

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

Wednesday, April 25, 2007, 3:30 P.M.
Scott County Administration Building
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT: O'Brien – Chair, Adams, Becker, Bohnsack, Burns, Celske, Dean, Freemire, Gallin, Harris, Heninger, Kelly, Lawrence, Malvik, Minard, Nicholson, Ripperger, Rockwell, Sherwin, Spring, Sunderbruch, Tank, Thodos, Volz, Welvaert, Wilkinson, Wilson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Austin, Brooke, Dumas, Hillman, Rangel, Schwiebert, Washburn, Williams, Winborn

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Connors, McCullough, Miller, Milliron, Moritz, Schmedding

OTHERS PRESENT: Sam Kupresin and Fred Smith, Rock Island Arsenal Task Force

Chair O'Brien called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Chair O'Brien presented Mayor Burns and Bill Adams certificates of appreciation for their service to the Commission. Chair O'Brien also presented a certificate to staff member Donna Moritz of appreciation for twenty years of service to the Commission.

1. Approval of the March 28, 2007 Minutes. Ms. Dean moved approval of the minutes of the March 28, 2007 meeting as written and mailed. Mayor Freemire seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer's Report. Mr. Malvik presented the Treasurer's Report for the month ending March 31, 2007, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$390,489.60. Mr. Malvik moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Ms. Ripperger seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Mr. Malvik presented the bills totaling \$88,116.77, as listed on the following addendum and bills listing dated April 25, 2007:

Addendum

Bancard Center, VISA charge card expenses related to one staff attending the Washington D.C. trip; one staff attending the Midwest High Speed Rail Association conference; membership renewal to the national Association of Photoshop Professionals; computer supplies; Iowa Association of Regional Councils meeting; Urban Transportation Policy 2,318.25

Committee meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); Quad City Riverfront Council meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); one staff attending the FY 2007 Triennial Review Workshop; one staff attending the Rural Community Economic Development conference	
Eastern Iowa Community College District, Rock Island County NEG (National Emergency Grant) administration and programs expense	9,226.92
Thomas C. Fritzsche, legal fees for Revolving Loan Fund services	633.33
Office Depot, office supplies	773.11
Partners in Job Training & Placement, Rock Island County NEG (National Emergency Grant) administration and programs expense	51,270.16
Corrections –	
R.K. Dixon (previously listed as \$1,293.75), additional cost of maintenance on copier (\$98.72).	1,392.47

Bills List

GeoComm, Inc., communication consulting		14,148.00
Louise A. Kerr, Treasurer		6,209.53
5/07 Rent	\$4,165.96	
5/07 Internet Access	88.00	
3/07 Postage	1,111.07	
3/07 Printing	755.45	
3/07 Supplies	89.05	
R.K. Dixon, maintenance service on network, copier, and color printer		1,293.75
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)		2,145.00

Mr. Malvik moved approval of the bills totaling \$88,116.77 as presented above.
 Mr. Bohnsack seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2007 Program Budget as of March 31, 2007.
 Mr. Malvik explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in the agenda packet. The Commission is 75.0% through the fiscal year with 68.2% expended and within budget.
- c. Consideration of the following Contract. Ms. Bulat requested approval of the following contract over \$7,500 that requires Commission approval:
 - Contract with Illinois Department of Transportation for up to \$10,000 for each of our three Illinois counties (\$30,000 total) for geocoding crash data. The contract will begin no earlier than May 1 and will end by December 31, 2007.

Mayor Freemire moved the Bi-State Regional Commission approve the contract as described above. Mayor Welvaert seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- a. Report on Strategic Planning for the Arsenal. Ms. Doonan reported that the Rock Island Arsenal Taskforce was formed under the Quad City Development Group to monitor developments and changes at the Rock Island Arsenal. Following the most recent Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) decision in October 2006, the Taskforce realized how close the decision came to total closure of Rock Island Arsenal. Deciding to be proactive rather than reactive to future decisions concerning the Arsenal, the Taskforce embarked on a strategic planning exercise and identified action area subcommittees.

Ms. Doonan introduced Sam Kupresin and Fred Smith, both subcommittee chairs for the Rock Island Arsenal Task Force, who reported to the Bi-State Commission on issues of concern for the Arsenal. Mr. Kupresin reported on the importance of the Arsenal to the regional economy. There are 6,700 high-paying civilian jobs on Arsenal Island making it the area's largest employer and contributing \$1.1 billion to the local economy. Many associate Rock Island Arsenal with the factory, but the factory only represents about 18% of the workforce. There are many more employed in the numerous other armed forces agencies and functions that are tenants of Arsenal Island.

Mr. Smith spoke about the continued threat of closure based on perceptions of factory utilization. He said that the Taskforce subcommittees were working to develop new opportunities to increase the importance of Arsenal Island, including establishing a manufacturing consortium to develop local contractors and pursuing titanium fabrication. Another opportunity will come with the increased military presence of the 1st Army transferring from Georgia. This move will create a need for additional housing and facilities for incoming generals and military families. A final issue is maintenance of historic Quarters One, which is the second largest government residence after the White House in Washington. Both subcommittee chairs stressed that local communities will need to be active partners in these identified efforts to sustain and develop Rock Island Arsenal, including being welcoming to new military personnel. Additional information will be provided about Rock Island Arsenal tenant organizations and about strategic development efforts in the future.

5. Report on Local Update of Census Addresses. Ms. Milliron reported that an additional workshop on the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) program will be held in May for those who were unable to attend the earlier workshop held at the Rock Island Public Library in April. The Kansas City Regional Office of the U.S. Census Bureau and the State Library of Iowa will be hosting the second series of LUCA workshops in the Region in preparation for Census 2010. These workshops will be held on May 3, 2007 at ICN sites across the state of Iowa. Please see the below listing for locations and times of sessions being held in the Bi-State Region.

Ms. Milliron informed the Commissioners that the LUCA program provides local governments the opportunity to assist the U.S. Census Bureau in improving the accuracy and completeness of the Census Bureau's Master Address File for their local jurisdiction. It is imperative to have an accurate and up-to-date Master Address File in order to ensure quality Decennial Census results at the local level. This introductory workshop is designed to familiarize governments with the LUCA program for Census 2010 including why local participation is critical to the success of the census for each jurisdiction, the LUCA program schedule, LUCA participation options, and security and confidentiality requirements.

Ms. Milliron reported that the regional Census office encourages one or more representative(s) from each local government to attend the workshop to better determine which LUCA participation option is right for the jurisdiction, the time commitment that might be required, and the preparatory efforts that need to be completed. If a representative from your local government has already attended the LUCA workshop at the Rock Island Public Library on April 11, 2007, you need not attend a workshop on May 3rd.

6. Questions and Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments by Commissioners.
7. Other Business. Ms. Kelly invited the Commissioners to the Muscatine County Administration Building Open House on April 30th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to tour the new facilities.
8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Nicholson
Secretary