

## BHRC Board of Directors & Staff

### Carroll County Reps

- Keith Vandermyde, County Board
- Ed Juracek, SWCD\*
- Jill Janssen, Area Representative

### Lee County Reps

- John Nicholson, County Board
- Vacant, SWCD
- Janice McCoy, Area Representative\*\*\*

### Stephenson County Reps

- Sam Newton, County Board\*\*
- Seth Wenzel, SWCD
- Mark Williams, Area Representative

### Jo Daviess County Reps

- Diane Gallagher, County Board
- Nicole Haas, SWCD
- Sam VenHuizen, Area Representative

### Ogle County Reps

- Marcia Heuer, County Board
- Kayse Rushford, SWCD
- Michelle Pease, Area Representative

### Whiteside County Reps

- Owen Harrell, County Board
- Eric Epps, SWCD
- Kim Ewoldsen, Area Representative

- \* PRESIDENT
- \*\* VICE PRESIDENT
- \*\*\* SECRETARY/TREASURER

### Staff

- **Julie M. Jacobs**  
OFFICE MANAGER
- **Daniel J. Payette**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- **Andrew Shaw**  
GIS MAPPING / EZ SPECIALIST
- **Abby Ebelherr**  
REGIONAL PLANNER

## About Us

As Northwest Illinois' not-for-profit regional planning organization and federally designated economic development district, BHRC engages in community and economic development, natural resources conservation, and planning in Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, and Whiteside counties. We seek to improve the quality of life for communities and individuals.

## Implementing ARPA and the CARES Act Locally

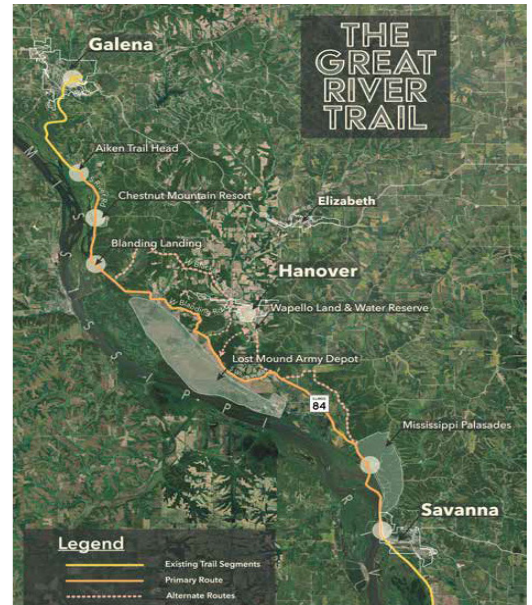
Focusing in part on the quality-of-life dimension of economic development and with financial support from the federal Economic Development Administration (EDA), BHRC commissioned workforce housing studies for Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, and Stephenson counties. We further completed greenways and trails plan updates for five of our six counties and walkability studies for six communities, providing analysis down to the block-by-block level. These plans offer distinct, actionable items on which the region and its communities may focus their efforts, including particular infrastructure projects and other investments in people. Implementation of such items is critical in addressing Northwest Illinois' declining population and its accessibility to new populations,...

Highlighted Projects



BHRC staffer Emily Lauderdale (center) works with Mount Morris officials to conduct a walkability study

...including travelers, those moving to the region to work remotely, and other would be first-timers. As it did with Local CURE funds, BHRC helped communities claim American Rescue Plan Act funds, ensuring their availability to be spent by villages and cities at a later date based on local comprehensive, hazard mitigation, and strategic plans as well as other directive documents - some prepared by our organization. Further, BHRC partnered with the National Park Service and Iowa State University's Community Design Lab through the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program to troubleshoot optimal routing, connections, and destinations along the multi-jurisdictional Great River Trail that borders the Mississippi River. We connected with a number of stakeholders, including the cities of Galena and Savanna and state and federal agencies to complete the project, positioning the region to develop the corridor and apply for implementation grants.



A map produced for the Great River Trail Concept Plan

## Other Work in the Region

As an official small business community navigator working with the State of Illinois and Illinois Public Health Association, BHRC supported small businesses and not-for-profits seeking to supplement their recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Our staff worked with such stakeholders to encourage awareness of the Back to Business (B2B) grant program and help them submit competitive applications. We continue to help counties make the best use of incentives like the Enterprise Zone and Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy programs. Further, we guided entities applying for assistance from funders like EDA and the United States Department of Agriculture on items like HVAC system upgrades and water treatment facility improvements. During this time, we also wrapped up our indoor air quality assessment program, serving over 50 unique entities.

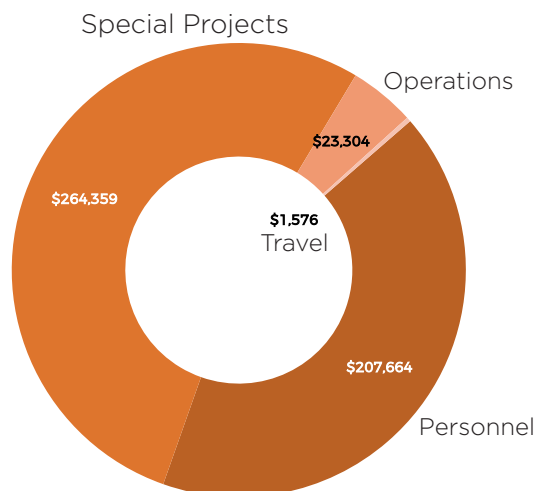
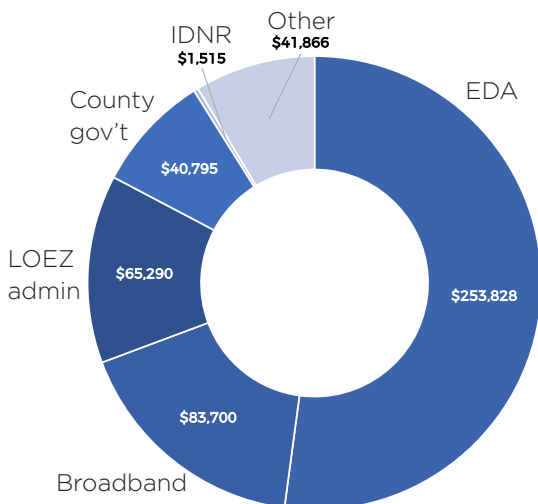
## 2021-2022 Financials

April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022 Unaudited Statement of Financials

**REVENUES** - \$486,994

**EXPENDITURES** - \$496,903

**FISCAL SPONSORSHIP BALANCES** - \$184,645



**Lee-Ogle ENTERPRISE ZONE**

\$182,645

**Northwest Illinois Envirothon**

\$2,000

Help us implement the 2019-2024 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Northwest Illinois by identifying development, conservation, and planning needs in your community.

- Grants Database - [blackhawkhills.com/grants](http://blackhawkhills.com/grants)
- Project Proposal Form - [blackhawkhills.com/proposalform](http://blackhawkhills.com/proposalform)