

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

Wednesday, July 25, 2012, 3:30 p.m.
Rock Island County Office Building
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

MEMBERS PRESENT: McDaniel – Chair, Austin, Bohnsack, Fox, Gallagher, Gluba, Goodwin, Hopkins, Kelly, Lawrence, Liddell, Minard, O’Boyle, Rockwell, Schloemer, Sherwin, Sorensen, Tank, Volz, Washburn, Wells

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anderson, Burrage, Earnhardt, Gordon, Heninger, Pauley, Rangel, Stoermer, Sunderbruch, Thodos, Tossell, Welvaert

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Morgan, Rock Island Arsenal Development Group

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Grabowski, Miller, Moritz

Chair McDaniel called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

1. Approval of the June 27, 2012 Minutes. Mayor Hopkins moved to approve the minutes of June 27, 2012 as presented. Mayor Gluba seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Ms. Kelly presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending June 30, 2012, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$540,765.34. Ms. Kelly moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Volz seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Mr. Austin presented the bills totaling \$36,130.81, as listed on the following bills listing and addendum dated July 25, 2012:

Bills List

Bancard Center, VISA charge card expenses related to one staff attending the Iowa Association of Regional Councils monthly board meeting; Northwest Municipal Association Golf Tournament (cost reimbursed by participants); one staff attending the managing Travel Demand conference and annual meeting; one staff attending the Iowa Public Transit Association conference; CEO/CAO meeting (costs reimbursed by participants); office supplies	\$ 5,366.82
CBS4 – Live Well Network (WHBF), ads to promote air quality (cost reimbursed by ALCOA grant)	1,310.00
Clear Channel, ads to promote air quality (cost reimbursed by ALCOA grant)	2,190.00
Cumulus Quad Cities, ads to promote air quality (cost reimbursed by ALCOA grant)	2,060.00*
Hurt, Norton & Associates, June 2012 legislative technical service (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	7,750.00

Iowa Association of Regional Councils, 2012 Director’s Retreat and FY 2013 membership dues	3,064.96
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	3,430.00

Addendum

Louisa Ewert, Treasurer	6,410.03
08/2012 Rent	\$4,618.38
08/2012 Internet Access	88.00
06/2012 Postage	1,113.15
07/2012 Printing	510.11
06 & 07/2012 Cell Phone	80.39
RK Dixon, maintenance service on network and monthly copier charges	3,689.00

*Correction –

Cumulus Quad Cities (previously listed as \$2,060.00), additional invoice for ads to promote air quality	2,920.00
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Mr. Austin moved approval of the bills totaling \$36,130.81 as presented above. Mayor Fox seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2012 Program Budget as of June 30, 2012. Mr. Austin explained the Program Budget Status Report was handed out at the meeting. The Commission is 100% through the fiscal year with 87.3% expended and within budget.
 - c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. There were no contracts for the Commission to approve.
4. Rock Island Arsenal Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT). Mr. Morgan provided a summary of the draft report of the Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis as performed by the Spectrum Group. Bi-State Regional Commission, with funding from the Rock Island Arsenal Development Group (RIADG), contracted with the Spectrum Group to perform this analysis of the vulnerability of the Rock Island Arsenal to closure or realignment under potential rounds of base closures or reductions by the federal government.

The federal process for closing or realigning military bases is known as BRAC – Base Realignment and Closure. The last BRAC occurred in 2005 and resulted in roughly 1,100 jobs leaving the Rock Island Arsenal. The report stated the Rock Island Arsenal is at high risk of closure or realignment if a new BRAC process were to occur today.

Mr. Morgan noted the report identified eight strengths, five weaknesses, eight opportunities and six threats. The key findings are summarized below.

Strengths

- Joint Manufacturing Technology Center (JMTC) Capability and Capacity
- Rapid Reaction to War-Fighter Requirements
- Concept of “Reversibility”
- Workforce Quality/Public-Private Partnerships/Surge Capacity

- Geographic location, Transportation, Strategic Supply Lines/Lines of Communication
- Encroachment
- Energy Posture and ‘net-zero’ Objectives
- Public leadership

Weaknesses

- Under-utilization and Excess Capacity
- Strategic Communications
- Operational Forces Linkage
- Air Transportation
- Local Coordination with Federal Elected Officials

Opportunities

- Political Geography
- U.S. Strategic Awareness
- USSOCOM and other Requirements
- Interagency, Homeland Defense, and USACE
- Public / private partnerships
- Center of Excellence for advanced manufacturing and production innovation
- Cyber and Network Operations
- Holistic view of regional manufacturing and industrial excellence

Threats

- Maintaining the Status Quo
- Failing to increase RIA utilization and reducing excess capacity
- Failing to remain knowledgeable of competitor actions
- Effect of lack of RIA awareness
- National Security Strategy
- Sequestration

5. Review of New Transportation Act, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century. Ms. Bulat informed the Commission that the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) transportation bill was signed into law July 6, 2012. The bill extends SAFETEA-LU for the final three months of FFY 2012. It also authorizes surface transportation programs with program restructuring for FFY 2013 and FFY 2014. MAP-21 extends highway-related taxes through September 30, 2016, provides an additional \$21.2 billion in revenue to fund MAP-21, and maintains current funding levels for FFY 2012 and FFY 2013 with a small inflation growth for FFY 2014 in federal-aid highway programs.

Starting in FFY 2013, the program will be restructured in several different categories. The National Highway Performance Plan will consolidate interstate maintenance, the national highway system, and bridge programs, with the mileage cap expanded from 159,000 miles to 210,000 miles. The Surface Transportation Program was generally unchanged, but there is no set-aside for transportation enhancements, including those for "off-system" bridges. The program for congestion mitigation and air quality was generally unchanged.

Dedicated funding was eliminated for transportation enhancements, Safe Routes to School, federal recreational trails, and National Scenic Byways. However, all projects are eligible for funding under the Transportation Alternatives Program. Funding for these projects is at an

estimated 35% reduction as compared to previous eligible program funding levels. Fifty percent of the funding will be suballocated within the state based on population and awarded competitively. The remaining 50% can be used for eligible activities or transferred to other programs.

For projects of national and regional significance, there is a national discretionary program with \$500 million for FY 2013 from the general fund. There is no funding for FY 2014 at this time, but this program has been identified for potential funding for the I-74 project.

For public transit, total funding levels remain fairly constant. The Job Access/Reverse Commute and New Freedom programs were eliminated and combined with existing formula programs. The Bus and Bus Facility Program was significantly downsized and turned into a formula program.

MAP-21 retains the existing planning structure with explicit acknowledgement of regional transportation planning organizations, and the MPO population threshold remains at 50,000. This is the program that funds Bi-State for both urban and rural transportation planning. This is increased emphasis on freight planning and national goals and performance-based planning.

Lastly, the state DOTs will make decisions on the expansion of NHS, distribution of STP funding, and the use of transportation alternatives funding – transportation enhancements, Safe Routes to School, federal recreation trails, and Scenic Byways.

6. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. Chair McDaniel again addressed the issue of gambling machines in liquor establishments in Illinois. He said that the proceeds from these machines will be divided in thirds among the winner, establishment, and the State of Illinois. The local jurisdictions will get 5% of the state's portion, not of the whole winnings.
7. Other Business. There was no other business to discuss.
8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Thodos
Secretary