

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

Wednesday, January 28, 2009, 3:30 p.m.
Bi-State Regional Commission
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

MEMBERS PRESENT: Welvaert – Chair, Barnes, Becker, Dean, Gluba, Heninger, Hillman, Lawrence, Lohse, Malvik, McDaniel, Meeker, Minard, Nicholson, O’Brien, Ripperger, Rockwell, Schwiebert, Shoultz, Sunderbruch, Tank, Thodos, Washburn, Wilkinson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bohnsack, Breecher, Brown, Freemire, Gallin, Goodwin, Harris, Rangel, Sherwin, Tossell, Volz

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

Chair Welvaert called the meeting to order at 3:50 p.m. Chair Welvaert welcomed a new representative to the Bi-State Regional Commission. The new member is Wayne Schoultz, Chair of the Muscatine County Board. Chair Welvaert also welcomed a new Bi-State Regional Commission staff member Laura Berkley.

1. Approval of the December 17, 2008 Minutes. Mayor Gluba moved approval of the minutes of the December 17, 2008 as presented. Mr. Wilkinson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer's Report. Ms. Ripperger presented the Treasurer's Report for the month ending December 31, 2008, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$441,508.56. Ms. Ripperger moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mayor Schwiebert seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Mr. Malvik presented the bills totaling \$179,443.15, as listed on the following bills listing and addendum dated January 28, 2009:

Bills List

Basile Baumann Prost Cole & Associates, Inc., progress payment for business assistance study	\$ 6,168.37
Dell Marketing L.P., computer purchase	2,243.04
Iowa State University, registration for GIS program courses	675.00

Louise A. Kerr, Treasurer		5,761.80
2/09	Rent	\$4,165.96
2/09	Internet Access	88.00
12/08	Printing	412.05
12/08	Supplies	140.42
12/08	Postage	955.37
RK Dixon, maintenance service on network and monthly copier charges		575.17
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)		3,115.00

Addendum

Bancard Center, VISA charge card expenses related to I-74 Bridge meeting in Washington D.C.; Chief Elected & Chief Administrative Officials meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); computer purchase; Iowa Intergov meeting; renewal of web hosting; office supplies		3,119.53
Eastern Iowa Small Business Development Center, refund for overpayment of NDC training		1,056.25
Environmental Systems Research Institute, software maintenance		1,600.00
Lohman Companies, directors and officers liability insurance		4,153.00
Quad City Development Group, pass through payments for Clark Group Consultant for air quality issues		8,020.00
Mel Foster Co., Inc., renewal		5,285.00
City of Moline, air travel to Washington DC, and Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds		6,677.39
Muscatine County, Jumpstart monies		46,580.12
City of Rock Island, fuel charges, Municipal Code Enforcement System Proceeds, and parking citations		83,187.10
Correction –		
RK Dixon, (previously listed as \$575.17), additional invoice for maintenance service on network		1,801.55

Mr. Malvik moved approval of the bills totaling \$179,443.15 as presented above. Mayor Lohse seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2009 Program Budget as of December 31, 2008.
 Mr. Malvik explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in the agenda packet. The Commission is 50% through the fiscal year with 48.4% expended and on budget.

4. Executive Committee. Chair Welvaert reported that the Executive Committee had met per the by-laws as the nominating committee. Because the existing slate of officers were eligible to serve one more year, they were nominated for a second term as follows:

Mayor Welvaert	Chair
Mayor Freemire	Vice Chair
Larry Minard	Secretary
Pat Ripperger	Treasurer

Mayor Gluba motioned for approval of the slate of officers. Mayor Schwiebert seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Economic Development Updates. Mr. Hunt, Economic Development Project Manager, provided Commissioners with an update on several Regional economic development initiatives underway. He began by discussing a listing of “shovel ready” economic development projects that may be eligible for funding under the proposed federal economic stimulus package.

Mr. Hunt reported that Bi-State staff took an early lead on project identification, creating an initial/draft list in November 2008 based on existing plans and working with local governments to identify additional projects. The list has evolved into a working document and several iterations have been supplied to appropriate state and federal departments and elected officials. A transportation-specific list was developed at the request of the Iowa DOT. Additionally, Bi-State staff has continued to provide updates directly to the Iowa Department of Economic Development and Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

Mr. Hunt described Bi-State’s work on applications to the federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) for economic flood recovery. Currently all counties in the Bi-State Region, except for Henry, are eligible for disaster-related economic development project funding through EDA due to damage caused by the 2008 floods. Presently, two applications to EDA for flood-related economic recovery have been completed. In October, Bi-State submitted an application for Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) capitalization in Mercer and Muscatine Counties. A total of \$750,000 of initial capital was requested for the proposed Mercer/Muscatine RLF. In December and January, Bi-State assisted Davenport in submitting an application for infrastructure expansion at the Eastern Iowa Industrial Center (EIIC). A total of \$6.5 million in federal assistance was requested for the EIIC infrastructure expansion.

Ms. Miller, DataGraphics Manager, provided an update on plans to upgrade web-based data offerings for the Bi-State Region in the form of a data portal website. This will be a single website to house demographic and economic data for the entire five-county Bi-State Region. Currently, data exists in several locations on the Bi-State website and on several partner websites.

Ms. Miller reported that in September 2008, Bi-State Regional Commission was awarded an additional \$15,000 in planning funds from the Economic Development Administration Chicago Region to develop the Economic Development Data Portal for the Bi-State Region. The project, identified as a need under the 2008 CEDS planning process, includes a \$15,000 in-kind local match.

On January 19, 2009, Bi-State staff released a Request for Proposals for consultant services to assist in the development, design, and programming of the website. The local match will cover staff time to administer the contract, assist in development, coordinate with local agencies, gather and input data, and assist with mapping. Proposals for the project are due February 6th. Staff will form a steering committee to assist in selection of the consultant as well as provide input throughout the development and implementation of the data portal website. Participation will include agencies such as the Quad City Development Group, Muscatine Development Corporation, and other various economic development agencies including chambers.

Ms. Miller showed examples of two websites similar to the proposed data portal website. The new website will incorporate database technologies and have a user-friendly interface allowing the user to select data either by geography or by the type of data. It will be very visual and use maps for selecting and displaying data. The website is scheduled to go live in September of 2009.

6. Questions and Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments.
7. Other Business. Chair Welvaert recognized outgoing Commissioner Mr. Tom Furlong for his service to the Commission.

Ms. Bulat updated Commissioners on Air Quality and reported that the Region is in attainment but is very close to the limit. Ms. Bulat also reported that the University of Iowa Study will be released in February.

8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Minard
Secretary