's value of sustainability. John Marshall has provided furniture for MARC offices for many years through government contract prices. The donated furniture is Herman Miller brand. John Marshall is a Herman Miller vendor; consequently, their staff is trained on how to disassemble and assemble that specific brand. John Marshall staff has provided design services, doing "as-fit" drawings to ensure the donated furniture meets the needs and fits the plans of the space study. Based on the donating company's schedule the furniture needs to be moved from their building in late April/early May. Because the remodel project will not be completed until fall, John Marshall has also agreed to store the furniture. This fall, following the remodel, John Marshall will reassemble the furniture on the 4th floor and will also assist with the furniture moves on the 3rd floor.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

We asked John Marshall to provide estimated pricing for this work. MARC will be invoiced based on actual time and materials using current labor rates.

Spring 2022		
Project Management and Design	Estimated 188 hours at \$78/hour	\$14,664
Demo of Furniture	Estimated 90 hours at \$78/hour	\$7,020
Transport (assumes overtime)	Estimated 90 hours at \$108/hour	\$9,720
Storage	Estimated 5 months of storage	\$13,925
Fall 2022		
Delivery	Estimated 50 hours at \$78/hour	\$3,900
Reassembly of furniture	Estimate: 914 hours at \$78/hour	\$71,292
Reconfiguration	Estimate: 180 hours at \$78/hour	\$14,040
	Estimated Total	\$134,561

We have updated the budget below, knowing that there will still be changes in both the costs and the sources of revenue as we move forward:

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

REVENUES	
Tenant Refurbishment Allowance	342,537
Indirect	215,000
911 Budget	80,000
10% of Long Term Contingency balance	167,000
Additional 911, other grant, indirect funding	310,463
Total	\$1,115,000
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Remodel Costs	901,000
Furniture	134,000
Board Room Equipment	80,000
Total	\$ 1,115,000

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve agreements with John Marshall for design services, disassembly, storage, and reassembly of furniture.

STAFF CONTACT:

Carol Gonzales
Mike Daniels

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022
Item No. 2-b
Core Capacities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve an Agreement with Odimo for Architectural and Construction Management Services Related to Office Expansion

BACKGROUND:

An overview of the expansion and remodel of MARC offices was presented at the March Budget and Personnel Committee meeting. Work is underway on the next phase of the project.

In the summer and fall of 2021, Odimo architects were selected to facilitate a space study for the MARC offices. Through a supplement to that agreement, Odimo worked with staff to develop preliminary schematic designs for the new space and modifications to existing space. The final phase of this project includes:

- finalizing schematic design
- finalizing construction documents
- managing the bidding process
- assisting with selection of a general contractor
- provide construction administration services

Staff requested Odimo prepare a Scope of Services for this final phase. Their proposal includes subcontracting with Branch Pattern for mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) services.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

Odimo has proposed a not to exceed fee of \$95,000, which includes \$56,350 for architectural services and \$38,650 for MEP work. We have updated the budget below, knowing that there will still be changes in both the costs and the sources of revenue as we move forward. The Odimo agreement is included within the Remodel Costs budget.

REVENUES	
Tenant Refurbishment Allowance	342,537
Indirect	215,000
911 Budget	80,000
10% of Long Term Contingency balance	167,000
Additional 911, other grant, indirect funding	310,463
Total	\$1,115,000
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Remodel Costs	901,000
Furniture	134,000
Board Room Equipment	80,000
Total	\$ 1,115,000

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve agreements with Odimo for architectural services at a not to exceed cost of \$95,000, related to the expansion and remodel of MARC offices.

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

STAFF CONTACT:

Carol Gonzales

Mike Daniels

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022
Item No. 2-c
Core Capacities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an Agreement with Kansas City Audio-Visual to Update the Audio/Visual System in the Board Room

BACKGROUND:

MARC has been working on improving its meeting rooms to accommodate hybrid meetings involving in-person and remote attendees. The AV equipment in the Board room was put in place in 2006 and has only received minor updates since that time. It is our largest and most used room. An RFP was sent to local audio/visual vendors and posted on Demand Star on December 13, 2021. Four proposals were received: Heartland AV - \$64,534, Kansas City Audio-Visual (KCAV) - \$80,435, Progressive Electronics - \$70,555, and SKC Communications - \$98,602. A MARC technical staff committee was formed to review the proposals. During the evaluation we were notified by Heartland AV that they no longer had repair services in the Kansas City area. On-site visits were scheduled with the other three vendors. The technical committee believes that KCAV's experience and the appropriateness of their proposal, including pricing, make them the best fit for this project.

Equipment and functionality that are included in this proposal include:

- Ceiling embedded audio system that is centrally controlled.
- Two large (98") screens at the front (west side) of the room.
- Three screens (55") located on the east, north and south sides of the room for better visibility.
- Three auto tracking cameras
- A central control system based at the podium that can be pre-programmed for various meeting setups.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

Funding of \$100,000 was included in the Indirect fund as part of the overall remodel project. We just received notification of our Head Start COLA/Quality Improvement award and may use some of that funding for this project also. We plan to enter into an ongoing service arrangement with them as well.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$ 100,000
Source	Indirect, Head Start COLA/QI
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Equipment	\$ 60,997
Installation	\$ 19,438
Total	\$ 80,435
Service Contract (2 nd year on)	\$5,630

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize MARC to enter an agreement with KCAV to create an audio/visual system in the Board room for a total cost of \$80,435.

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

STAFF CONTACT:

Sasan Baharaeen

Carol Gonzales

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022
Item No. 2-d
Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve an Agreement with GeoComm for the GeoComm GIS Data Hub

BACKGROUND:

GeoComm GIS Data Hub supports ongoing submissions of Mid America Regional Council’s regional coverage area GIS dataset for data processing and quality control reporting. The dataset will include the following counties’ GIS datasets: Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray Counties in Missouri; and Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami, Wyandotte, Atchison, and Linn Counties in Kansas.

The system accepts GIS data in its native format, processes it through configured quality control checks, and provides actionable reporting to assist MARC with resolving errors and inconsistencies within the data. The system is a cloud-hosted application accessed by MARC users over the internet.

This product is replacing our current product for quality control checks and prepares our system for future NextGen911 mapping improvements.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

This is a three-year agreement for the GeoComm GIS Data Hub, totaling \$104,313. The cost will be paid yearly, and the expenditure is included in the regional 911 allocation budget.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$104,313
Source	911 Allocation Budget
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$104,313

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Public Safety Communications Board approved the use of these funds in the 2022 Regional 911 Budget on September 8, 2021.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the three-year agreement with GeoComm for the GeoComm GIS Data Hub.

STAFF CONTACT:

Eric Winebrenner

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022
Item No. 2-e
Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve an Agreement with AT&T for a Switched Ethernet Circuit to Supply Redundant Access to the Regional 911 System

BACKGROUND:

MARC Public Safety contracts with AT&T and other telephone companies for various digital telecommunications connections.

Several years ago, MARC evaluated the need to add redundancy for connections to each Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) to avoid a single point of failure. At the same time, MARC looked at using newer technology for the connections, such as an AT&T Switched Ethernet (ASE) circuit, to increase system capacity, improve service, and reduce costs.

We are establishing digital telecommunications connections to improve our redundancies.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The monthly-recurring cost for the connection is \$1,042.94 on a 6-year contract for a total of \$62,576.40. This expenditure is included in the regional 911 allocation budgets.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$62,576.40
Source	911 Allocation Budget
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$62,576.40

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Public Safety Communications Board approved the use of these funds in the 2022 Regional 911 Budget on September 8, 2021.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the agreement with AT&T for an ASE circuit from Fort Leavenworth to Johnson County Emergency Communications Center to supply redundant access to the regional 911 system.

STAFF CONTACT:

Eric Winebrenner

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022
Item No. 2-f
Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an Agreement with Linn County to Join the Regional 911 System

BACKGROUND:

The Regional 911 System currently serves the nine counties that are members of the Mid America Regional Council plus Atchison County, Kansas. The Linn County Sheriff has requested that Linn County, Kansas become a part of the regional 911 system.

This request would add the Linn County public safety answering point (PSAP) to the system. The Public Safety Communications Board's (PSCB) policy for new agencies desiring to join the regional 911 system sets out the following criteria to guide decisions by the PSCB.

- Location of the agency or community is contiguous to the counties participating in the Regional 911 System, or there is a relationship between the agency or community's service area and the Regional 911 System's existing service area.
- The local officials in the community making the request to join the Regional 911 System have the support of the governing body of their county and participating cities.
- The cost to provide the Regional 911 System services to the requesting agency or community will be covered by that agency or community and not pose a financial burden on Kansas City metro area counties to allow for services to be delivered.
- The delivery of the Regional 911 System services to the requesting agency or community will not detract from the level of service needed by Kansas City metro area PSAPs.

The request is consistent with the Public Safety Communications Board policy criteria: Linn County is contiguous to the region; the Linn County Sheriff and the Linn County Commission approved this action in March 2022; Linn County will cover all costs associated with their joining and participation in the regional system; and the service to Linn County will not detract from the level of service to other PSAPs in the region. Linn County is currently using the same equipment and software as PSAPs in the MARC region. The agreement between the county and MARC is for one year and may be renewed annually.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

Initial costs to connect to the system will be paid by Linn County. Once added to the system, the county's population will equal .045% of the overall regional total. Costs for the regional 911 system are shared by participating counties on a per capita basis.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$40,670.15 year
Source	Linn County 911 Allocation funds
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Network/Other Circuits	\$10,210.96
Language Line	\$207.19
SS7	\$393.05
Cyber Security	\$749.95
GIS Maintenance	\$1,453.45

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

911 Training	\$450.42
Tower Maintenance	\$959.39
911 Equipment Maintenance	\$3893.55
Cost Shares	220.70
MARC Coordination	\$11,124.71
Capital Projects	\$10,790.95
Capital Reserve Fund	\$215.82

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Public Safety Communications Board approved the addition of Linn County to the regional 911 system at the April 20, 2022 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize an agreement with Linn County to join the regional 911 system.

STAFF CONTACT:

Eric Winebrenner

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022
Item No. 2-g
Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve an Agreement with Motorola to Purchase VESTA Call-taking Hardware for Linn County

BACKGROUND:

The Public Safety Communications Board approved the addition of Linn County to the Regional 911 System on April 20, 2022. The purchase of this equipment is part of the agreement for Linn County to join the MARC Regional 911 System. The equipment will be purchased and installed by MARC technicians at the newly constructed Public Safety Building in Mound City, KS.

The Regional 911 System currently serves the nine counties that are members of the Mid America Regional Council plus Atchison and Linn Counties in Kansas.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

As part of the agreement to join the MARC Regional 911 system, Linn County has agreed to reimburse MARC for the new VESTA Call-taking hardware.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$62,381.95
Source	911 Allocation Budget (Capital Projects)
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Pass-Through	(Linn County) \$62,381.95

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Public Safety Communications Board approved the addition of Linn County to the regional 911 system and the approval of this purchase at the April 20, 2022, meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the agreement with Motorola to purchase VESTA Call-taking hardware for Linn County.

STAFF CONTACT:

Eric Winebrenner

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022
Item No. 2-h
Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize a Contract Extension with Mike Parker through December 2022 for Emergency Services Support for the Regional COVID-19 Coordination Hub and Related Planning and Recovery Services

BACKGROUND:

Mike Parker began volunteering with MARC Emergency Services in March 2020 and was asked to serve as lead coordinator for the COVID-19 Regional Coordination Hub. Mr. Parker is a retired employee of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and has extensive experience in emergency management and large-scale FEMA disaster response efforts. He has a background and advanced degree in Emergency Health Care. MARC secured funding and entered into an agreement with Mr. Parker in the amount of \$105,000 in June 2020 to enable his continued services.

The Regional Public Health Testing and Contact Tracing Plan included standing up a Regional Coordination Hub for two purposes: (1) regional and local data analytical support to increase understanding of COVID-19 activity (testing activity, active cases, hospital use, availability of supplies/resources); and (2) to coordinate the deployment of testing teams to support and supplement efforts by local public health departments.

Staff requests approval to execute a contract amendment to extend Mr. Parker's services through December 31, 2022. He will continue as the lead coordinator for the Regional COVID-19 Coordination Hub, and he will oversee transitions in the hub as the presence of the disease continues to decrease, with ongoing monitoring for changes in cases, hospitalizations, and other conditions. The analysis would change its focus to a more holistic view of lifelines as a measure of community health and well-being in consultation with the Health Care Coalition (HCC).

In addition, Mr. Parker will assist with a framework to lay out how regional health and medical emergency services can plan transitions from pandemic-related activities to more normal operations, including the capability to ramp up response if needed. This will include work to refine the Regional Action Plan based on lessons learned from the regional COVID-19 response over the last two years.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

Funding for the additional work will be supported by the Missouri Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness ASPR grant (\$15,000) and Marion and Henry Bloch Charitable Foundation (\$48,000). This request will increase the contract by an amount not to exceed \$63,000 for work performed from April 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$63,000
Source	ASPR Grant and Bloch Charitable Foundation
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$63,000

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize a contract amendment with Mike Parker in an amount not to exceed \$63,000 (total contract amount not to exceed \$168,000).

STAFF CONTACT:

Marlene Nagel

Erin Lynch

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022

Item No. 2-i

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize Amendments to SFY 2022 Contracts and Approve SFY 2023 Contract Amounts and Rates for Selected Partners

BACKGROUND:

Existing partners require contract amendments to continue, or initiate, SFY 2022 work for home-delivered meals and information and referral.

Kanbe’s Markets needs a contract extension to finish SFY 2022, which includes operating a central meal re-pack and distribution facility as well as delivering meals (meal fulfillment).

Southeast Enterprises was selected as the SFY 2023 re-pack partner, and approval is required to initiate and test a partnership and operating model in preparation for a full transition on July 1, 2022.

Existing food providers/distributors, selected equipment providers, meal delivery partners, and other essential organizations are included in this request.

Under MARC’s Managed Services Network (MSN) integrated care initiative, a competitive RFQ was used to select TICO Productions, LLC., to help with a new outreach and messaging project that will better establish the image and messaging of the community-integrated health network for relevant stakeholders. This work will cross SFYs 2022 and 2023.

Finally, United Way 2-1-1 was selected to continue contract Information and Referral (call center) activities for MARC, but with the addition of one additional FTE position, to ensure that caller wait times are within acceptable ranges.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

Title IIIC.2

Home-Delivered Meals

Kanbe’s Markets (contract extension to complete SFY 2022 mid-May - June 30, 2022):

To provide meal re-packing and delivery, including a \$10/vehicle per pickup for loading bulk home-delivered meals.

Compensation

- a. In recognition of the start-up costs for KANBE’S, MARC will pay KANBE’S a monthly stipend of \$ 35,840 during Phase 1. The amount of the stipend is based on mutually agreed upon and well documented costs of the program as shown in the annualized budget in Appendix 4.
- b. At such time that services are expanded (Phase 2), MARC will pay KANBE’S based on a \$ 0.20 repackaging fee and \$1.50 per Meal for any Meals over 13,000 per month.

Total Increase to Value of Contract..... not to exceed \$53,760

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

Southeast Enterprises (remaining SFY 2022-SFY 2023)

To provide frozen meal re-packing and ordering. Delivery partners will pick up from the Southeast warehouse, or bulk meals will be delivered to strategically placed freezer pods for last-mile fulfillment to clients.

Total price is \$176,259 - 191,955 (\$2,700.90/week X 52 weeks, or \$140,446.80; \$35,812 to 51,508 one-time startup), at 5,000 meals/week (260,000 annual meals), or \$0.68-\$0.74/meal 0.935-0.995/meal (out-years would exclude initial start-up costs).

Total Value of Contract.....\$191,955

MARC, existing fulfillment partners, and food sourcing partners (remaining SFY 2022-SFY 2023)

With Community Center Services partners, MARC will coordinate delivery of frozen meals to new clients, clients who are under integrated care contracts, and clients involved in special initiatives or programs.

Potential Total Value of Contracts \$2,000,000

Beginning March 1, 2022 (remaining SFY 2022-SFY 2023)
MARC’s Community Integrated Health Network

TICO Productions

Updated messaging is needed to better communicate the value and opportunity of MARC’s integrated care work, largely conducted under the auspices of the community-integrated health network that was titled the “MSN.” Improved messaging and identification of strengths of the network is expected to better align the work with the needs of health care organizations while outlining the benefits of the approach for community-based organizations.

TICO will interview key informants, make recommendations on messaging and images, and help to develop media and other products that support the community’s efforts to better align social care with health care.

Total Value of Contract.....not to exceed \$50,000

Beginning May 1, 2022 (remaining SFY 2022-SFY 2023)

Title III B

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL:

United Way of Greater Kansas City’s 2-1-1 call center handles contracted Information and Referral activities. Three call specialists, trained to assist older adults, conduct intake screens, make connections to community resources, and provide general information about aging successfully in the community. A third position is recommended for this cycle to keep wait times at a reasonable length.

United Way 2-1-1 of Greater KC

Total Value of Contract..... not to exceed \$163,209

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The MARC Commission on Aging recommended authorization to amend SFY 2022 contracts and approve SFY 2023 contract amounts and rates for selected partners as described above.

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize amendments to SFY 2022 contracts and approve SFY 2023 contract amounts and rates for selected partners as described above.

STAFF CONTACT:

James Stowe

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022
Item No. 2-j
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize a Service Agreement with University of Missouri Kansas City to Assist Patients with Heart Failure

BACKGROUND:

MARC has partnered with a high-capacity implementation science team, housed at the University of Missouri Kansas City’s Healthcare Institute on Innovations and Quality (HI-IQ), to provide whole-person social services to un- or underinsured individuals experiencing heart failure. The HI-IQ team is offering local hospitals an array of interventions that help to improve heart failure outcomes, including integrated care services under MARC’s MSN model.

However, MARC is using federal Older Americans Act funds for these services, and eligibility typically begins at age 60. The HI-IQ team is using their own dollars to “purchase” services through the MSN for patients who are under 60, and who may be treated at hospitals in either Kansas or Missouri. This will allow for a more appealing package of interventions for participating hospitals and will increase the number of patients served under the initiative.

The HI-IQ team has committed to analyzing the results of this project as a demonstration of the efficacy of the MSN model on outcomes such as quality of life and health care utilization among individuals experiencing heart failure.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Curators of the University of Missouri	\$70,000
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$70,000

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Commission on Aging recommended execution of a service agreement with University of Missouri Kansas City to assist patients with heart failure.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize execution of service agreement with University of Missouri Kansas City to assist patients with heart failure.

STAFF CONTACT:

James Stowe

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022
Item No. 2-k
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize the Release of SFY 2023 National Family Caregiver Request for Proposals

BACKGROUND:

To strategically plan for the next program year, the Department of Aging and Adult Services and MARC Commission on Aging will develop a Requests for Proposals (RFP) for services to begin on July 1, 2022 and extend through June 2023.

Services include:

- National Family Caregiver Support Program
 - Caregiver Training and Support
 - Caregiver Information and Assistance

The RFP document will be released on Tuesday, May 3, 2022. Proposals submitted in response to these documents will be due to MARC no later than Friday, June 3, 2022.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The MARC Commission on Aging recommended authorization to release a SFY 2023 National Family Caregiver RFP.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize release of SFY 2023 National Family Caregiver RFP.

STAFF CONTACT:

James Stowe
Sarah Albin

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022

Item No. 2-l

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve a Contract with Brungardt Honomichl & Co. for Design Engineering and Construction Management Services to Support the Regional Preventive Maintenance Program

BACKGROUND:

MARC completed an open competitive procurement through the Request for Qualification (RFQ) process for design engineering and construction management support. The consulting engineer will aid MARC in completing the Missouri Regional Preventive Maintenance (RPM) program using Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) funds. Three firms submitted letters of qualifications:

- TranSystems
- Brungardt Honomichl & Co. (BHC)
- GBA Builders

Interviews were conducted and the winning consultant firms was selected by a small group of jurisdictions from the Missouri Surface Transportation Program (STP) Priorities Committee, MoDOT, and MARC. BHC was the winning consultant firm. The consultant procurement process followed the following dates:

Event	Date
Consultant solicitation	2/14/2022
Qualification letters received	3/4/2022
Consultant Interviews	3/18/2022

CRRSAA funds need to be expended by September 30, 2024. BHC will help MARC to qualify eligible local roadways for preventive maintenance activities addressing deferred maintenance needs before September's deadline.

Item	Fund Amount	Funding %
CRRSAA	\$ 8,393,333	100%
Preliminary Engineering/Construction Inspection	\$ 1,568,286	19.00%
MARC Project Administration	\$ 113,309	1.00%
Construction Balance	\$ 6,711,738	80.00%

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

MARC will contract with BHC for an amount not to exceed \$1,568,000 in Missouri CRRSAA funds.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a contract with BHC for design engineering and construction management services to complete preventive maintenance of pavements on area local roadways using Missouri CRRSAA funds.

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

STAFF CONTACT:

Ron Achelpohl

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

April 2022
Item No. 3-a

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve the minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting

BACKGROUND:

The minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting are enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:

David Warm
Karina Bielecki



BUDGET AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary

March 22, 2022

11:15 a.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Harold Johnson, Jr., Unified Government of Wyandotte/Kansas City, Kan. - MARC Board Chair

Mayor Carson Ross, Blue Springs, Mo - MARC Board 1st Vice Chair

Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, Kan. - MARC Board 2nd Vice Chair

Mayor Eileen Weir, Independence, Mo. - MARC Board Treasurer

Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez, Lee's Summit, Mo. - MARC Board Secretary

Mayor Curt Skoog, Overland Park, Kan.

Commissioner Rob Roberts, Miami County, Kan.

Commissioner Becky Fast, Johnson County, Kan.

Mayor/CEO Tyrone Garner, Unified Government of Wyandotte/Kansas City, Kan.

STAFF PRESENT

David Warm, Executive Director

Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration

Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment

Lauren Palmer, Director of Local Government Services

Kristin Johnson-Waggoner, Public Affairs Program Director

Catherine Couch, Public Affairs Coordinator

Karina Bielecki, Executive Assistant

John Hwang, Network Administrator II

Joanne Bussinger, Grant Manager

Eric Winebrenner, Public Safety Program Director

Jay Heermann, GIS Manager

Karen Clawson, Principal Planner and Air Quality Program Manager

Bethany Reyna, Nutrition Program Manager

Darlene Pickett, Accountant II

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eileen Weir called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

Due to the meeting being conducted remotely, Mayor Weir provided instructions for participation. She reported that staff would present on all the agenda items, provide an opportunity for comments and questions after each item, and ask for approval of all agenda items with one vote at the end of the meeting. Members would have an opportunity to abstain or object to any items necessary during the final vote.

Approve Contracts, Grants, and Other Major Expenditures

CORE CAPACITIES

VOTE: Approve an Expansion Project for the MARC Offices

Ms. Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration at MARC, reminded the committee that in October 2021, the MARC Board approved an amendment to MARC's lease at the Rivergate Office Center to lease an additional 12,750 square feet to help address identified needs. With that amendment, MARC's total square footage leased expanded to 53,246.

Over the past few months, MARC staff has worked with Odimo architects on how to best allocate the space to meet identified needs. Highest priority needs include:

- Additional space for more workstations
- Larger, more secure, and efficient work area for 911 operations
- More secure equipment storage and work area for Information Technology
- AudioVisual upgrades for conference rooms, especially the Board room
- Modifications to improve acoustics, including taking walls to the ceiling for some offices
- Improve and expand the 3rd floor break room area
- More meeting rooms and more quiet spaces for virtual meetings

MARC staff worked with Odimo to develop a plan for the 4th floor space and the ensuing changes on the 3rd floor. The key elements of the plan include:

- Upgrade of the audio visual systems in the Board room and other meeting rooms
- Relocating all Local Government Services and Community Development staff to the 4th floor
- Creating a secured area for 911 with ample work space
- Shifting staff on the 3rd floor so that an adequate number of work stations can be provided and work groups have better colocation
- Relocating the break room from the center of the building to a larger and more open area on the west side of the 3rd floor
- Using the current break room area for secured IT storage and reusing the 911 work room for an IT work room
- Taking current office walls to the ceiling and constructing several new private offices
- Converting several offices to meeting rooms and using the three meeting rooms on the 4th floor

Other logistics of the plan include:

- An assessment of the HVAC system to ensure adequate and safe airflow
- Reuse of some MARC furniture, reuse of furniture donated by a private company, and a small amount of new furniture

At this time Odimo has prepared almost complete plans and provided estimated costs for this project. Staff has worked hard to balance the investment with the benefits. Because of the restricted nature of most of MARC's funding there are limited options for this type of expenditure. MARC currently has a tenant refurbishment allowance that can be allocated toward the project. Some aspects of the project were budgeted in Indirect, and there is flexibility to increase that amount. We hope that some other grants may be able to absorb some of the furniture and audio visual equipment costs. Because 911 is a large part of this project, their board has approved direct funding in their budget. Now that we have more cost information to share with them, we plan to request some additional 911 funding. Finally, MARC staff are cautiously recommending that we draw down on about 10% of our reserves. This type of unique project is an appropriate use of reserves, although obviously we do not want to reduce the reserves by very much. As with everything we do, we will also do any of the work that we can, ourselves.

Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick inquired about plans to expand the board room. Ms. Gonzales replied

that plans are in the works to update the room's audio and visual capabilities and there would likely be an item on next month's agenda on the topic. Commissioner Rob Roberts inquired if board members could receive a tour of MARC's offices; Mr. David Warm, Executive Director at MARC, replied that staff would coordinate this ahead of the April board meetings. There were no further questions.

VOTE: Expand and Extend an Agreement with Rubin Brown for Audit Services

Ms. Gonzales reminded the committee that, in April 2021, the Board approved engaging Rubin Brown for the 2021 audit. Staff recommended this extension because of key staff turnover and the many changes that occurred in financial processes due to COVID. Even though there have been staff changes at Rubin Brown, the institutional knowledge that the company has about our organization is invaluable in facilitating the audit process. Just as we were beginning the 2021 audit the new accounting manager, who completed the audit last year, submitted her resignation. MARC's Finance Department has many capable and experienced accountants and grant managers, but none of them have worked directly on the MARC audit before.

Staff recommends we postpone the competitive process and engage Rubin Brown for the next three years, still with confirming each engagement on an annual basis. Additionally, we are recommending an amendment to the current agreement, expanding Rubin Brown's role to include preparation of the audit report. In the past MARC staff did the report preparation, but with the limited experience and fewer filled positions, it would be more efficient for Rubin Brown to include that in their scope. This first year, the cost for that work includes mapping MARC financial software to their software (\$8,500). In future years, the cost would be about half that much. Staff recommends incorporating that additional scope in future years also. Rubin Brown has provided a proposal for those services and the pricing is reflected in the table below. Based on the market and the complexity of the MARC audit, staff believes these costs are reasonable and appropriate. If the Board approves engaging Rubin Brown for the 2022 audit, a formal engagement letter will be brought to the December Budget and Personnel and Board meetings. There were no questions.

THRIVING OLDER ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES

VOTE: Authorize Amending SFY 2022 Contract Amounts for Selected Providers to Continue Service Provision

Ms. Bethany Reyna, Nutrition Program Manager at MARC, reported that existing partners require contract amendments to continue SFY 2022 work under the Home Modification and Repairs Service line.

Hope Builders and Metro Lutheran Ministries (MLM) have effectively and efficiently completed referred projects and are nearing their current contract ceilings of \$90,000. Currently, MARC staff do not anticipate the remaining contractors expending their full contract amounts for SFY 2022. Therefore, the overall service line funding is unlikely to differ from original authorizations.

Jewish Family Services (JFS) provides a significant proportion of MARC's transportation service. Due to cost escalations and a recent analysis of expenditures, JFS has requested a \$0.50/one-way trip rate increase, from \$27.50 to \$28.00. Moreover, their existing contract ceiling of \$88,000 must be amended to allow for continued service during SFY 2022. Finally, JFS has proposed a new rate structure for longer trips that would not be feasible without additional one-way compensation, and a lowering of the current rate for medium-length trips. There were no questions.

VOTE: Authorize Acceptance and Expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act Funding for Older Americans Act Services

Ms. Reyna reported that, due to recent Missouri legislative action regarding American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars designated for Older Americans Act services to be rendered through the Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), MARC expects to receive an allocation from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services according to the intrastate funding formula for AAAs.

These monies are divided among the regular service Titles of the Older Americans Act and may contain some restrictions for emphasizing certain types of spending, such as under nutrition programs. Further details will likely become available as the funds come nearer to disbursement. The total statewide amount is approximately \$26.1 million, and the dollars require a 25% local match. MARC's allocation is expected to be approximately \$3,915,000. There were no questions.

VOTE: Authorize Acceptance of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 Vaccine Access Funding and Release of Relevant Requests for Proposals

Ms. Reyna reported that Missouri is preparing to release funding to the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) for an effort by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) labeled, "Expanding Access to COVID-19 vaccines via the aging network." These dollars are similar to the previous "Covid Vaccine Registry Assistance for Older Americans" in which MARC assisted navigation of vaccine registries and appointments for those with digital access barriers and the homebound.

Due to very high vaccination rates of older Missourians, this round of funding will be used to expand capacity to address coordination of vaccine efforts and bolster infrastructure for improved communication between MARC, MARC's contracted or related partners, and clients. The total statewide amount is approximately \$942,111, and MARC is expected to receive an allocation of approximately \$144,000 based upon the intrastate funding formula for AAAs.

MARC staff recommend an allocation of 3% of the total award to the Missouri Association of Area Agencies on Aging, for centralized coordination of ongoing messaging campaigns, data analysis, and reporting support. In addition, permission to release an expedited RFP to help MARC secure an SMS messaging platform for enhanced client intake and communication is requested. Finally, an increase to MARC's current contract with United Way 2-1-1 to increase call center capacity for client intakes will also be recommended later.

These funds must be expended before June 30, 2022. Remaining balances on the projects mentioned in this item will be funded through Older Americans Act allocations. There were no questions.

VOTE: Authorize the Release of a Rolling Home-Delivered Meals Driver Request for Qualifications

Ms. Reyna reported that, in the tight labor market, MARC has observed declining staffing at home-delivered meals partners across nutrition programs. In some cases, this has led to service delays or denials, and the system of home-delivered meals is vulnerable to further strains or unexpected events. MARC competitively selects contractors through a rolling RFQ approach and has experienced high rates of satisfaction and retention of independent contractors.

MARC staff propose to retain home-delivered meals drivers, both by hiring and by contract with independent contractors, to expand the current community model of frozen home-delivered meals, accommodate new clients, and provide "pressure relief" for partners who have experienced inconsistent or declining staffing.

To make the model more feasible over the long-term, drivers will likely be recruited and/or trained for the capacity to conduct other understaffed frontline customer service activities, such as assessments or even social health interventions, if trained as a Community Health Worker. There were no questions.

VOTE: Authorize an Application to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for Community Health Worker Projects

MARC's regional health care access initiative supported a regional committee focused on developing community health workers as a key part of the health care system. Community Health Workers are individuals trained to work with patients to connect them to needed health care and community services to improve their health outcomes, including reducing re-admissions at hospitals. MARC received funding over the past six years to support the committee's work and has identified ongoing

work to continue to advance the development of a trained workforce. The work over the past year has focused on advocacy to encourage agencies to consider adding CHWs to their workforce; supervisory and other training and enrollment in a state credential for CHWs in both Missouri and Kansas to increase professionalism of those in the workforce; and preparation of a toolkit to help agencies understand how to use billing codes for reimbursement of CHW services as well as encouraging state agencies and private health payers to reimburse agencies for CHW services related to improving patient health outcomes.

MARC has been invited to apply for \$228,000 from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to support training, convening, communications outreach, and evaluation around increasing use of Community Health Workers in Kansas for the period from April 1, 2022 through August 20, 2022. In addition, KDHE has invited MARC to apply for annual funding beginning August 21, 2022. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS) has issued a Request for Applications for CHW support over the next year for up to \$200,000 statewide.

MARC's work in building a strong Community Health Worker system across Missouri and Kansas has been largely funded by the Health Forward Foundation, which is considering a request for the next year beginning May 1, 2022. The funding from the two states (federal funds focused on Community Health Worker system expansion) would enable MARC to work with local and statewide partners to further expand the work. Ms. Reyna requested authorization of two applications to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to cover services for up to 18 months of up to \$650,000 and one application to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for up to \$200,000 for one year. There were no questions.

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

VOTE: Authorize an Application to the Environmental Protection Agency to Support Community Air Quality Monitoring

Mr. Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment at MARC, reported that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking applications for projects through the Enhancing Air Quality Monitoring for Community Program. The purpose of this American Rescue Plan (ARP) funded grant program is to enhance ambient air quality monitoring in and near underserved communities that may be experiencing disproportionate and adverse health outcomes. The grant program also seeks to leverage existing air quality expertise; expand the use of community monitoring advisory groups or other approaches that give the community a voice in the monitoring of their air quality; and build a foundation of trusting relationships and enhanced understanding from which sustainable solutions to community air pollution problems can be found.

The Kansas City region currently has six EPA monitors that detect PM2.5 (fine particulate matter). While these monitors assist in determining regional scale ambient PM2.5 levels for the purposes of ensuring compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards, they do not provide localized data on air quality issues that may vary from one neighborhood to the next. Neighborhoods with low-income, minority populations are disproportionately likely to be exposed to harmful air pollution. Exposure to fine, breathable particles can cause short-term health effects, but also worsen medical conditions such as asthma and heart disease. Environmental justice (EJ) areas in the urban core of the region experience the highest rates of both asthma and heart disease. Neighborhoods in these EJ areas are often exposed to higher levels of traffic (road and rail), a common source of PM2.5 pollution.

In response to this request for applications, the MARC Air Quality Program is seeking funds to support a three-year community air monitoring project in partnership with KC Digital Drive, Tellus, and the Kansas City Public Library. This project will expand an existing small network of PM2.5 air quality sensors currently focused in an 18 square-mile area along the Troost Ave. corridor, roughly running from Front St. to 85th, and from Main to US-71. The proposed project would include adding up to 150 more sensors to the network, with continued focus on the Troost corridor project area, but also expanding to other communities throughout the region. The majority of these sensors will be placed in

neighborhoods (primarily on residences) that are considered environmental justice areas and have higher health disparities, including greater prevalence of asthma, heart disease, and COVID cases. Sensors outside of these areas will be used to detect transported PM2.5 pollution from wildfires and controlled burning outside of the region. The sensors will help empower residents with tools and data to better understand how PM2.5 may be impacting their neighborhoods. For a small number of residents interested in outdoor and indoor air quality, the project team will be able to co-locate sensors both indoor and outdoor at hosts' home to assess ambient PM2.5 levels and the air inside homes.

A Community Monitoring Advisory Group will be formed to connect interested residents to air quality professionals, discuss data trends and air quality issues, and help guide the project's implementation. Community meetings will be held at least once per year to promote the project and provide a forum for education and community discussion. In addition, the Kansas City Public Library will facilitate sensor building workshops for youth, make sensors available to check-out at library branches, provide an air quality educational display with sensor network data visualizations in the libraries, and host sensors at five additional libraries (3 sensors already in place). The project team hopes to replicate the library programming in other library systems in the region.

This project is considered "citizen science" and will not factor into official EPA ambient air monitoring or compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Proposed projects are not allowed to include air quality mitigation in their scopes. However, the MARC Air Quality program will inform and coordinate with local governments should localized air quality issues arise.

Mr. Achelpohl requested authorization for an application to the US Environmental Protection Agency, and the acceptance and expenditure of funds if awarded, for up to \$375,000 to support community air monitoring. There were no questions.

EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION AND QUALITY PLACES

VOTE: Authorize a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Grant Application for the Bi-State Sustainable Corridor

Mr. Achelpohl reported that passage of the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("Bipartisan Infrastructure Law") has created new opportunities for federal investment in a wide range of infrastructure needs in communities across the nation. The US Department of Transportation has recently issued a notice of funding opportunity for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program. This program will support transportation planning and capital investments through grants between \$5 to \$25 million. Applications are due April 14, 2021.

Under the leadership of Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II and Congresswoman Sharice Davids, MARC has been supporting efforts among the cities of Independence, Kansas City, MO and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, KS to coordinate development of a bistate corridor connecting key activity centers and promising neighborhoods in need of reinvestment and mobility services along State and Independence Avenues from Village West in Wyandotte County to Truman Square in Independence.

New federal infrastructure funding provides a generational opportunity to invest in coordinated and comprehensive transportation, housing, workforce, broadband, green infrastructure, public safety, and economic development strategies to support equitable growth and redevelopment of promising but disadvantaged neighborhoods along the corridor. Focused investment along and connected to this corridor will enhance its capacity to catalyze growth and opportunity throughout the Kansas City area using sustainable strategies.

MARC is working with the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority and local government partners along the corridor to apply for planning funds to position the corridor for future federal grants for zero-emission transportation investments such as electric bus rapid transit, mobility hubs, pedestrian

and bicycle facilities, and electric charging stations. The proposed project would include robust community engagement to complete corridor planning, environmental clearances, and preliminary engineering to 30% design for the transportation elements of the corridor.

Current estimates for this work total \$7 million, of which at least 80% would be eligible for federal reimbursement through the RAISE program and up to 20% would be provided as cash match by local partners. Up to \$500,000 would be used for MARC staff support for coalition building, convening, and project planning. Mr. Achelpohl requested authorization to prepare and submit a RAISE grant application to USDOT for planning and transportation project development for the Bi-State Sustainable Reinvestment Corridor for a total cost of up to \$7 million. There were no questions.

VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda (Administrative Matters and Minor Expenditures)
Approve the Minutes of the February 22, 2022 meeting

MOTION: Commissioner Harold Johnson moved for approval of all agenda items and Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez seconded. Mayor Weir asked if any member wanted to abstain or object to any of the agenda items. All were in favor of approving agenda items 1-b through 2-a. The motion passed.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

Mayor Weir adjourned the meeting at 11:39 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVED:

Eileen Weir, Chair

Date