

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

Wednesday, July 27, 2011, 3:30 p.m.
Scott County Administration Building
Sixth Floor Conference Room
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT: McDaniel – Vice Chair, Austin, Bohnsack, Earnhardt, Gluba, Goodwin, Heninger, Henry, Kelly, Lawrence, Liddell, Minard, O’Boyle, O’Brien, Rockwell, Schloemer, Sherwin, Sunderbruch, Tank, Thodos, Volz, Watkins

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anderson, Freemire, Gordon, Meeker, Pauley, Rangel, Stoermer, Tossell, Washburn, Wells, Welvaert, Williams

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Morgan, Rock Island Arsenal Development Group Program Director; James Martin, Eldridge Assistant City Administrator; Stephanie Yang, River Cities’ Reader

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Grabowski, Miller, Moritz

Vice Chair McDaniel called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. He began by introducing the new assistant city administrator of Eldridge, James Martin.

1. Approval of the June 22, 2011 Minutes. Mayor Gluba moved to approve the minutes of June 22, 2011 as presented. Ms. Kelly seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Ms. Earnhardt presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending June 30, 2011, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$575,049.02. Ms. Earnhardt moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Ms. Sherwin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Mr. Austin presented the bills totaling \$68,181.26, as listed on the following bills listing and addendum dated July 27, 2011:

Bills List

Far Reach Technologies, consultant for data portal website	\$ 2,500.00
Hurt, Norton & Associates, June legislative technical services (cost reimbursed by participating local governments)	7,750.00
McGladrey & Pullen, LLP, progress billing for the June 30, 2011 audit	6,700.00
National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), membership renewal	2,000.00

Rock Island County, United Township High School District #30 Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant	505.41
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C. Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	3,220.00

Addendum

Village of Annawan, Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant	1,354.65
Bancard Center, VISA charge card expenses related to Northwest Municipal Association Golf Tournament (cost reimbursed by participants); one staff Attending the Iowa Public Transit Training Conference & Annual Meeting; one staff attending the Planning Iowa Sustainability; office supplies	2,052.61
Village of Cambridge, Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant	839.70
City of Colona, Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant	3,090.89
City of East Moline, Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant	3,243.00
Louisa Ewert, Treasurer	7,120.33
08/2011 Rent	\$4,618.38
08/2011 Internet Access	88.00
06/2011 Postage	1,284.15
06/2011 Printing	679.76
06/2011 Supplies	189.11
06 & 07/2011 Cell Phone	119.36
Teleconference System	141.57
City of Geneseo, Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant	6,750.00
Henry County, Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant	819.00
Mercer County, Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant	675.53
Sam’s Club, membership (cost reimbursed by participants)	525.00
City of Silvis, Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant	528.70
City of Wilton, Iowa Department of Public Health Grant	8,824.50

Correction–

Rock Island County (previously listed as \$505.41), amount changed to \$561.57 plus additional invoices for the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant for United Township High School District #30 and the Rock Island County Highway Department	10,187.35
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Mr. Austin moved approval of the bills totaling \$68,181.26 as presented above.
 Mr. Bohnsack seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2011 Program Budget as of June 30, 2011.

Mr. Austin explained the Program Budget Status Report was provided at the meeting. The Commission is 100.0% through the fiscal year with 92.9% expended and within budget.

4. Consideration of Contracts/Grants. Ms. Bulat requested approval of the following contracts over \$7,500 that require Commission approval:

- Contract with ALCOA Foundation for Air Quality, Public Awareness, and Education. The contract is up to \$70,000 and will run from September 1, 2011 to December 31, 2012.

Mr. Austin motioned to approve the contract as presented, and Mayor O'Brien seconded.

- Contract with Illinois Department of Transportation for Transportation Planning. The contract is for \$43,696 with CMAP match of \$10,924 and will run from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

Mr. Austin motioned to approve the contract as presented, and Mayor Thodos seconded.

- Contract with Interstate RC&D to provide interim financial services at actual costs from July 27, 2011 through September 30, 2011.

Mayor Thodos motioned to approve the contract as presented, and Mayor Gluba seconded.

5. Census Information Update. Ms. Miller updated the Commission on the latest data releases from Census 2010 and other Census programs. In December of last year, Census 2010 counts for each state were released for Congressional reapportionment. Both Illinois and Iowa lost one seat in the House of Representatives. In February through April 2011, the Census Bureau released data to assist each state in redrawing congressional, state legislative, and local voting district boundaries. New congressional and legislative district plans have been enacted in both Illinois and Iowa. Bi-State staff has assisted four municipalities with the delineation of new voting ward and precinct boundaries based on Census 2010 data.

In May 2011, the Census Bureau began releasing Demographic Summary Profiles (DP1), a four-page overview of Census 2010 data. Beginning in June 2011, more detailed data (Summary File 1 or SF1) from Census 2010 was released on a state-by-state basis with Illinois scheduled for release on August 4th. The release date for Iowa data has not yet been announced. Both the DP1 and SF1 data will be available via the Census' redesigned web-based data retrieval tool, American FactFinder, <http://factfinder2.census.gov>. The DP1 profiles are also currently available on the data section of the Bi-State website, <http://www.bistateonline.org/ser/dat/cen.shtml>. Additionally, staff plans to upload the DP1s and key SF1 data sets to the new data portal website, <http://www.GreaterQCRegion.org>.

If a community suspects an error has been made in the Census 2010 count, the Census Bureau offers a program that may result in a corrected or new count, the **Count Question Resolution (CQR) Program**. Three types of challenges can be submitted by the highest elected or appointed official of state, local, or tribal area governmental units as follows:

- **Boundary Challenges** – To correct inaccurate reporting or recording of boundaries legally in effect on January 1, 2010

- **Geocoding Challenges** – To correct the placement of living quarters and associated population within the correct governmental unit boundaries and 2010 census tabulation blocks
- **Coverage Challenges** – To add or delete specific living quarters and people associated with them, identified during the census process, but erroneously included as duplicates or excluded due to processing errors

The program is available June 1, 2011 – June 1, 2013, and there is no cost associated with the program other than staff time to compile the documentation necessary to support the challenge. If the challenge is successful, corrections are made to the population and the housing unit counts for affected governmental units and may be used as the new official 2010 Census count. An errata is issued with the corrected counts, and the new counts are incorporated into post-census estimates. **However, the Census Bureau will not incorporate the CQR corrections into any additional 2010 Census data products.** Bi-State staff has received inquiries regarding CQR challenges from four municipalities and is assisting with one at this time.

Another program that may result in a new official Census count is called a **Special Census**. This involves taking a whole new count of population, housing units, and group quarters for a governmental unit and is conducted by the Census Bureau. The community is responsible for the cost of a Special Census, and it is based on the estimated increase in population, plus a fee to request a cost estimate. However, the cost of the program could be justified by increased state and federal funding that may come to a community based on the higher Census count. The program is available approximately 12 – 18 months after Census Day.

Ms. Miller also noted that staff is monitoring two Census-data-related designations: the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) and the Urban/Rural classification for the Quad Cities area. The current MSA consists of Henry, Mercer, and Rock Island Counties, Illinois and Scott County, Iowa. Adjacent counties could be added, based on Census 2010 data related to population and employment/commuting patterns. The Urban Area is delineated using population density and may cross corporate boundaries. Its definition is critical to the administration of transportation funding.

Ms. Miller concluded by comparing the **Decennial Census** with the new **American Community Survey (ACS)**. The Decennial Census is conducted every ten years and is a 100% count of U.S. population. In 2010, only the “short form” was used with ten basic questions. Data from the Decennial Census is released on a flow basis. The American Community Survey is conducted every year and is a sample count of the U.S. population and how they live. The ACS replaces the “long form” in the decennial Census and has more detailed questions. Approximately three million households are surveyed each year. ACS data will be available on the Census American FactFinder website as well as the Region’s new data portal website, www.GreaterQCRegion.org.

Commissioners discussed the importance of promoting citizen response to the American Community Survey, and staff will prepare materials to promote the ACS and make them available to distribute to member governments and other organizations.

6. Rock Island Arsenal Presentation. Mr. Morgan presented an update on the activities on the Rock Island Arsenal. Since the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Act, the Rock Island Arsenal lost 350 personnel in 2008 from the Defense Finance and Accounting Services, 150 personnel in 2007 from Installation Management Agency Northwest Region Network Enterprise Technology Command, and 1,100 personnel in 2011 from Tank Automotive and Armament Command. Currently, 8,400 people work on the Arsenal. Jim Morgan, Program Director for Rock Island Arsenal Development Group (RIADG) noted that with the addition of the First Army, the Arsenal gained about 150 military and 150 civilian persons. Ms. Denise Bulat noted that Garrison Manager Joel Himsl remarked that the First Army members were pleased with the quality of the facilities on the Arsenal.

With another BRAC scheduled for 2015, the concern is that the Arsenal will lose more jobs as the government seeks to trim costs. To fund its programs, the Army uses the money allotted in the defense budget plus supplemental dollars. With the war effort winding down, the defense budget will likely be reduced, and the Army is concerned about what will happen when that happens and when the supplemental money is fully expended. The Arsenal Support Program Initiative allows for public/private partnerships for factories, so the factory on the Arsenal could support itself with revolving funds.

Despite the rumors, there are no plans to close the Joint Manufacturing & Technology Center yet. However, there has been talk about moving Contract Command to Huntsville, Alabama. The problem is that Huntsville does not have the facilities to house the new personnel, but the Arsenal does. It has also been suggested that a Joint Munitions Command be created in Dover, New Jersey, creating duplicative facilities and, therefore, wasting money and resources. If the Arsenal has the facilities to house Contract Command and already offers services that are going to duplicate elsewhere, the Army could save money by keeping jobs here in the Quad Cities.

Eight members of the Armed Services Committee, including Bruce Braley and Bobby Schilling, will be touring the Arsenal facilities on August 11-12. Mayor John Thodos commented that leaders in the Quad Cities community should pull together to keep jobs on the Arsenal because the Quad Cities economy would take a drastic downturn if jobs leave for other areas. He noted it is not a money-saving venture to move jobs away from the Arsenal because the facilities are already in place here. The Arsenal is equipped to handle the workload as well as the personnel. He also pointed out that the Arsenal supplied over 50% of the armor for the vehicles used in the war in Afghanistan and Iraq, a feat that private industry could not accomplish as quickly.

Mayor Bill Gluba asked which facilities are the largest threat to the Arsenal and what the communities should do to keep the jobs here in the Quad Cities. Mr. Morgan responded that most of the jobs are moving to Huntsville, Alabama and Dover, New Jersey. The Army Material Command headquarters has already moved to Huntsville as many retired generals live in that area. There have been several suggestions that the whole of the Army operations move to Huntsville, but Mr. Morgan pointed out that the Army reconsidered moving all of its resources to one area for national security purposes. Mayor Gluba encouraged the Commissioners to keep this issue in front of our representatives to Congress and encourage them to keep the Arsenal open.

The Arsenal is the largest employer in the Region, and issues related to the Arsenal are a major priority in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Bi-State Region.

7. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments by Commissioners.
8. Other Business. There was no other business.
9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Pauley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Dennis Pauley
Secretary