

# Minutes

## Bi-State Region Air Quality Task Force

Friday, October 14, 2011, 11:00 A.M  
Bi-State Regional Commission  
Rock Island County Office Building  
Third Floor Room 320  
1504 Third Avenue  
Rock Island, Illinois

1. Introductions and Consideration of August 12, 2011 Meeting Minutes. The Air Quality Task Force meeting was called to order by Mr. Mook. Introductions of those in attendance were requested. Participating by conference call included Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Matthew Johnson, Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IADNR), and Buzz Asselmeier, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (ILEPA). Task Force members were asked if there were any comments or corrections to the previous meeting's minutes. Hearing none, the minutes were approved as written by consensus.
2. Update from Resource Agencies on Current Air Quality Status/Issues. Mr. Johnson stated that recently there have been higher ozone readings because of the warm weather. Mr. Asselmeier stated that the Illinois design value is 56 ppb.
3. Discuss "Make Air Quality Visible" Strategic Planning Elements. Ms. McCullough stated that Bi-State shared the "Make Air Quality Visible" work plan in January and that the Task Force has seen presentations on land use and air quality, as well as MidAmerican's potential area source locations. Earlier in the year Bi-State provided a freight map for the metro area and is currently working on a freight map for the Muscatine area. Ms. McCullough went through the strategic plan and stated she hoped to use the Task Force as a sounding board for the strategies listed. Ms. Walker stated that electric vehicles are coming to the Quad Cities and that Normal, Illinois has successfully implemented a program for electric vehicles. She went on to say that the City of Davenport is putting a charging station behind city hall and the City of Rock Island plans to put a charging station in downtown. Ms. McCullough stated that the energy for the charging stations currently comes from coal, so what is the tradeoff? Ms. Walker responded by stating that we have more regulations over coal in the US rather than oil located overseas. Ms. Walker talked about a possible charging station at Kum and Go or a demonstration center a Deere, and added that Lujacks is involved in the process. Mr. Melton added that electricity has the potential to be clean, for example from wind farms, so in the future the energy used to charge the cars may not be as harmful. Ms. Walker added that some of the electric cars have solar power. Mr. Shea stated that the best place for charging cars is in the home. Ms. Walker stated that home charges take longer, whereas public spaces are a faster charge. Mr. Mook stated that he attended Dubuque's sustainability conference where Chevy brought in their Volt. He stated that the estimated cost for a 120V (slow) charge is a couple of hundred dollars to install in the home and would take 7-8 hours to charge the car. A 240V charge would cost about \$4,000 to install in the home and would take 4-5 hours to charge the car and a high volt charge would cost about \$50,000 to install in the home and would take about ½ hour to charge the car. Ms. Waterman asked about using social media to

notify the public of unhealthy air days. Ms. McCullough stated that we would need to work with our resource agencies (DNR, EPA, meteorologists) on the matter but the weather channel does report on PM2.5 and ozone levels using the Air Quality Index. Ms. Tracy spoke to ensure there is a transportation focus on the project.

4. Local Status Report on Air Quality Issues. Ms. Lentsch stated there have been 2 PM2.5 exceedances in Muscatine through September 15<sup>th</sup>. She went on to state that Muscatine also had 21 exceedances of SO<sub>2</sub>, and no ozone, lead or PM10 exceedances for the area. Ms. McCullough informed the committee that Bi-State received a \$70,000 ALCOA grant for air quality. Today ALCOA is hosting a “Make an Impact” workshop to roll-out their new initiative. She went on to state that Bi-State has also submitted an application for a \$300,000 ICAAP grant in order to conduct a household travel survey to use in the travel model. Mr. Mook stated that Dubuque transit is working with IBM to track (volunteer) riders to help determine where begin/end points should be, as well as the best routes/stops. Mr. Shea added that they are also giving out RFID tags for people who do not have cell phones for tracking purposes. He went on to state that CAMBUS in Iowa City has used QR codes on their route stops for people to see where the bus currently is enroute.
5. Other Business. Ms. McCullough informed the committee about a River Revival ad piece that River Action has facilitated. Ms. McCullough also stated that Bi-State will be running a newstab in December regarding air quality. Mr. Mook stated that the joint fugitive dust project between Bettendorf and Davenport is now in operation. He stated this is a success story about cooperative effort between the cities of Bettendorf and Davenport. Mr. Mook also informed the committee that this will be his last meeting as chair as he is retiring in December. He thanked Bi-State for their efforts and was thanked for his long-standing commitment to air quality in the area.
6. Scheduling of Next Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 9, 2011, at 11:00 a.m.
7. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 11:55 a.m.