I. Call to Order  Vice President Greg Yank 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  
                Barbara Hohlt, 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:  Gene Peters, Madison County  
              Earl McDowell, St. Clair County  

III. Public Discussion and/or comment  none was heard.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Director Kane made a motion, seconded by Director Hohlt to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2016 regular meeting as presented.

Voice Vote  
4 Ayes  No Nays  2 Absent  None Abstain  Motion Carried

V. Consent Agenda

Director Hohlt made a motion, seconded by Director Byers to approve the consent agenda items a thru e as presented on pages 5-29.

Voice Vote  
4 Ayes  No Nays  2 Absent  None Abstain  Motion Carried

VI. Finance

a) Director Kane made a motion, seconded by Director Byers to approve the payments and claims for December 2016 MEPRD as presented on pages 30-35.

Roll Call Vote  
Harold Byers  Aye  Barbara Hohlt  Aye  
Jerry Kane  Aye  Earl McDowell  Absent  
Gene Peters  Absent  Gregory Yank  Aye  

4 Ayes  No Nays  2 Absent  None Abstain  Motion Carried
b) Director Hohlt made a motion, seconded by Director Kane to approve the payments and claims for December 2016 MMMP as presented on pages 36-37.

Roll Call Vote

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4 Ayes  No Nays  2 Absent  None Abstain  Motion Carried

VII. Executive Director’s Staff Report

Executive Director Mike Buehlhorn made his report and discussed the following subjects:

No funds have been reported yet from the State for the November sales tax receipts.

The final payment has been received for the repair work at MMMP on the insurance claim. All outstanding bills have been paid.

Staff attended the Front Street Project preconstruction meeting at the offices of the St. Clair County Highway Department. Several items were suggested by the contractor to shorten the construction time of the project and were taken under advisement. None of the suggested changes are on the southern end of the project, which would affect MMMP.

The preconstruction meeting for the Troy O’Fallon Trail was held at our offices. Clearing has begun. A more detailed schedule will be provided and reviewed.

Resolution 17-01 is in the packet regarding the Metro-East Riverfront Trail from Bunge to the McKinley Bridge. This MOU only covers the engineering and coordination with necessary parties to move the project forward. The costs would include PE 1 & 2, the Coordination and Railroad costs. TWM has estimated these at $340,000 and the MOU is a not to exceed document. Additional items would need to come back to the MEPRD Board if necessary, such as any ROW, easement or acquisition issues. SCCTD is still working on the $2 million in funding and expects it to be available for allocation in January/February 2017.

Alternative methods to keep down our costs have begun with some figures from Ameren Illinois for the use of electric to operate the pump system without generators. The first figures indicate, at a minimum, it would take approximately 2,000 feet of line extension at a cost of $390,000. In addition we would need to pay for the transformer and hookup at the pump house. Some of these costs would be split with Ameren, but no numbers are certain at this time. We are awaiting monthly cost estimates from Ameren to determine if this is even feasible. Generator three has an anti-freeze leak which may require a rebuild. The estimated cost is $175,000. We are reviewing these items over the next few months to determine which may be the best route for the future.

The District has received an engagement letter from Scheffel/Boyle for the audit for FY 17. The cost is $6,500, which is $250 over the previous contract.

Bryan Werner made the presentation for the Granite City Park District.

VIII. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

IX. New Business
Director Kane made a motion, seconded by Director Hohlt to approve by omnibus vote Section IX, Items A thru C.

Roll Call Vote

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4 Ayes   No Nays   2 Absent   None Abstain   Motion Carried

a) Resolution 17-01 Re: Memorandum of Understanding with SCCTD for engineering of Metro-East Riverfront Trail.

b) Resolution 17-02 Re: Grant request from Granite City Park District for project titled: Wilson Park Ice Rink Recreation Center Annex for a not to exceed amount of $42,885.50.

c) Engagement Letter from Scheffel Boyle for the audit services for FY17 in the amount of $6,500.00

d) Report of Attorney Nothing to report

Director Kane addressed the Board of Directors about a potential new trail that would connect the City of Troy to the Troy O’Fallon Trail. The proposed trail would begin at the intersection of Springvalley Rd. and Rt. 40 and travel southwesterly, where it would connect to the Troy O’Fallon Trail currently under construction. Director Kane and Executive Director Buehlhorn stated that this proposed trail project was much more feasible than the Woodland Trail Connector and should be considered in lieu of the Woodland Trail Connector as it relates to a current construction agreement between MEPRD and MCT. All MEPRD staff and present members of the board agreed. Director Kane and Executive Director Buehlhorn stated that additional details about the project would be forthcoming at future board meetings.

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

At 11:46 a.m. Director Hohlt made a motion, seconded by Director Kane to exit regular session and enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Issues pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (1).

Roll Call Vote

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4 Ayes   No Nays   2 Absent   None Abstain   Motion Carried

Back into regular session at 12:00 p.m.

Roll Call Vote

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4 Ayes   No Nays   2 Absent   None Abstain   Motion Carried
Adjournment

At 12:00 p.m. Vice President Yank asked to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Director Hohlt seconded by Director Byers to adjourn 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 February 14, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.