

**MINUTES OF THE
BI-STATE REGIONAL COMMISSION**

Wednesday, March 28, 2007, 3:30 P.M.
Scott County Administration Building
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT: O'Brien – Chair, Becker, Burns, Celske, Harris, Heninger, Kelly, Lawrence, Rick Meredith, Minard, Joy Murphy, Nicholson, Ripperger, Rockwell, Sherwin, Spring, Sunderbruch, Tank, Volz, Winborn

MEMBERS ABSENT: Adams, Austin, Bohnsack, Brooke, Dean, Dumas, Freemire, Gallin, Hillman, Malvik, Rangel, Schwiebert, Washburn, Welvaert, Wilkinson, Williams

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Connors, Hunt, McCullough, Miller, Moritz

OTHERS PRESENT: Theresa Foes, Rock Island County Health Department; Marie Press, Muscatine City Council

Chair O'Brien called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m. Chair O'Brien presented Mayor Winborn a certificate for Ian Frink in appreciation of his service to the Commission.

1. Approval of the February 28, 2007 Minutes. Mayor Spring moved approval of the minutes of the February 28, 2007 meeting as written and mailed. Mayor Celske seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer's Report. Ms. Connors presented the Treasurer's Report for the month ending February 28, 2007, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$420,816.84. Mayor Burns moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Minard seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Ms. Connors presented the bills totaling \$82,479.92, as listed on the following addendum and bills listing dated March 28, 2007:

Addendum

Bancard Center, VISA charge card expenses related to Iowa Association of Regional Councils conference; one staff attending the Public Involvement in Transit Decision-Making conference; computer supplies; Chief Elected & Administrative Officials meeting; Urban Transportation Policy Committee meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); Mayors/County 1,223.45

Board Chairs meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); Managers/ Administrators meeting (cost reimbursed by participants)	
City of Moline, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds	3,413.36
City of Rock Island, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds and fuel charges	52,087.64
Louise A. Kerr, Treasurer	6,935.36
4/07 Rent	\$4,165.96
4/07 Internet Access	88.00
2/07 Postage	1,111.96
2/07 Printing	1,488.00
2/07 Supplies	81.44

Bills List

Environmental Systems Research Institute, license maintenance, upgrades, and technical support for ArcView computer software	1,600.00
GeoComm, Inc., communication consulting	14,148.00
R.K. Dixon, maintenance service on copier and color printer	537.11
Shine Management Group, Inc., Radio Study kickoff (cost reimbursed by participants)	500.00
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	2,035.00

Ms. Sherwin moved approval of the bills totaling \$82,479.92 as presented above.
 Mr. Volz seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2007 Program Budget as of February 28, 2007.

Ms. Connors explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in the agenda packet.
 The Commission is 66.7% through the fiscal year with 62.8% expended and within budget.

4. Report on Contracts Approved by the Executive Director. Ms. Bulat reported on the following contracts that were approved by the Executive Director and required no action because they were under \$7,500.

- Contract with the City of West Liberty for an Economic Development Area Fact Sheet. The contract is in the amount of \$2,230 and covers the period 2/1/07 - 4/1/07.
- Contract with the City of Geneseo for Website Design. The contract is in the amount of \$3,213 and covers the period 3/1/07 - 6/30/07.
- Contract with the Village of Andover for Mapping Services. The contract is in the amount of \$1,670 and covers the period 3/1/07 - 6/30/07.
- Contract with the Village of Milan for a Fact Sheet. The contract is in the amount of \$1,835 and covers the period 3/5/07 – 5/31/07.

5. Report on Pandemic Flu Planning. Mark Hunt, Senior Planner at Bi-State Regional Commission, and Theresa Foes, Director of Health Promotion for the Rock Island County Health Department, informed the Commission about pandemic flu planning and educational efforts underway in Scott and Rock Island Counties.

Mr. Hunt opened with a brief overview of what a pandemic flu is and how it might affect the Bi-State Region. A pandemic flu occurs when an influenza virus emerges to which humans have no immunity. Such a virus would spread easily and cause illness and death on a scale much greater than a seasonal flu outbreak. Should a pandemic flu occur, it is likely to cause disruptions across a wide range of services and activities. Pandemic flu outbreaks have occurred in 1918, 1957, and 1968 in the United States. The 1918 pandemic caused the greatest loss of life with 675,000 Americans succumbing to the disease during a one-year period, according to the Center for Disease Control. Representatives from both the Rock Island and Scott County Health Departments have been highly involved in the recent planning and educational efforts related to pandemic flu.

Ms. Foes described the November 2006 Pandemic Flu Seminar hosted by the Scott and Rock Island County Health Departments. Bi-State helped coordinate and promote the event to local governments, businesses, health care providers, and others throughout the Region. Funding was provided by the Scott County Health Department. The event brought together more than 200 people from across the region and included presentations by medical experts and first responders. Additionally, small group discussion sessions were held. One of the most common concerns for attendees of the seminar was how to plan for and handle continuity of operations should a pandemic occur. Federal reports suggest up to 30% of a region's workforce could be affected at one time by a flu pandemic. This would include those too ill to work and others who must miss work to care for ill loved ones. Decisions about vacation, sick time, pay, and benefits need to be made before a pandemic occurs. Additionally, employers will need to identify how to maintain vital services/operations with a reduced staff.

Ms. Foes closed by answering numerous questions from Commissioners about pandemic flu. Concerns were raised about the availability of vaccines and the integration of local response plans. Ms. Foes noted that each county must have a pandemic flu plan and recommended that counties continually meet to discuss and exercise their plans in joint operations scenarios. Large and small group pandemic flu planning meetings will be coordinated this spring in the Bi-State Region. Bi-State staff will inform the Commissioners about the dates and locations of these meetings as soon as that information becomes available.

6. Consideration of the following Transportation Activity. Ms. McCullough reported that annually the Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) documents for the Quad City Area and Region 9, serving rural Scott County and Muscatine County, are revised to reflect staff activities for the coming fiscal year.

The FY 2008 TPWPs are developed to aid cooperative, continuing, and comprehensive transportation planning. They include budgets for transportation planning activities and funds.

The documents also outline the history of transportation planning in the respective planning areas. In the Bi-State region, major transportation issues include:

- River Crossing and Transportation Capacity Improvements Congestion Management, Intelligent Transportation System (ITS), and Air Quality Improvement Activities
- Intermodal Connections
- Long Range Plan Implementation and Planning
- Coordination with Human Service & Specialized Transportation Providers
- Integration of Safety and Security

With federal transportation appropriations, both the urban and Region 9 FY 08 planning budgets are expected to realize slight increases from FY 07 levels. Mr. Rockwell moved approval of the resolutions to authorize application of the federal planning grants and execute the respective grant contracts. Mr. Harris seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

7. Questions and Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments by Commissioners.
8. Other Business. Ms. Bulat reported that Amtrak will be performing a study regarding service between the Quad Cities and Chicago and that by fall '07 the study should be completed. Funding for operations and some capital could come from the Illinois Department of Transportation. It is hoped that the service would be extended to Iowa City in the future.
9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Nicholson
Secretary