

**BOONSLICK REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Full Council Meeting – Monday, March 26, 2018**

The general membership of Boonslick Regional Planning Commission met Monday, March 26, 2018 at the BRPC office, 111 Steinhagen, Warrenton, Missouri at 12:00 p.m. The following individuals were present:

Hubert Kluesner, Warren County	Gary Miller, City of Warrenton	Rich Daniels, Montgomery County
John Noltensmeyer, Montgomery County	Ryan Poston, Montgomery County	Steven Deves, Montgomery City
Roger Mauzy, Sr., Warren County	Larry Tucker, Lincoln Co. Economic Dev.	Julie Rodgers, Lincoln Co. Economic Dev.
MaryLou Rainwater, City of Truesdale	Dan Hampson, Warren County	Janie Dunning, MO Farm Bureau
Carla Ayala, Village of Innsbrook	Jennifer Hoskins, Office of Senator Blunt	Joey Los, Village of McKittrick
Sherry Meyer, City of Jonesburg	David Lange, City of Marthasville	Adell Jonas, City of New Florence
Chad Eggen, BRPC	Chuck Eichmeyer, BRPC	JoAnn Toerper, BRPC
Kim Meyer, BRPC	Krishna Kunapareddy, BRPC	Jane Cale, BRPC
Kelly Anders, BRPC	Janet Hickey, BRPC	

Chairman Hubert Kluesner called the meeting to order. Introductions were then made. Jennifer Hoskins from the office of Senator Roy Blunt provided a brief legislative update.

**Business**

- Steven Deves made a motion to approve the agenda. Rich Daniels seconded the motion. Agenda approved.
- Ryan Poston made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 25, 2017 meeting. John Noltensmeyer seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.
- A financial report was presented by Executive Director Chad Eggen. Dan Hampson made a motion to approve the financial report. Roger Mauzy seconded the motion and the financial report was approved.

**Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Chad Eggen shared the following:

- BRPC is turning 50 this year. An open house/reception has been scheduled for May 23, 2018 from 1:00 to 4:00. It will be held at BRPC and former chairmen and staff will be invited. A video will be made and shown at the annual meeting which is set for the first week in December. The annual meeting will be held in Montgomery County this year and plans are to hold it in Lincoln County next year.
- The federal budget has included funding for CDBG and EDA programs and also for transportation projects.
- Both Warren County and Lincoln County have achieved designation as Work Ready communities. Montgomery County is very close to achieving the goal, as well.
- BRPC submitted a proposal to serve as administrator for the WIOA Youth program.
- BRPC is working with several communities, including the City of Winfield and Wright City, on planning projects.
- Gap financing is available through the EDA Revolving Loan Fund.

**Guest Presentation on Broadband:**

Missouri Farm Bureau Consultant Anita J. (Janie) Dunning provided a presentation on broadband for the BRPC membership. Janie is familiar with the region through working with USDA Rural Development. She talked about the investments in infrastructure that have been made in communities over the years, and how the communities will fall behind - no matter how much infrastructure is in place – if they don't have broadband. Broadband means something different to everyone, depending on what they need it for. Individuals use it for social and recreational needs. Broader needs include precision farming, businesses marketing goods and services over the internet, and on-line education classes. Community needs, including healthcare/telemedicine, economic development, government services, and workforce development, also require access to broadband. Even with access, it may not be adequate. The speed may be too slow, or it may be slowed down due to the number of users or slowed deliberately if a person is at their data limit.

Janie shared the following facts:

- Nationally, Missouri is ranked as the 42<sup>nd</sup> most connected state.
- Missouri ranked 49<sup>th</sup> on average "peak" speeds – speeds advertised are typically maximum speeds, but not what one actually receives.
- 16.4% of the state has access to fiber optic service. This is important, as future technology will not "outgrow" fiber.
- 1.2 million people in Missouri are without access to a wired connection capable of 25 MBPS.
- 1.0 million people in Missouri have access to only one provider.
- 440,000 people in Missouri do not have any wired internet providers and use their mobile phones.

Approximately 70% of Missouri's population is urban, with 30% being rural. Land mass percentages are the opposite. About 61% of rural Missourians and 5% of urban Missourians lack broadband. Again, access is important since 97% of Americans shop online for goods and services and 60-70% of job openings are posted online. Broadband infrastructure cost depends on

the number of people to which the provider can spread the cost. Some rural areas in Missouri have as low as 1-2 people per square mile, which increases the price. Most of Missouri ranges from \$40/month to \$100/month or more, depending on location, technology, speed, and data plans. The population density in the Boonslick region is higher than most rural areas due to the close proximity to St. Louis. Janie shared a website where people can get a lot of information about broadband where they live, cautioning those present that not all information is correct, but can give an indication. She shared information about Lincoln, Montgomery, and Warren counties.

Access to broadband is necessary for the survival of rural areas. A state broadband office has been established and the Governor has proposed funding for broadband infrastructure and data gathering/mapping. Janie encouraged everyone to get involved and educate people. She then took questions from the group.

#### **Local Government Updates**

- City of Jonesburg – Clerk Sherry Meyer reported that CertainTeed is putting a rock crushing plant on the property.
- Village of McKittrick – Chairperson Joey Los shared that the village was redefining ordinances and is moving forward with the design of a sand filtration system.
- City of New Florence – Clerk Adell Jonas shared that the McDonald's will be shutting down for 3 months while a new, updated restaurant is built. She also shared that there are rumors a new store might be coming to the community.
- City of Truesdale – Clerk MaryLou Rainwater reported that the city closed on 71/2 acres of land for the community's first park which will be named for former mayor Murray Bruer. Plans are to hold the Railroad Days event at the park in October of this year.
- City of Warrenton – Alderman Gary Miller reported that work on the aquatic center is on schedule. It will include a dog park and walking trails. Dollar General will construct a new store on North Hwy 47. Schnucks has leveled area for its new structure. Work on the new I-70 overpass to the west is progressing ahead of schedule.

#### **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting will be June 25, 2018.

#### **Adjournment**

With no other business, Roger Mauzy made a motion to adjourn. David Lange seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Approved on: \_\_\_\_\_

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Hubert Kluesner, BRPC Chairman

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jane Cale, BRPC Office Manager