

OZARK SPECIAL ROAD DISTRICT (OSRD)
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 11, 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, TJ Hughes, and Mike Mieseler.

CRC CPAs Associate (Accountant & Recordkeeper for the OSRD): Michael Eck.

Guests: Patrick Platter (Neale & Newman), Derrick Estell (Toth and Associates), Claude and Debbie Lackey, Steve and Kathie Krause, Karen Trimble, Steve Stine, Stacey and L. Vorhies, Rick Tucker, JeanAnn Hutchinson, Melissa Arata, Kevin Bright, and Alexis Gibson.

Agenda

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

Minutes

- **June 23, 2026 – Special Closed Meeting Minutes**
Jerry Countryman made a motion to approve the June 23, 2026 special closed meeting minutes. Barbara Hover seconded the motion and noted that changes had been made by Scott. Approved 2-1, with Scott Bilyeu voting no, stating the minutes were corrected but “weren’t exactly the way it was.”
- **July 14, 2026 – Regular Meeting Minutes**
Jerry Countryman made a motion to approve the July 14, 2026 regular meeting minutes. Scott Bilyeu seconded. Approved 3-0.

Financial Review

Michael Eck presented the July 2026 financial report.

Major deposits for the month:

- Approximately \$11,000 in property tax revenue
- Approximately \$4,000 in interest income
- Total revenue: Approximately \$15,000

Major expenses for the month (excluding payroll):

- Approximately \$15,800 to John Thomas and Murphy Tractor for equipment rental for Smallin Road
- Approximately \$6,500 to Moore Excavating for road work at Smallin Road

Bank balances as of July 31, 2026:

- Operating Fund: approximately \$2.1 million
- Emergency Fund: approximately \$550,000
- Escrow Fund: approximately \$69,900
- Total: approximately \$2.7 million

Net revenue year-to-date is approximately \$1.07 million, compared to approximately \$645,000 at the end of July 2025.

Scott Bilyeu questioned certain billing related to work performed by Pat Platter, asking how these items were being approved when they were not discussed during monthly meetings. Scott referenced a Sunshine Law inquiry involving himself and Bilyeu Towing with the City of Ozark.

Pat Platter explained that the inquiry was made because the road crew foreman had been told the City of Ozark would only speak with Scott regarding 17th Street, and that he had a duty to follow up. Pat stated that the type of work Scott was questioning was similar to work Scott had previously assigned to him when Scott served as a commissioner. Scott clarified that at that time he was acting as President and following up on direction given during commissioner meetings.

Pat noted that OSRD is currently in negotiations with the City of Ozark regarding a road-share agreement, and that confidentiality is required during negotiations. He stated that commissioners cannot be on both sides of a contract. Scott responded that he has not shared any closed-meeting information.

Pat suggested offering a confidentiality agreement for all commissioners to sign.

Scott also questioned whether Barbara and Jerry were thoroughly reviewing bills before approval, noting that system logs showed approvals occurring in under one minute. Barbara stated that when the office administrator and foreman have reviewed and approved bills, she trusts staff and considers the bills legitimate. Jerry added that he speaks with staff daily and is generally aware of what expenses are coming forward.

Scott Bilyeu referenced a recent trash bill that included a \$52 fuel surcharge, noting that Jennifer contacted the vendor and successfully received a \$50 adjustment. He emphasized the importance of reviewing invoices closely and reiterated that OSRD is tax-exempt and should not be paying tax on vendor bills. Barbara Hover thanked Scott for finding the surcharge and recognizing that it could be negotiated.

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

Guest Business

- **Dangers of Riverbluff Drive**
Rick Tucker expressed concerns about Riverbluff Drive being a dangerous roadway. He reported two recent incidents: nearly running off the road due to a dump truck, and witnessing a truck pull into a driveway to avoid a pedestrian. His primary concern is the amount of construction

traffic associated with the nearby subdivision. He noted specific areas where the narrow roadway and steep banks create pinch points and asked whether construction traffic could be restricted.

Scott Bilyeu provided historical context, stating that OSRD previously attempted to widen the road, but strong neighborhood opposition caused the project to be halted.

Derrick Estell stated that the guidewire and mailbox will be relocated and that two trees will be removed to widen two sections of the roadway.

Stacey Vorhies noted that this discussion has been ongoing for several months and that the engineer has bids for improvements on the agenda.

- **Bids for Riverbluff Drive**

Derrick Estell presented the bids for the Riverbluff Drive project. Bid opening occurred on July 31 at 1:30 p.m. at the OSRD building. APAC submitted the low bid of \$458,840.20, which includes:

- A 4" overlay
- Relocation of the guidewire and mailbox
- Removal of two trees
- Re-ditching a portion of the north side ditch
- Repair of the roadway area experiencing water intrusion

Derrick recommended delaying the Notice to Proceed until the Smallin Road project is complete.

He explained that the project will include milling 2" off the top to improve driveway transitions, followed by 4" of continuous base and 2" of surface course, providing improved road structure.

Discussion followed regarding Scott's concerns about milling, driveway transitions, and project cost.

Scott questioned right-of-way limits and why work was occurring 30–40 feet beyond the right-of-way near Smallin Civil War Cave. A discussion ensued, during which Kevin Bright (Smallin Civil War Cave) stated that years ago, when the Riverbluff widening project was halted, the contractor was moved to Smallin Road. He described the contractor as rude and unprofessional and stated that all three of his culverts were buried, leaving rocks in the ditch that contribute to accidents and debris thrown during mowing. Kevin said he moved his fence back so rocks could be removed and emphasized the need for cooperation. He commended Jody for his work.

Returning to the Riverbluff Drive bids, Jerry Countryman made a motion to accept the bid from APAC and begin work after the Smallin Road project is completed. Barbara Hover seconded. Approved 2–1, with Scott Bilyeu voting no. Barbara added that OSRD is working to make the roads safer with the resources available.

- **McCracken Road / Barrington Springs**

Steve Krause, who spoke at the previous meeting regarding water issues in the Barrington Springs subdivision, presented photos to the Board. Also present were Alexis Gibson, HOA President, and resident Melissa Arata.

Steve asked Derrick Estell questions regarding his July 2024 Stormwater Investigation Report. Over the weekend, after approximately 1.5 inches of rain, water was observed in and around Melissa Arata's home. Melissa stated that water is entering and flooding her house.

Scott Bilyeu reiterated that OSRD is a road district and does not manage stormwater systems beyond natural flow. He recapped last month's discussion, stating that developers altered the grading—approved by the City—and that issues began after the subdivision was constructed.

Derrick explained that his report addresses conditions regardless of active rainfall and that a flood analysis could be conducted considering multiple factors. He noted that the neighborhood was built after the roadway.

Pat Platter added that the road is not the cause of the problem; rather, it is located in the middle of the issue. He stated that the grading is the problem, and grading decisions fall under the City's jurisdiction.

Various potential solutions and easements were discussed.

Jerry Countryman stated that the developer built homes below the road and did not design stormwater drainage or detention, and that this is not the responsibility of OSRD.

As the discussion repeated topics previously addressed and extended significantly, Jennifer Belin noted that the conversation had gone on too long for an item not listed on the agenda.

- **Fremont / North / Longview**

Steve Stine thanked OSRD for installing signage that has reduced accidents in the Fremont/North/Longview area. He shared that in Nebraska, landowners are responsible for mowing right-of-ways and may be billed if they do not. He offered to volunteer his services to help mow and expressed appreciation for OSRD's work and the challenges staff face.

Old Business

- **6th Avenue Property Acquisition**

Attorney Pat Platter reported that the sellers have completed signing all required documents and the plat has been recorded. The title company is arranging closing for the month of August.

- **Riverside Bridge**

Pat Platter reported that Christian County has not yet responded regarding ownership of the right-of-way on the southeast side of the Riverside Bridge. This matter has been ongoing since July 2025.

- **City of Ozark**

Pat Platter reported that OSRD and the City of Ozark have exchanged letters regarding scheduling a meeting to discuss the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA). The City suggested using a mediator, and Pat and the Commissioners agreed that mediation would be appropriate.

Scott Bilyeu made a motion to provide the City with a list of up to six mediators located more than 150 miles from Ozark, allowing the City to select from that list. Jerry Countryman seconded. Approved 3-0.

New Business

- **LAGERS Annual Meeting Employer Delegate**

Jennifer provided an overview of the upcoming LAGERS Annual Meeting, scheduled for October 29-30 in Springfield. She explained that the purpose of the meeting is to elect members to the LAGERS Board of Trustees and to offer system updates, educational sessions, and employer/member resources.

She noted that each LAGERS employer may send:

- One voting Member Delegate
- One voting Employer Delegate
- Any number of non-voting attendees

Jennifer stated that the Member Delegate must be an active LAGERS-covered employee and is elected by their peers. As she was the only employee interested in attending, the employees elected her to serve as the voting Member Delegate for OSRD.

She further explained that the Employer Delegate must be a member of the governing body. Commissioners were asked whether any were interested in attending and serving as the voting Employer Delegate. If more than one commissioner wished to attend, one could be appointed as the voting delegate while others could attend as non-voting attendees.

No commissioners expressed interest in attending. The Board agreed that Jennifer will attend the Annual Meeting as the voting Member Delegate, and no Employer Delegate will be appointed.

Correspondence

- **IRS Mileage Reimbursement Rate Increase**

Jennifer reported that due to rising fuel prices, the IRS standard mileage reimbursement rate has increased to 76 cents per mile for business travel, up from 72.5 cents. The updated rate is retroactively effective July 1, 2026.

Project and Development Updates

- **Smallin Road**

Jody reported that tonight the asphalt will be removed, the geo-grid installed, and the base compacted. Asphalt paving is scheduled for Saturday night. The road will be closed tonight to remove asphalt, lay geo-grid, and compact the base so the surface is ready for Capital to install new asphalt on Saturday.

Scott questioned the right-of-way agreement. It was confirmed that the owner granted a free right-of-way for the Smallin Road widening project.

- **Bids for Asphalt Surface Treatment**

Derrick Estell presented bids for asphalt surface treatment. Bid opening occurred on July 31 at 1:00 p.m. at the OSRD building. Two bids were received: Donelson Construction and Vance Brothers.

The low bid was submitted by Donelson Construction for \$581,962.20 for their PressurePave product. OSRD has used PressurePave in the past, and several roads—primarily in the Quail Run area—are scheduled for treatment.

Jerry Countryman made a motion to accept the bid from Donelson Construction for PressurePave. Scott Bilyeu seconded. Approved 3–0.

- **Updates from Toth & Associates**

Derrick Estell reported the following updates:

- **Marabella**

- The project is moving forward. Plans have been submitted to Toth. Darrell Mrotek will complete work on OSRD roads, including Bluestem and Southernview.

- **Residential subdivision off Hartley**

- A new subdivision is planned directly across from the elementary school.

- **Development off Selmore**

- Another residential development is underway in this area.

- **Joe Warren Property**

- There is an issue with the detention basin structure. Derrick is in contact with engineers regarding the problem. Scott and Jody have both been in communication with Joe and Ryan Warren about the stormwater concerns.

Ongoing Road Work and Employee Items for Update or Review

- **Equipment Update**

Jody reported that all equipment is in good condition.

Closed Session

None

Next Meeting Date

Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 3:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Jerry Countryman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:24 p.m. Scott Bilyeu seconded. Approved 3-0.

Meeting adjourned.



Barbara Hover, President
Minutes for August 8/11/2026

Absent

Scott Bilyeu, Secretary Treasurer



Jerry Countryman, Vice President