

OZARK SPECIAL ROAD DISTRICT (OSRD)
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 9, 2026 – 3:30 p.m.
Ozark Special Road District Road Barn
905 N. Riverside Rd, Ozark, Missouri

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President Barbara Hover.

Commissioners: President Barbara Hover, Vice President Jerry Countryman, and Secretary/Treasurer Scott Bilyeu.

OSRD Employees: Jennifer Belin, Jody Stutesmun, and Mike Mieseler.

CRC CPAs Associate (Accountant & Recordkeeper for the OSRD): Jake McCully.

Guests: Patrick Platter (Neale & Newman), Derrick Estell (Toth and Associates), Bradley Jackson (Christian County), Amy Acker, Steve Krause, Kathie Krause, Buddy Huggins, Jerome Dukewits, Don Thomas, and JeanAnn Hutchinson.

Agenda

Jerry Countryman made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Scott Bilyeu seconded. Approved 3-0.

Minutes

Scott Bilyeu requested that the May 12, 2026 regular meeting minutes be clarified to note the following:

- Additional pop and Gatorade were purchased after the April 14, 2026 meeting, during which cookies were purchased.
- The money held in escrow for the 17th Street project was approved to be moved to the General Account at the May 4, 2026 special closed meeting.

Jerry Countryman made a motion to approve the May 12, 2026 regular meeting minutes, with the clarifications noted above. Scott Bilyeu seconded the motion. Approved 3-0.

Jerry Countryman made a motion to approve the May 26, 2026 special meeting minutes as presented. Scott Bilyeu seconded the motion. Approved 3-0.

Financial Review

Jake McCully presented the May 2026 financial report.

Major deposits for the month:

- Approximately \$15,000 in property tax revenue
- Approximately \$22,000 in CART revenue
- Approximately \$4,300 in interest income
- Driveway permit income
- Total revenue: Approximately \$42,000

Major expenses for the month (excluding payroll):

- Approximately \$27,000 to White Cap for Smallin Rd project

Bank balances as of May 31, 2026:

- Operating Fund: approximately \$2.2 million
- Emergency Fund: approximately \$547,000
- Escrow Fund: approximately \$69,000
- Total: approximately \$2.8 million

Net revenue year-to-date is approximately \$1.16 million, compared to approximately \$760,000 at the end of May 2025.

Scott Bilyeu expressed concern regarding the geogrid purchase from White Cap, noting that it occurred less than 24 hours after the last meeting, that additional quotes were not obtained, and questioning why the purchase was made outside of a meeting.

Barbara Hover, Jerry Countryman, and Derrick Estell stated that the purchase was the recommended action from Palmerton & Parrish, the Geotech firm whose involvement Scott had requested.

Pat Platter added that the situation constituted an emergency, that Palmerton & Parrish is considered the gold standard for Geotech work in the region, and that the purchase was an appropriate expenditure for necessary improvements.

Jerry Countryman made a motion to approve the May 2026 financial report as presented. Barbara Hover seconded the motion. Approved 2–1, with Scott Bilyeu voting no.

Guest Business

- **Consideration of a 3-Way Stop at E Warren Ave and S 6th Ave**

Jerome Dukewits presented concerns regarding the intersection of E Warren Avenue and S 6th Avenue, noting that visibility to the south is limited due to vehicles frequently parked in the adjacent driveway. He requested that OSRD consider installing a 3-way stop at the intersection.

Derrick Estell explained MUTCD guidelines for stop sign installation typically include traffic volume and sight-distance criteria. He noted that Toth can install traffic counters to collect data but that the issue appears to be primarily a sight-distance problem.

Scott Bilyeu made a motion for Toth and Associates to conduct a traffic count and to work with the property owner to improve sight distance at the intersection. Jerry Countryman seconded the motion. Approved 3–0.

Old Business

- **6th Avenue Property**

Attorney Pat Platter reported that OSRD is currently awaiting the sellers' signatures on the final plat. He stated he will remind local counsel that OSRD is still awaiting the executed documents from the sellers.

- **Riverside Bridge**

Attorney Pat Platter reported that he is still waiting to receive the documents needed to determine property boundaries and identify who holds right-of-way around the bridge. Scott Bilyeu asked County Commissioner Bradley Jackson if he had any updates. Commissioner Jackson stated that he had no update at this time and that Miranda would be handling the matter.

- **17th Street Escrow**

Jerry Countryman presented the signed 2019 agreement executed by Scott Bilyeu and John Fields, noting that the corresponding \$30,000 escrow deposit was made in 2021. He stated that the project never moved forward.

~~Scott responded that the project stopped because he left the Board and OSRD funds were being directed toward the Riverside Bridge project while awaiting FEMA reimbursement.~~

Discussion followed regarding the need for a culvert, the deteriorated condition of the road, easement and right-of-way considerations, the potential future walking trail, and the fact that the original project was intended to be a cost-share with the City of Ozark.

Jerry asked Scott whether he believed the City would still be willing to pay half the cost of installing the culvert. Scott and Jerry continued discussing the makeup of the 85-foot right-of-way, the project's history, and prorated responsibilities. Scott repeatedly stated that he had been working with David Counts, while Barbara and Jerry emphasized that the agreement was signed by John Fields in 2019, and the \$30,000 check was signed by John Fields in 2021.

When Barbara asked the Board how they wished to proceed with the \$30,000 escrow, Scott asserted that Barbara and Jerry had already approved moving the funds to the general account and requested that the Board review the meeting recording to confirm what was previously decided.

Scott agreed to speak with the City to determine whether they are willing to participate jointly in the culvert project. Jerry clarified that this section of 17th Street remains maintained by OSRD.

It was noted by Scott that the 2019 agreement with John Fields went inactive, and David Counts later revived the project.

After all commissioners agreed that the item should be tabled, Jerry Countryman made a motion to table the 17th Street item.

New Business

- **Speed Limit Signs on Claude Road**

The Board received an email forwarded by Miranda regarding a resident's complaint about vehicle speeds on Claude Road and a request for speed limit signage. Jody stated that the posted limit through most of that area is 25 MPH. After discussion, all commissioners agreed to install 25 MPH speed limit signs in both directions on Claude Road.

- **Spraying of Right-of-Ways**

Scott Bilyeu presented photos he had taken and shared concerns that spraying was causing erosion or killing vegetation in certain areas. He also noted that Donald Thomas, who was present, had experienced negative impacts from roadside spraying.

Scott showed a photo from across the Smallin Road project area, stating it demonstrated erosion caused by spraying. Jody clarified that the disturbed area shown was a test hole dug with equipment while Toth was on site, and Jerry confirmed he had witnessed the hole being dug.

Additional photos were reviewed from areas along Scott Bilyeu's property and Donald Thomas's property, with Scott asserting that the erosion shown was the result of right-of-way spraying. ~~Jody stated that the vegetation loss along Donald's property was due to lawnmower tire tracks and cattle waste, not spraying.~~

Further discussion followed regarding spraying practices, impacts, and differing interpretations of the photos. Commissioners expressed disagreement on the cause of the observed conditions.

No motion or action was taken.

- **Riverbluff Drive**

Engineer Derrick Estell recapped the plan determined by the commissioners at the May 26 special meeting:

- Proceed with an overlay of Riverbluff Drive.
- Properly patch the area where water is coming up through the roadway.
- Replace one culvert.
- Prepare bid documents for the project.

Scott Bilyeu asked about the steep drop-off "pinch point" in the road and whether widening was feasible. He asked what Toth had planned for that location. Derrick stated that the narrowest point is actually at a different location, measuring just over 16 feet, and that widening is not possible without removing a tree. He noted that the remainder of Riverbluff Drive ranges between 17 and 19 feet wide.

Scott stated he was comfortable with the rest of the roadway but remained concerned about the two trees located side-by-side at the 16-foot section. Jerry commented that the road has existed in its current configuration for a long time. Scott shared the history of a previous attempt to widen Riverbluff during his prior service on the Board and reiterated that vehicle speeds will increase once the road is smoothed.

Barbara Hover asked Jody to confirm that the guidewires need to be moved, which he affirmed. Barbara stated that the Board is attempting to preserve as many trees as possible but understands the need to remove the one tree affecting the narrowest point. She added that the project will be bid out and OSRD will evaluate whether it can be completed at a lower cost.

Jerry Countryman made a motion to bid out the Riverbluff Drive overlay project as discussed. Barbara Hover seconded the motion. Approved 3-0.

- **Use of Scrap Sale Funds for Employee Perks and Appreciation Events**

Barbara Hover noted that this topic had been brought up at the previous meeting. Jody reported that OSRD typically receives \$100–\$200 per year from scrap metal sales.

Scott Bilyeu expressed concern about spending taxpayer dollars in this manner. Jerry Countryman stated that OSRD needs to take care of its employees and proposed establishing a resolution designating scrap sale proceeds as an employee welfare fund. He added that the \$100 monthly stipend he has chosen not to collect could also be directed into that fund.

Barbara added that she has saved taxpayers \$6,300 by not collecting her stipend during her service. Scott responded that he has contributed significant time in the past—such as pushing snow, towing vehicles, and saving the district money through his efforts.

When Scott questioned the policy governing these types of purchases, Barbara stated that the purchases are minimal and that she believed she had saved the district more money by not accepting her stipend. Jody added that when Scott previously served on the Board and scrap was sold, Scott had told him, Mitch, and John to “go eat lunch on it,” noting the similarity in practice.

Attorney Pat Platter offered, at no cost, to research GAAP standards to determine whether the amount of scrap revenue warrants any specific accounting controls and report back to the Board. He noted that during last year’s external audit, this issue did not arise. Scott stated that it would not appear in the audit because credit card charges are not itemized by category.

Project and Development Updates

- **Smallin Road**

Jody reported that the crew is waiting for the site to dry out. Most of the large boulders have been placed, and they are preparing to install the lift. Rain has delayed progress. Once conditions allow, Derrick Estell and Palmerton & Parrish will return to inspect the work.

Buddy Huggin, a historical photographer/videographer, has expressed interest in documenting the project for the public. He requested authorization to review the project drawings and asked for someone to join him on site for a video. Derrick stated he is willing to participate and noted that Toth is working in tandem with Palmerton & Parrish on the project.

Scott asked about the expected completion date. Jody stated that there is no set completion date, and commissioners noted that weather delays have significantly impacted the timeline.

- **Updates from Toth & Associates**

Derrick Estell reported the following updates:

- Riverbluff Drive & PressurePave: Both projects will be going out for bid soon, within the next couple of weeks.
- Marabella: The project remains under design and is currently being reviewed.
- Greenbridge Estates: No new updates. No issues have been identified, and the project is cleared to proceed.

Ongoing Road Work and Employee Items for Update or Review

- **Equipment Update**

Jody reported that all equipment is in good condition. Scott asked whether OSRD was considering purchasing a John Deere skid loader, noting that he had received an email about one. Jody confirmed that we are not looking at purchasing a John Deere skid loader.

More Spraying Discussion

Jody revisited the spraying concerns on Donald Thomas' property using historical Google Maps imagery. He noted the following timeline:

- The area showing erosion today previously had a tree present in 2007, with no visible dirt issues at that time.
- In 2012, the tree was still present and gravel was visible.
- The tree appears to have been removed sometime between 2012 and 2014.
- Jody stated that when staff were on-site earlier today, the grass appeared smooth and in good condition.

During the discussion, Donald became upset and left the meeting.

Scott commented that there are other areas of concern beyond both Donald's property and his own.

Closed Session

Scott Bilyeu made a motion to recess the open meeting and reconvene in closed session at 5:06 p.m. Barbara Hover seconded the motion. Approved 3-0.

Jerry Countryman made a motion to reconvene in open session at 5:20 p.m. Scott Bilyeu seconded the motion. Approved 3-0.

Open meeting reconvened at 5:20 p.m.

Next Meeting Date

Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 3:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Scott Bilyeu made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 p.m. Barbara Hover seconded the motion. Approved 3-0.

Meeting adjourned.



Barbara Hover, President
Minutes for June 6/9/2026


Scott Bilyeu, Secretary Treasurer