

**Boonslick Regional
Planning Commission**



Serving Lincoln,
Montgomery & Warren
Counties in
East-Central Missouri

**BRPC Executive
Board**

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Warren County
Vice-Chairman

Steven Deves
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Montgomery City
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Mark Cross
Mayor
City of Troy
Treasurer

Ryan Poston
Presiding Commissioner
Montgomery County

Dan Colbert
Presiding Commissioner
Lincoln County

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BRPC Bulletin

BRPC Bulletin Volume I

January– February 2015

Chuck Eichmeyer Steps in as BRPC Interim Director

In mid-December, Boonslick Regional Planning Commission Executive Director Mike Sutherland announced that he would be leaving due to a different career opportunity. His last day with the organization was December 31st.

“I will be forever grateful for the chance to lead BRPC”, expressed Sutherland. “I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with an incredibly supportive board of directors and an awesome staff of employees. I have no doubt that BRPC will continue to be successful in its mission to help its member communities succeed”.

The BRPC Executive Board has appointed Chuck Eichmeyer to serve as interim director. Eichmeyer is a long-time employee, having worked for the organization for 25 years. He is no stranger to the position of interim director, having served in that capacity prior to the hiring of Sutherland after the resignation of former BRPC Executive Director Steve Etcher in 2013.



BRPC Chairman Murray Bruer shares the following message:

It is with regret that Mike Sutherland has resigned from Boonslick RPC as executive director. He was making progress and providing us with enthusiasm and foresight. He will be missed.

Chuck Eichmeyer has agreed to be interim director as we search for Mike’s replacement. Chuck has always been there when we were in need and has performed magnificently.

The BRPC Executive Board will be meeting shortly to begin the selection process for a director. This will hopefully be accomplished in a short period.

I would like to commend the staff for all their help in keeping the programs on track and not losing their enthusiasm or commitment. Thank you all.

Murray A. Bruer
Chairman Executive Committee

Just-a-Note

To our members...

It has been said that there is nothing permanent but change. We have certainly seen many changes in the region throughout the past year. Some of these are very positive such as the progress made on the City of Jonesburg's Economic Development public infrastructure improvement project and the City of Hawk Point's water project.

The Missouri Career Center also saw positive changes

with lowering unemployment rates and more job and training opportunities for area residents.

Some changes have presented challenges. These include decreased funding for community development, workforce development and transportation projects.

Boonslick Regional Planning Commission is again seeing changes with the resignation of its director. The executive board will be meeting in

January to begin the process of finding quality leadership for the organization.

With change comes opportunity. The board and staff of BRPC remain committed to providing excellent service for our members and working to bring even more positive changes to the region.

As always, we invite you to share your thoughts with us and let us know of your needs. Best wishes for a very positive 2015!

Grants to Help Finance Rural Broadband Available



Un-served communities can apply for funds for broadband service through USDA Rural Development. Applications may be made between now and February 17 and require a 15% match. Check out our home page for more information or call Mark Cunningham at (636) 456-3473 for assistance with the application.

MoDOT Submits Report on I-70 Tolling Options to Governor Nixon

In December, Governor Jay Nixon asked the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission to put together a report with options for tolling Interstate 70 in order to reconstruct and expand the facility. The report has been sent to the Governor can be viewed on the transportation page of the BRPC website or at <http://www.modot.org/i70tollinganalysis/>

BRPC Receives Grant from USDA Rural Development

USDA Rural Development staff visited Boonslick Regional Planning Commission on December 17th to announce that BRPC has been awarded a Rural Business Enterprise Grant in the amount of \$25,000. The funding will be used to pay for a feasibility study. The study should reveal a location for a food hub that will provide the most benefit to small and emerging producers and a method to reach the greatest market, thus expanding the availability of local foods. Pictured from left to right: Allison LeBlanc, office of Senator Claire McCaskill; Donna Martin, USDA; Phyllis Miner, USDA; Jay Gourley, BRPC Community Development Representative.; Hubert Kluesner, Warren County Commission, Janie Dunning, USDA; Murray Bruer, BRPC Chairman; Krishna Kunapareddy, BRPC Senior Planner; Mike Sutherland, former BRPC Director; Dan Hampson, Warren County Commission.



BRPC Participates in Annual Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Luncheon

Boonslick Regional Planning Commission participated in the annual Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Luncheon on Tuesday, January 13th. Interim Director Chuck Eichmeyer presented information about area population trends, housing starts, unemployment numbers and educational attainment. Looking at the data and the changes that have occurred over time in the region enables planners, local government officials and businesses to prepare for needs that may arise according to what the trends show.

Greater Warren County Economic Development Council President Gary Carter shared how the group formed and began working with Josh Beck and Steve Etcher from Community EDGE, LLC. Steve Etcher then explained some of the criteria businesses look at when selecting a site and Josh Beck discussed their efforts to attract new business to the area while helping existing business grow and prosper.

During discussion on the importance of having a well-trained workforce, Eichmeyer mentioned the Missouri Career Center. Partnering with the Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce, Career Center Director JoAnn Toerper and staff are assisting Warren County in its efforts to become a Certified Work Ready Community. The BRPC PowerPoint presentation can be seen at boonslick.org on the home page.



From left to right: Gary Carter, Greater Warren County Economic Development Council; Chuck Eichmeyer, Boonslick Regional Planning Commission, Steve Etcher, Community EDGE and Josh Beck, Community EDGE.

Training Opportunities

BRPC and Missouri Career Center staff have been working with East Central College in an effort to provide local training opportunities for the residents in our region. Please share the information with those you think might be interested in attending. Several courses are being planned.

For more information or to register, contact East Central College at (636) 239-0598



Certified Medication Technician

Fridays, February 20—May 1, 2015
8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

BRPC—Large conference room
111 Steinhagen, Warrenton, Missouri

Designed to prepare individuals to become a Certified Medication Technician. This program meets the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services requirement to take the state exam. Must be a licensed CNA working in the field for 6 months to attend.

\$844.00

Certified Nursing Assistant

Tues. & Thurs., Feb. 10—May 12, 2015
8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

BRPC—Large conference room
111 Steinhagen, Warrenton, Missouri

Course will consist of 75 hours classroom training and 100 hours of supervised clinical training. Upon completion of both components, the student will be eligible to take the final exam to become a CNA through the Missouri Dept. of Health & Senior Services.

\$1,124

BRPC Staff

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Notice of Funds Available

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Solid Waste Management Program administers grant programs to divert scrap tires from landfills and illegal dumps by promoting end uses for scrap tires. Grants are available for both playground and non-playground projects. Copies of the application packages may be downloaded from the department's website at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/tires/tirefinassistance.htm> or by calling 800.361.4827. **Applications must be completed and postmarked by Friday, February 27, 2015.** If you have any questions, please feel free to contact BRPC.



Calendar of Events - Contact us for More Information

January

- 1 New Year's Day—BRPC closed
- 13 Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce Economic Dev. Luncheon
- 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—BRPC closed
- 21 Community Agency Partnership group meeting
- 22 30 day public comment period on Montgomery Co. Hazard Mitigation Plan ends by close of business
- 27 NE Correctional hiring event, 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- 28 Express Employment Professional hiring event, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

February

- 10 Certified Nursing Assistant class to begin
- 12 President Lincoln's Birthday—BRPC closed
- 16 Presidents' Day —BRPC closed
- 17 Rural Broadband grant applications due
- 20 Certified Medication Tech class to begin
- 27 Non-playground and Playground Scrap Tire Material Grants due

Career Center Workshop Calendar

The Missouri Career Center in Warrenton offers **free workshops for job seekers** each month. Please contact us at (636) 456-9467 if you are interested in a January or February calendar.

