

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

Wednesday, September 26, 2007, 3:30 P.M.  
Scott County Administration Building  
600 West Fourth Street  
Davenport, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT: O'Brien Chair, Austin, Becker, Dean, Eccher, Freemire, Gallin, Harris, Heninger, Hillman, Kelly, Lawrence, Lohse, McDaniel, Minard, Ripperger, Rockwell, Spring, Sunderbruch, Tank, Thodos, Volz, Winborn

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bohnsack, Breecher, Brooke, Dumas, Malvik, Rangel, Schwiebert, Sherwin, Tossell, Washburn, Welvaert, Wilkinson, Wilson

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

Chair O'Brien, called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

1. Approval of the August 22, 2007 Minutes. Ms. Dean moved approval of the minutes of the August 22, 2007 meeting as written and mailed. Mayor Freemire seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer's Report. Mayor Freemire presented the Treasurer's Report for the month ending August 31, 2007, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$531,925.60. Mayor Freemire moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Volz seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
  - a. Bills. Ms. Connors presented the bills totaling \$80,262.91, as listed on the following addendum and bills listing dated September 26, 2007:

Addendum

Bancard Center, VISA charge card expenses related to one staff attended the Iowa Association of Regional Councils Retreat; Urban Transportation Policy Committee meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); American Planning Association Audio/web Conference Training Series; Managers & Administrators Advisory Committee meeting (cost reimbursed by participants)	\$2,290.27
Illinois Association of Regional Councils, Human Services Transportation Plan Administrative Assistance	831.25

Corrections –

Louise A. Kerr, Treasurer (previously listed as \$5,789.10), additional invoice for GroupWise Maintenance for FY08 (\$490.05). 6,279.15

Bills List

GeoComm, Inc., communication consulting	\$	7,860.00
Louise A. Kerr, Treasurer		5,789.10
10/07 Rent		\$4,165.96
10/07 Internet Access		88.00
8/07 Postage		1,141.25
8/07 Printing		292.04
8/07 Supplies		101.85
City of Moline, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds		4,112.25
City of Rock Island, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds		57,734.99
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)		1,155.00

Mayor McDaniel moved approval of the bills totaling \$80,262.91 as presented above. Ms. Kelly seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Report on Progress on Commission's FY 2008 Program Budget as of August 31, 2007.

Ms. Connors explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in the agenda packet. The Commission is 16.7% through the fiscal year with 15.4% expended and within budget.

4. Report on Bi-State's Data Enhancements and Economic Development Services. Ms. Milliron reported that Bi-State Regional Commission has a new economic development tool called □ Strategic Advantage. □ This online software was purchased with a portion of a National Emergency Grant (NEG) awarded by the Federal Department of Labor to assist with BRAC mitigation activities.

Ms. Milliron informed the Commissioners that if they would like to see the economic impact of business attraction (or loss) in their community, Bi-State can provide them with a scenario-based outcome report that is unique to their local economy and the type of business involved. This software is also able to provide demographic and economic projections, as well as a skills gap analysis of the local workforce.

Ms. Milliron then shared with Commissioners that programs are currently underway to prepare for Census 2010. Ms. Milliron informed Commissioners that this is their chance to ensure that they receive the most accurate Census results possible for their local government. All local governments are encouraged to participate in the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) program, especially if the jurisdiction has had recent significant changes such as new subdivisions, boundary realignments, annexations, or official name changes.

Ms. Milliron stated that the next (and last) LUCA Technical Training Workshop in our area will be on October 23, 2007 at the Rock Island Public Library from 10:00 a.m. to approximately 3:00 p.m. Individuals must register in advance by contacting the Chicago Regional Census

Office or Bi-State Regional Commission. Ms. Milliron noted that this workshop is different from the Introductory LUCA Workshops held earlier this year.

Ms. Miller reported that data, particularly Census data, plays an important role in economic development, whether used to entice a new business or industry, or to seek funding from a state or federal agency. Ms. Miller stated that Bi-State Regional Commission staff have been distributors of data since the agency's inception some 40 years ago. Bi-State is a federally-designated Census data repository, but grant funding allows staff to collect other types of data as well.

Ms. Miller noted that the Internet is the preferred medium for both researchers and distributors of data. Bi-State distributes some of its collection of data via its website and the data can be found in PDF files by navigating to Services, then Data and Information, then Demographics or Economy and Employment.

Ms. Miller reported that plans are underway to redesign the data section to increase the amount of data on the site and the ease of update. For the user, the data will be accessible through a new interface □ an interactive map, which will allow users to choose the geography for which they would like to see a data set. Or, users will be able to choose from a data type, for example, population, employment, housing, income, or other characteristics, then choose the geography. Improvements to the website should be available by mid-year, 2008.

5. Report on the Plan Commission/Planners Training Opportunities. Ms. McCullough reported Bi-State Regional Commission will, for a sixth year, host a series of audio/visual-conferences sponsored by the American Planning Association (APA). There will be eleven conferences in the 2007-2008 series. They include:

- LEED for Neighborhoods
- Staying Out of Court by Avoiding Pitfalls
- Introduction to the Planning Commission □ Part I
- Introduction to the Planning Commission □ Part II
- Complete Streets
- Mastering Density
- Design Guidelines for Small Towns and Rural Communities
- Confronting Nimby's
- Introduction to the Zoning Board of Adjustment
- Community-Based Brownfields Redevelopment
- Planning Law Review

Ms. McCullough noted that all daytime conferences will be held in the Third Floor Conference Room, Rock Island County Office Building, 1504 Third Avenue, Rock Island at 3:00 p.m. The public entrance is from Third Avenue. The three evening sessions will be held at the Rock Island Public Library, 401 19th Street, Rock Island at 6:00 p.m. All planning staff, planning and zoning commissions/boards, and boards of adjustment members are encouraged to attend. This service

is being provided as part of Bi-State membership. Ms. McCullough told Commissioners that reminders would be included in the Commission in Review and stated that all those interested should register in advance for the conferences.

6. Questions and Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments by commissioners.
7. Other Business. There was no other business.
8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Nicholson  
Secretary