

Boonslick
Regional Planning
Commission

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

BRPC Bulletin



BRPC Bulletin

March—April 2023

BRPC Executive Board

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BRPC Awarded Broadband Development Grant



Office of Broadband Development

CONNECTING ALL MISSOURIANS

The Department of Economic Development announced on March 31 that Boonslick Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) is the recipient of a Digital Demonstration Project grant. The program will support digital opportunities in the region and will serve as a demonstration project to collect data for the state to develop a comprehensive plan for future digital opportunity activities across the state. BRPC will be conducting education activities to help Missourians overcome barriers to fully utilize technology including internet usage, telehealth, job searches and more.

BRPC will be working with community partners to reach aging individuals, veterans, individuals with disabilities and rural residents to teach and improve digital navigation skills. This project will be starting in April and continue through August.

In addition, BRPC will be receiving a grant from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for Affordable Connectivity Program Outreach. The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a national program to help bridge the broadband affordability gap. BRPC will be helping create awareness of the program as well as assisting individuals in determining if they are eligible for the ACP program and providing assistance in enrollment for those households that qualify. Activities associated with the Affordable Connectivity Program will begin later this spring and continue through early 2025.

Also, be on the lookout for more information about a community input meeting on broadband issues for the Boonslick Region, tentatively scheduled for May 22. The Missouri Office of Broadband Development will be conducting these meetings across the state this spring. Details will be available on our website, www.boonslick.org.

Director's Update

As we move into spring your staff at Boonslick Regional Planning Commission is ready to assist your community in growth and community development and improvement activities.

A few opportunities to keep in mind that will be opening up over the next few months include the local programs through Missouri Department of Transportation that provide federal funding to cities and counties for transportation improvements. These programs include engineering assistance, bridge replacement assistance and transportation alternatives funding opportunities which includes sidewalks and trails. The funding cycle for the next fiscal year will be announced soon, so be thinking about what the needs in your community. Several programs do require matching funds – let us know at the BRPC office if you want more information or notification when the grant application periods open up for specific programs.

Be sure and let us know what the needs are for your community so we can keep an eye out for opportunities that match your needs! We're always here to help!



*BRPC Executive Director
Teresa Lee*

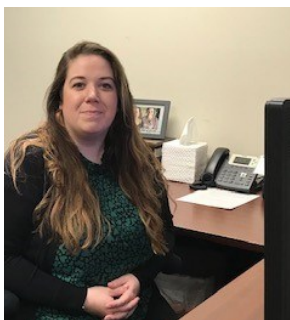
Welcome to New Employees!

BRPC is pleased that Dawn Mowery could join the organization in November 2022 as the Job Center Workforce Development Director. Dawn previously worked with the State of Missouri Office of Workforce and Community Initiatives. Her experience and skills, along with the fact that she had been partnering with job center staff on several projects, allowed her to move into the position seamlessly.

"I learn something new every day and look forward to continuing to work in our communities and with our community partners," Dawn shares. She has been putting a lot of effort into reaching out to serve both job seekers and employers in the Boonslick region. Dawn can be reached at dmowery@boonslick.org or by calling (636) 456-9467.



*Missouri Job Center
Workforce Dev.
Director Dawn Mowery*



BRPC Planner Ashley Shelby

Ashley Shelby joined BRPC on March 8, 2023 as the new Community Planner. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Geography with a minor in Environmental Science from the University of Missouri – Columbia, as well as a Bachelor of Science in Crisis and Disaster Management from the University of Central Missouri. Ashley will work on a variety of planning activities including transportation, hazard mitigation, and mapping.

"I am very excited to get settled into my role here as not only a community planner, but a transportation planner," Ashley said.

"Everyone at BRPC has already been so welcoming and I am looking forward to being able to work with the local communities on various projects. I have always had a passion for helping people and can't wait to get out there and get started." You can reach Ashley at ashelby@boonslick.org or by calling (636) 456-3473.

East Central Missouri Recycling Center Celebrates Anniversary on Earth Day!



Opening its doors on Earth Day 2010, the East Central Missouri Recycling Center was a collaborative effort of the four counties in the Region I Solid Waste Management District to provide recycling opportunities for area residents. The facility serves Franklin, Lincoln, Montgomery, and Warren counties and is open year round. A wide variety of items are accepted, including those not typically accepted

in curbside recycling programs. This includes electronics, tires, used motor and appliances. A full list of items residents can drop off can be seen at <https://boonslick.org/recycling-center>.

***More than
3,500 tons
of material
diverted from
landfills.***



*Recycling Center Manager Chris Walch (left)
and assistant Dennis Neff*

Boonslick Regional Planning Commission serves as administer for the Region I Solid Waste Management District and operates the recycling center. We are pleased that Chris Walch has returned to manage the facility. Chris served as the first manager in 2010 and has a passion for recycling. He and his assistant, Dennis Neff, work hard to assist customers and make sure the center is clean and organized.

Reach them at recycle@boonslick.org.

*Check out a video highlighting the recycling center and recycling education
in the Region I Solid Waste Management District at boonslick.org*

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Federal Home Loan Bank Affordable Housing Program



The Affordable Housing Program (AHP) provides grant funding to support the purchase, construction, or rehabilitation of affordable housing in local communities to improve the quality of life, safety, opportunity, and prosperity of those benefitting from the funded project. This competitive program encourages partnerships between member financial institutions and housing providers in order to secure funding for homeownership or rental housing units. Grant funds are available to nonprofits, governments, housing authorities, and other qualifying organizations. Funds should benefit low-income families, seniors, persons with disabilities, or homeless and at-risk youth.

BRPC staff are available to assist in working with organizations to complete the development of a project, completing the application, and serving as the project administrator during the implementation of an approved project.

The 2023 AHP application period will open on May 1, 2023. If you are interested in learning more about the AHP program, contact Linda Buschman, lbuschman@boonslick.org or 636-456-3473, ext. 118.

Calendar of Events - Contact Us for More Information

April

- 19 Community Agency Partnership meeting, BRPC, 9:30 am
- 22 Earth Day
- 25 Job Center workshop, NECAC, Montgomery City, 9:30 am—11:00 am
- 25 Job Center outreach, Reach Church, Montgomery City, 12:00 pm—3:00 pm
- 27 Job Center workshop, NECAC, Troy, 9:30 am—11:00 am
- 27 Job Center outreach, Family Support Division, Troy, 12:30 pm—4:00 pm

May

- 2 Region I SWMD Executive Board meeting, BRPC, 11:30 am
- 3 Troy business networking, 8:00 am—9:00 am
- 8 BRPC closed in observance of Truman Day
- 9 Job Center workshop, NECAC, Montgomery City, 9:30 am—11:00 am
- 9 Job Center outreach, Reach Church, Montgomery City, 12:00 pm—3:00 pm
- 17 Community Agency Partnership meeting, BRPC, 9:30 a.m.
- 18 BRPC Transportation Advisory Committee meeting, BRPC, 11:30 am
- 19 Job Fair, Warrenton, 9:00 am—3:00 pm
- 22 Broadband Community Engagement Session (Time and place TBD)
- 23 High School Senior Job Fair, Warren Co. R3 High School, 1:30 pm—5:30 pm
- 25 Job Center workshop, NECAC, Troy, 9:30 am—11:00 am
- 25 Job Center outreach, Family Support Division, Troy, 12:30 pm—4:00 pm
- 29 BRPC closed in observance of Memorial Day