

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

Wednesday, August 22, 2012, 3:30 p.m.
Rock Island County Office Building
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

MEMBERS PRESENT: McDaniel – Chair, Austin, Bohnsack, Earnhardt, Fox, Gallagher, Gluba, Goodwin, Gordon, Heninger, Kelly, Lawrence, Minard, Rockwell, Schloemer, Sherwin, Sorensen, Sunderbruch, Tank, Thodos, Volz, Welvaert

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anderson, Burrage, Hopkins, Liddell, O’Boyle, Pauley, Rangel, Stoermer, Tossell, Washburn, Wells

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Grabowski, Hunt, McCullough, Miller, Moritz

Chair McDaniel called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

1. Approval of the July 25, 2012 Minutes. Mayor Gluba moved to approve the minutes of July 25, 2012 as presented. Mayor Welvaert seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Ms. Kelly presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending July 31, 2012, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$604,412.49. Ms. Kelly moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mayor Thodos seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Mr. Austin presented the bills totaling \$29,428.82, as listed on the following bills listing and addendum dated August 22, 2012:

Bills List

CBS4 – Live Well Network (WHBF), ads to promote air quality (cost reimbursed by ALCOA grant)	\$ 1,600.00
Hurt, Norton & Associates, July 2012 legislative technical service (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	7,750.00
Illinois Association of Regional Councils, FY 2013 membership dues	1,600.00*
Minuteman Press, printing of Whiteside County Rural Transit Brochure in English and Spanish, Henry County Rural Transit Brochure, and RIM Rural Transit Brochure	700.82
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	3,675.00

Activities of the RJAC

Activities	EDA/USDA
Rural Economic Development Plan/Cluster Analysis (REDP)	EDA
Business Needs Assessment	EDA
Rock Island Arsenal Connectivity Assessment	EDA
Establish/Expand HRRM Local Foods Network	USDA
Coordinate and Increase HRRM Rural Entrepreneur Engagement	USDA
Rural Tourism Community Assessment	USDA

5. Update on Mercer-Muscatine Revolving Loan Fund. Mr. Hunt provided a brief update on the Mercer-Muscatine County Revolving Loan Fund (MMRLF). He stated the MMRLF was started with a 2010 federal grant from the U.S. EDA of \$750,000. The gap financing tool must be matched by \$250,000 in local dollars. Local match is provided each time a loan is made. The initial federal funding came from the 2008 federal disaster relief act. During the MMRLF's first 24 months in existence, applications were slow due to the U.S. economic crisis. Recently, activity has picked up. The MMRLF board will be meeting to review an application from a Muscatine-based manufacturer in September. The proposed \$150,000 equipment loan will create 15 jobs.

6. Consideration of a Resolution for Annual Certification of the Bi-State Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Plan. Mr. Tank, Commissioner representing the Bi-State Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Board, presented the Commission with information on the Bi-State Revolving Loan Fund Program. Mr. Tank stated since the inception of the program in 1986, nearly \$8.9 million has been loaned to 95 businesses in Rock Island and Scott Counties. These loans have helped generate approximately \$130 million in total investments, accessing city and state public financing programs, financial institutions, and company equity. In addition, 2,926 jobs have been created/retained in the two-county area.

 Currently, there is approximately \$174,000 available to loan with the repayment loan pool growing by \$15,000 each month. If you know of potential projects that will create new jobs and needs public loan assistance to supplement conventional financing, please contact your local government's economic development staff or Donna Moritz at Bi-State.

7. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments.

8. Other Business. Ms. Bulat mentioned that Rock Island County received a \$150,000 IKE planning grant for a consultant study for the Illinois Quad Cities in regard to disaster preparedness planning and emergency communications.

9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Thodos", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

John Thodos
Secretary