

# BRPC Bulletin

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

BRPC Bulletin

July-August 2018

## BRPC Executive Board

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**Dan Colbert**  
Presiding Commissioner  
Lincoln County

**Chris Watson**  
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## Missouri River Country—Celebrating the Region's Heritage

Boonslick Regional Planning Commission Executive Director Chad Eggen welcomed 70 individuals associated with Missouri River Country to a meeting in Washington on July 18, 2018. The group, which is dedicated to the recognition, preservation, and promotion of the region, has developed a mission statement and a new website.



*Missouri River Country*

### Missouri River Country Mission:

*To guide others in experiencing the rich cultural heritage, natural resources, beauty, and recreational opportunities within our unique river communities.*

The website has links to communities along the river, including the City of Marthasville. It serves as a “landing page”. It is up to participating communities to keep their sites fresh. Visitors to the website are able to access information about upcoming events and festivals, lodging, shopping, dining, wineries, recreation, and more. Go to <http://morivercountry.com/> to check it out!

Several businesses from communities along the river set up tables at the July 18 meeting and shared information. Many provided samples of different foods and drinks that they offer to customers.



BRPC Chairman Hubie Kluesner serves on the Missouri River Country board and spoke to the group briefly about the importance of preserving the land along the river. Montgomery County Associate Commissioner John Noltensmeyer serves on the board as well, representing agriculture.

We are fortunate to live in a region with such a rich cultural heritage. It is the hope of the Missouri River Country committee that residents—as well as those who visit the area—appreciate and have an opportunity to enjoy the beauty, natural resources, bike trails, and many assets offered by the communities along the river.

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## Director's Update



Summer heats up and so does BRPC. We have been busy with applications for MO Rides, Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) application, Census 2020 addressing, Homeland Security applications, Solid Waste training, Workforce development outreach and summer jobs, Certified Work Ready Community designation, and assistance to communities with planning projects and technical assistance.

In the coming weeks, we will be sending out information on grant funding opportunities with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT). The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) provides MoDOT funding for infrastructure-related projects which in the past have included safe routes

to school, street crossing and traffic diversion improvements, pedestrian/bicycle trails, sidewalks, conversion of abandoned rail corridors, on-road and off-road trail facilities, etc. If you have TAP project ideas or questions, please contact us and we will provide more detailed information as soon as we receive it. The anticipated deadline for applications is late October to early November.

We have begun community planning projects, participated in employer engagement with businesses to ascertain the skills and needs for tomorrow's workforce, coordination of the Missouri River Country initiative and the unveiling of its new website for the region at [MoRiverCountry.com](http://MoRiverCountry.com), and development of projects for additional CDBG funding.

BRPC staff continue to go out and engage communities and provide assistance with local projects; grant applications for infrastructure, economic development, and transportation applications; and

apprenticeship and new ventures with the Northeast Missouri Workforce Development Board and federal and state partners.

Be on the lookout for your membership dues invoices. These funds support the planning, outreach, and technical assistance activities and services that we provide to you...our members. This investment allows BRPC to provide staffing support to facilitate project development and to help leverage other state and federal funding opportunities for communities and the region.

BRPC is here for you. If you have any questions, need assistance, or would like a staff member to attend one of your meetings, please don't hesitate to contact the office at (636) 456-3473 or email me at [ceggan@boonslick.org](mailto:ceggan@boonslick.org). The next BRPC Transportation Advisory Committee meeting is Thursday August 16 and the general membership meeting is scheduled for Monday September 24.

## BRPC Hires Workforce Specialist—Welcome Deborah Haverkamp!

Boonslick Regional Planning Commission is pleased to announce that Deborah (Debbie) Haverkamp has been hired as a workforce specialist. She will be working in the Missouri Job Center-Warrenton. With more than 15 years of experience in administrative support, Debbie brings customer service, computer, and research skills to the position. She expresses a desire to interact with people and help them reach their goals.

Debbie will receive training that allows her to deliver services through both the WIOA Adult and Youth programs, serving customers in Lincoln, Montgomery, and Warren counties. In addition to working with these programs, she will assist customers using the job center resource room for job search activities.

Debbie's first day of employment was July 30.

She can be reached at [dhaverkamp@boonslick.org](mailto:dhaverkamp@boonslick.org).



Debbie Haverkamp

## Lincoln County Celebrates Certified Work Ready Community Designation

Supporters of Lincoln County's effort to attain designation as a Certified Work Ready Community (CWRC) were on hand to celebrate the achievement of this goal on Tuesday, July 17, 2018. The CWRC designation is the result of a unified effort by workforce development professionals—along with business, education, local government, and community leaders—to meet the economic development needs of Lincoln County.

Lincoln County Presiding Commissioner Dan Colbert welcomed those in attendance. He explained that, as part of the process to achieve the CWRC designation, more than 800 individuals had taken the ACT WorkKeys Assessment and earned a National Career Readiness Certificate. Commissioner Colbert thanked all those who were involved in administering the test.



*Left to right: Lincoln County Presiding Commissioner Dan Colbert, Associate Commissioner Mike Mueller, and DWD Director Mardy Leathers*

Larry Tucker and Julie Rodgers from Lincoln County Economic Development were instrumental in helping the county reach goals required to achieve status as a Work Ready Community. They approached businesses and shared information about the benefits of the designation. Forty four employers agreed to participate and have expressed their preference in hiring individuals who have earned the National Career Readiness Certificate.



*State Senator Jeannie Riddle congratulates Lincoln County.*

Mardy Leathers, Director of the Division of Workforce Development – Missouri Department of Economic Development, served as guest speaker for the event. He presented Lincoln County officials with a proclamation from the Governor's office. Director Leathers discussed the importance for communities to create a culture of resiliency as things change in our economies. Being a Certified Work Ready Community allows the opportunity to build, establish, and cultivate resiliency in a community. The groundwork has been done to bring educators, local government, and the business community together to look at assets and work to match the needs of employers with the needs of individuals.

State Senator Jeannie Riddle shared that workforce development was the number one issue in the State of Missouri today. She thanked those involved in Lincoln County's efforts to align education with economic development needs and offered her congratulations.

To see more photos and a video of this celebration, visit <http://boonslick.org>.

***Congratulations on this achievement!***



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## Summer Jobs Program

The Missouri Job Center-Warrenton is pleased to announce the availability of a program that can benefit both employers and youth in Lincoln, Montgomery, and Warren counties. The Summer Job League is a job placement program where candidates (ages 14-24) are offered valuable work experiences locally with no cost to the participating businesses.

Youth and young adults participating in the program learn new skills, gain work experience, and earn a paycheck. They are also able to start building a résumé and developing professional connections.

Employers can find qualified help at no cost. All participants in the program will have completed work readiness training prior to being placed with a business. Employers will have NO wage or workers compensation responsibilities.

"This is a win-win opportunity for both youth and employers in our region," said Missouri Job Center-Warrenton Functional Leader Janet Hickey. "Youth can earn cash while getting a jump start on a possible future career. Employers can benefit from having additional help while they support their community by providing work experience opportunities to local youth and young adults."



Those interested in the Summer Job League should contact the Missouri Job Center-Warrenton at (636) 456-9467.



## Calendar of Events - Contact us for More Information

### August

- 3 Stratosphere Hiring Event, 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
- 6 Randstad Hiring Event, 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
- 9 Thriving Thursday Hiring Event (This will involve several employers.)  
11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
- 14 Region I SWMD Executive Board meeting, 11:30 a.m.
- 15 Community Agencies in Partnership meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- 16 BRPC Transportation Advisory Committee meeting, 11:00 a.m.

### September

- 3 BRPC closed in observance of Labor Day
- 19 Community Agencies in Partnership meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- 24 BRPC General Membership meeting, noon