

BRPC Bulletin

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

BRPC Bulletin

November-December 2020

BRPC Executive Board

Hubert Kluesner
Associate Commissioner
Warren County
Chairman

Steven Deves
Administrator
Montgomery City
Vice-Chairman

Ryan Poston
Presiding Commissioner
Montgomery County
Treasurer

Chris Watson
Mayor
City of Truesdale

Mike Mueller
Associate Commissioner
Lincoln County

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BRPC & Region I SWMD Annual Meetings Held on Same Day



The Covid-19 pandemic has caused numerous changes to the ways in which organizations conduct business. This year, Boonslick Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) made the decision to hold its annual meeting on the same day as the East Central Missouri Solid Waste Management District—Region I annual meeting. Many of the same individuals serve as representatives for both, and this made it possible for them

to attend both meetings. The event was held at the Warren County R-III High School commons which allowed for social distancing. A link was provided for those who preferred to attend virtually.

The meetings were held back-to-back with one presentation. We were fortunate to have St. Louis Cardinals Facility Director Hosei Maruyama as guest speaker. Mr. Maruyama's topic was the St. Louis Cardinals 4 A Greener Game program through which the organization works to divert waste from landfills. He joined the Cardinals in 2004, and shared that he had moved from California where recycling was the norm. Shocked to find that not always the case in St. Louis, he often took items such as cardboard and aluminum to a drop-off spot himself.

In 2008, the Cardinals established 4 A Greener Game. They started small, applied for grants to obtain some bins, and recycled using volunteers to collect and sort. The first year they diverted about 15% of waste generated at Busch Stadium. The program has since grown. In 2009, the Cardinals switched to LED lighting and in 2011 solar panels were installed to save energy. The organization promotes renewable energy. To save water, low flow plumbing fixtures were installed and staff systematically clean the stadium, alternately hosing down areas and focusing on the areas in need of this cleaning.



Education is an important pillar of the 4 A Greener Game program. A "Green Team" was established which consists of volunteers who attend ballgames and help in recycling efforts. Volunteers might be school, church, scouts, or business groups. They bring bags directly to fans to make it as easy as possible to recycle. (Continued on next page)

Director's Update

Like most of you, we have seen another year fly by...albeit with an asterisk next to 2020! Unprecedented, unforgettable, life-altering, never-before experienced, social distancing, ZOOM...all of these terms we hope to not repeat and discuss at the printing of next December's newsletter.



This year, we remember Rich Daniels and John Noltensmeyer from Montgomery County for 20 years of service; Dan Hampson from Warren County for 12 years of service; and former mayors Mark Cross of Troy, Robert Henebry from Hawk Point, and Steve Wilch from Elsberry for their many years of service. Finally, we want to recognize and show our sincere appreciation to Hubie Kluesner for 12 years of service to Warren County, but also for the last four years of dedication, time, input, and support as Chairman of BRPC.

Thank you to everyone who has collaborated with us this year. Happy Holidays!

Annual Meetings Continued...

The Cardinals began hosting a free e-waste event each year, giving participants vouchers for tickets to games. They emphasize the importance of "the 3 R's" – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Efforts to expand *4 A Greener Game* continue. Compost was added as an item to divert from the waste stream. To improve efficiency, the organization did a waste audit to identify waste of value that could be separated from the single stream. In 2015, they received a grant to recycle aluminum. They began donating leftover food to food pantries and changed their processes to reduce waste by reducing the amount of food prepared.

The St. Louis Cardinals set a goal of diverting 40% of waste from the solid waste stream. They have reached and exceeded that goal, now at 41%. They see sustainability as a journey, and would like to continue to grow.

Election of BRPC Officers



The Boonslick Regional Planning Commission membership elected representatives to serve on the organization's Executive Board at its December 7 annual meeting. The board consists of 6 members, including one from each county and one from a local government within each of those counties. The new board will officially begin serving on January 1, 2021. Members are pictured above and left to right include:

Montgomery County Presiding Commissioner Ryan Poston
Montgomery City Administrator/Clerk Steven Deves
City of Truesdale Mayor Chris Watson
Lincoln County Associate Commissioner Mike Mueller
Warren County Presiding Commissioner Joe Gildehaus
City of Moscow Mills Mayor Patrick Flannigan

Chairman
Vice-chairman
Secretary
Treasurer
Member
Member

Congratulations and Thank You for Your Service!

New Faces at BRPC—Welcome Christine Zika & Angela Scott



*Economic Development Specialist
Christine Zika*

Boonslick Regional Planning Commission is pleased to announce that Christine Zika has been hired as an economic development specialist. In this role, Christine is preparing a marketing plan for Missouri River Country, assisting businesses apply for funding through the CARES Act Revolving Loan Fund and other economic development projects.

Prior to her role with BRPC, Christine was a small business development counselor and economic developer in St. Charles County. She is also a US Army veteran, having served in the Military Police Corps in the Missouri Army National Guard from 1990 – 2014. She has a Master of Business Administration degree from Lindenwood University and completed certification as an economic development finance professional through the National Development Council in 2019. Christine's other business activities include the Lewis and Clark Chapter of the

Society of Human Resource Management, having served as a board member and Veteran Inclusion Captain.

Welcome Christine!
We are happy to have you as part of the BRPC team.
You can reach her at czika@boonslick.org.

"The opportunity to work with the communities in Lincoln, Montgomery and Warren counties to increase opportunities for their residents is very exciting. My goal has always been to work for an organization that makes an impact, and having seen the projects that BRPC has completed, I know I am in the right place." — Christine Zika

BRPC is also pleased to announce that Angela (Angie) Scott has been hired as the MO Rides Mobility Coordinator. Angie immediately had an opportunity to show her willingness to take on additional responsibilities. Shortly after her hire, BRPC Mobility Manager Cory Schmitt announced that he had accepted a new job and would be moving out of state. Angie took this news in stride and learned as much as she could from Cory before his final day with the organization.

A graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia, Angie has a Bachelor of Social Work degree and has spent the last 15 years in the social service field, primarily in child protective services. In the last 5 years, she worked with individuals with disabilities and had the opportunity to learn and gain experience in the transportation field.



MO Rides Coordinator Angela Scott

A wise person once said, "Our transportation decisions determine much more than where roads, bridges, tunnels or rail lines will be built. They determine the connections and barriers that people will encounter in their daily lives, and thus how hard or easy it will be for people to get where they need and want to go." I look forward to being a part of what MO Rides can evolve into and breaking down transportation barriers in every region of Missouri. — Angie Scott

Angie shares that she feels honored and privileged to work at Boonslick Regional Planning Commission. We are happy she has joined the staff! You can reach her at ascott@boonslick.org.

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In Memoriam



Former City of Troy Mayor Mark Cross passed away December 8, 2020. He was elected in 2010 and served as mayor for 10 years. A former businessman, Mr. Cross was active in the Troy Chamber of Commerce and also served in leadership roles in other organizations. He was a member of the BRPC Executive Board for several years. His willingness to serve and to give his time and experience to make the community in which he lived and this region a better place is greatly appreciated. Our sincere condolences to his family.

Montgomery City Receives Funding for Broadband Fiber Project

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross announced that the Department's Economic Development Administration (EDA) is awarding a \$1.7 million grant to Montgomery City, Missouri, to construct a broadband fiber network to serve local businesses. The EDA grant, to be located in an Opportunity Zone, will be matched with \$421,681 in local funds, is expected to create jobs and generate \$12 million in private investment. The full EDA press release can be seen at the following link:

<https://eda.gov/news/press-releases/2020/12/10/montgomery-city-mo.htm>



*During this holiday season more than ever,
our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible.
In this spirit we say, simply but sincerely
"Thank You, Merry Christmas & Happy New Year"*



Calendar of Events - Contact us for More Information

December

- 7 BRPC & Region I SWMD annual meetings, Warren Co. R-III High School. Meal will be at noon, followed by Region I meeting and then BRPC meeting.
- 14 Warren County Municipal Team meeting, Wright City, 11:30 a.m.
- 16 Community Agency Partnership meeting (virtual), 9:30 a.m.
- 24 BRPC closed in observance of the Christmas Holiday
- 25 BRPC closed in observance of Christmas

January

- 1 BRPC closed in observance of New Year's Day
- 18 BRPC closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 19 Warren County Hazard Mitigation Plan Kick-off meeting, 10:00 a.m.
- 20 Community Agency Partnership meeting (virtual), 9:30 a.m.