I. **Call to Order**  
President Barbara Hohlt called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

II. **Attendance Establishment of Quorum**

Present were:  
Harold Byers, Madison County  
Jerry Kane, Madison County  
Gene Peters, Madison County  
Barbara Hohlt, St. Clair County  
Earl McDowell, St. Clair County  
Gregory Yank, St. Clair County  

Michael Buehlhorn, Executive Director  
Bryan Werner, Planner  
Rene’ St. Peters, Administrative Assistant  
John Papa, Attorney  

Absent were:  
None

III. **Public Discussion and/or Comment**  
No Public Discussion and/or Comment was heard

IV. **Approval of Minutes**

Director Peters made a motion, seconded by Director Byers to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2015 regular meeting as presented.

Roll Call Vote

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<td>Harold Byers</td>
<td>Aye</td>
<td>Barbara Hohlt</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<td>Gene Peters</td>
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<td>Gregory Yank</td>
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6 Ayes No Nays None Absent None Abstain Motion Carried

V. **Consent Agenda**

Director Peters made a motion, seconded by Director Yank to approve the consent agenda items a thru e as presented on pages 5-26.

Roll Call Vote

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<td>Aye</td>
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6 Ayes No Nays None Absent None Abstain Motion Carried

VI. **Finance**
a) Director Peters made a motion, seconded by Director Byers to approve the payments and claims for August 2015 MEPRD minus checks 6906 for $51,585.80 & 6907 $31,861.64 for MCT as presented on pages 27-33.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers  Aye   Barbara Hohlt  Aye
Jerry Kane    Aye   Earl McDowell  Aye
Gene Peters   Aye   Gregory Yank  Aye

6 Ayes   No Nays   None Absent   None Abstain   Motion Carried

Director Peters made a motion, seconded by Director McDowell to approve the payments and claims for August 2015 MEPRD checks 6906 for $51,585.80 & 6907 for $31,861.64 payable to MCT.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers  Aye   Barbara Hohlt  Aye
Jerry Kane    Abstain Earl McDowell  Aye
Gene Peters   Aye   Gregory Yank  Aye

5 Ayes   No Nays   None Absent   1 Abstained   Motion Carried

b) Director Byers made a motion, seconded by Director Peters to approve the payments and claims for August 2015 MMMP as presented on pages 34-36.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers  Aye   Barbara Hohlt  Aye
Jerry Kane    Aye   Earl McDowell  Aye
Gene Peters   Aye   Gregory Yank  Aye

6 Ayes   No Nays   None Absent   None Abstain   Motion Carried

VII. Executive Director’s Staff Report

Funding
We have not received our funds, nor any reports updated for this month on the State website. This is most likely due to the holiday weekend. As you can see in the reports the past year did show an increase over the previous year of approximately 2.2%, or $46,503.39.

An Illinois American easement request was received and is under review. The document has been forward to Illinois American with our comments and once signed by them, it will be brought to the Board for action. There are many provisions in the agreement to make certain the grounds are not damaged, and a $38,000 onetime payment, which is an average of our last two years of water usage.

Grants
We were awarded the $30,000 grant from St. Clair County for energy efficient lighting at MMMP.

We are currently filling out an application to DCEO and Ameren to replace the lighted bollards at the parks with new LED lighting. Pyramid Electric and EMS are working with us
on the application. It should be in the $60,000 -75,000 range in addition to the original $30,000 in the St. Clair County Grant. The funds are supplied to DCEO by Ameren and distributed from DCEO.

**MMMP**
We have found a fairly significant hole at the park on the east side of the geyser. After speaking with TWM, we contacted SCI Engineering to decide the best action to take. The hole is approximately 18” x 18” and is 4-5 feet deep. Paul Homann is now contacting a drilling company to put a concrete slurry in it to seal it off.

We met with the NPS and a representative from VISTA, a division of AmeriCorps. The mission for the next year is to involve East St. Louis youth in National Park Service activities and perhaps share some programs at our location.

Staff, Mr. Hier and Colonel Atkins were interviewed by Mary Delach on 20th anniversary of geyser, from St. Louis Public Radio, 90.7 KWMU.

**Payments**
The Woodriver Triathlon, Autism Bike at Dawn have completed their events and payment has been sent.

**Events**
Libby Rueter from Watershed CAIRNS has contacted us regarding beach party on Mosenthein Island. They will be working with various agencies. No requests were made of the District other than current owner/contact information.

We met with representatives of Lewis and Clark Community College in Godfrey and reviewed their plans for more trails and connectors.

We are working with NPS on 50th Anniversary of Arch. As it stands as of this meeting there will be an Arch Fest at Kiener Plaza on October 22nd-24th. On the 24th, we will have a small celebration with Board members from MEPRD, Gateway Center, and a few invited individuals honoring the 20th Anniversary of the Geyser at our location at 6:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be provided and fireworks will follow provided by the Arch fest and the arch will be lit up in gold for the 50th Anniversary.

Attended the Swansea Fire and Police Children’s Camp which was funded with money from our Swansea Patriots grant last year. 42 children were afforded two days of camp like activities in Swansea Parks.

**Updates**
Bryan Werner gave a brief update on our upcoming newsletter and our connections to be made through Constant Contacts.

**VIII. Old Business**

**IX. New Business**

Director Kane made a motion, seconded by Director Peters to approve by omnibus vote Section IX, Items A & B.

Roll Call Vote

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<td>Aye</td>
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<td>Barbara Hohlt</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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</table>
Jerry Kane        Aye        Earl McDowell        Aye
Gene Peters        Aye        Gregory Yank        Aye

6 Ayes    No Nays    None Absent    None Abstained    Motion Carried

a) Reimbursement Request from the The Village of Freeburg for $9,005.26 for their completed grant project titled: Village Park Gazebo.

b) Resolution 14-45 Re: Grant Request from Edwardsville Township for project titled: “Edwardsville Township Park restroom renovations” in the amount of $1,500.00.

c) Reimbursement Request from Madison County Transit for completed project titled “MCT Ronald J. Foster Heritage Trail” in the amount of $300,000.00.

Director Yank made a motion, seconded by Director Byers to approve MCT reimbursement request for project; MCT Ronald J. Foster Heritage Trail in the amount of $300,000.00.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers        Aye    Barbara Hohlt        Aye
Jerry Kane          Abstain    Earl McDowell        Aye
Gene Peters         Aye    Gregory Yank        Aye

5 Ayes    No Nays    None Absent    1 Abstained    Motion Carried

d) Report of Engineers/Attorney    No report was given

X. Executive Session

Executive Session to discuss Personnel Issues pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

At 11:43 a.m. Director Peters made a motion, seconded by Director McDowell to leave regular session and enter into Executive session to discuss Personnel Issues pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers        Aye    Barbara Hohlt        Aye
Jerry Kane          Aye    Earl McDowell        Aye
Gene Peters         Aye    Gregory Yank        Aye

6 Ayes    No Nays    None Absent    None Abstain    Motion Carried

At 12:16 p.m. back into regular session

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers        Aye    Barbara Hohlt        Aye
Jerry Kane          Aye    Earl McDowell        Aye
Gene Peters         Aye    Gregory Yank        Aye

6 Ayes    No Nays    None Absent    None Abstain    Motion Carried
Director Kane made an advisory motion, seconded by Director Peters, that will be ratified next month, to have personnel issues placed on the agenda for the purpose of increasing the Executive Director’s current salary of $102,083.67 by 2%, retroactive to July 1, 2015.

Roll Call Vote

Harold Byers    Nay  Barbara Hohlt    Aye
Jerry Kane      Aye  Earl McDowell    Aye
Gene Peters     Aye  Gregory Yank     Aye

5 Ayes  1 Nays  None Absent  None Abstain  Motion Carried

XI.  Adjournment

At 12:18 p.m. President Hohlt asked to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Director Byers seconded by Director Yank to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye on a voice vote and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rene' St. Peters
Administrative Assistant

Next MEPRD meeting will be held on October 13, 2015 at 11:00 a.m.