

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

Wednesday, September 26, 2012, 3:30 p.m.
Scott County Administration Building
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT: McDaniel – Chair, Austin, Bohnsack, Earnhardt, Fox, Gluba, Heninger, Kelly, Lawrence, Liddell, O’Boyle, Rockwell, Schloemer, Sunderbruch, Tank, Volz, Wells

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anderson, Burrage, Gallagher, Goodwin, Gordon, Hopkins, Minard, Pauley, Rangel, Sherwin, Sorensen, Stoermer, Thodos, Tossell, Washburn, Welvaert

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

Chair McDaniel called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.

1. Approval of the August 22, 2012 Minutes. Mr. Austin moved to approve the minutes of August 22, 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 August 31, 2012, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$635,532.72. Ms. Kelly moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Ms. Earnhardt seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Mr. Austin presented the bills totaling \$441,538.14, as listed on the following bills listing and addendum dated September 26, 2012:

Bills List

CBS4 – coronet Communications Co., ads to promote air quality (cost reimbursed by ALCOA grant)	\$ 1,432.00
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
City of East Moline, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds	12,355.62*
Joseph F. Fackel, Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	630.00
Hurt, Norton & Associates, August 2012 legislative technical service (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	7,750.00
City of Moline, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds and software costs	2,934.92
City of Rock Island, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds and software costs	68,187.84

Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrative Hearing Officer services 2,625.00
 (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)

Addendum

Bancard Center, VISA charge card expenses related to 1 staff participating in 4,913.56
 Introduction to Survey Webinar; 3 staff attending the 2012 Annual Meeting of
 The Quad Cities Convention & Visitors Bureau; purchase of the 9th Edition
 of the Trip Generation Manual; 2 staff attending the 2012 Midwest Regional
 Training Seminar; 1 staff attending the Illinois Public Transportation
 Association Conference; Chief Elected & Administrative Officials Luncheon
 meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); 1 staff attending the Introduction to
 Urban Travel Demand Forecasting; 1 staff attending the Civic Leadership Academy;
 Purchase of Audio/Web Conference Training Series; office supplies

Caliper Corporation, Standard TransCAD Software License 8,020.00

Louisa Ewert, Treasurer 7,485.28

10/2012 Rent \$4,618.38

10/2012 Internet Access 88.00

07 & 08/2012 Postage 1,701.73

08/2012 Printing 904.29

08 & 09/2012 Supplies 113.00

08/2012 Cell Phone 59.88

RK Dixon, maintenance service on network and monthly copier charges 534.96

The Spectrum Group, Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats (SWOT) 20,000.00
 Analysis of the Rock Island Arsenal (cost reimbursed by the Rock Island
 Arsenal Development Group)

*Correction–

City of East Moline (previously listed as \$12,355.62), additional invoice for 12,449.08
 reimbursement of CDAP invoice (\$93.46)

Disbursements of funds for the following Revolving Loan Program Loans:

Process Automation Concepts. Ltd. 93,325.50

PCT Engineered Systems, L.L.C. 100,000.00

LEDs America, Inc. 107,000.00

Mr. Austin moved approval of the bills totaling \$441,538.14 as presented above.

Mr. Bohnsack seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2012 Program Budget as of August 31, 2012. Mr. Austin explained the Program Budget Status Report was included in committee members' packets. The Commission is 16.7% through the fiscal year with 13.6% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. There were no contracts for consideration by the Commission.

4. Overview of Transportation Planning, Emphasis on Title VI Non-Discrimination and Environmental Justice. Ms. McCullough spoke on the relation of the 1964 Civil Rights Act under Title VI as it relates to transportation planning. Title VI was enacted nearly 50 years ago, and there continues to be an on-going need for awareness and implementation of this and new regulations related to civil rights and environmental justice. However, Title VI and related civil rights regulations apply where any federal assistance is received.

Title VI states “No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” Additional nondiscrimination requirements include Executive Orders (EO) to address environmental justice in minority and low-income populations (EO 12898), to improve access to services for persons with limited English proficiency (EO 13166) and to ensure consistent and effective implementation of Title VI (EO 12250). There are other statutes that address other protected classes related to age, sex, marital status, disability, etc.

Ms. McCullough stated that Bi-State staff will be refining its existing processes and procedures related to Title VI and environmental justice by collecting the various elements into a consolidated document that is publically available and accessible via the agency website. She outlined how these regulations are implemented in the transportation planning process through: an open and inclusive process; outreach to low-income and minority populations; elimination of barriers to participation (via consideration of meeting locations, time of day, meeting format, language considerations and accessibility); examination of planning and advisory bodies; identification of the character of our region; and assessment of investment impacts, benefits and burdens.

A civil rights assurance checklist was provided to Commissioners at the meeting that outlined compliance activities Bi-State was subject to fulfill including: maintaining records of beneficiaries of the respective federal program; displaying non-discrimination posters and including non-discrimination statements in publications; assessing handicap accessibility barriers; and becoming familiar with alternative communication tools, such as relay and translation services.

5. Freight Transportation Planning Under Map-21 Transportation Act. Ms. Bulat reported on information received regarding the 10-state Mid-America Freight Coalition from its director Dr. Ernie Perry. The 10 states include Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. These 10 states represent 22% of total U.S. population, 56% of the country’s total truck tonnage, and 63% of its total rail tonnage. In addition, the majority of the nation's inland waterway system is located in these states.

Ms. Bulat stressed that corridors and freight infrastructure are very important to the economy of the country. It is commonly reported there is a \$3 to \$4 return for every \$1 invested in transportation infrastructure with 60% of this return related to freight. Freight infrastructure helps the country create and retain jobs and compete globally.

An example of the importance of freight movement is the total economic impact caused by the disruptions to Washington State's freight systems closures during winter weather events. In December 2007, over \$47 million was lost with the closure of Interstate 5, and with just a five-day closure in 2008, almost \$28 million was lost.

In regard to the importance of the inland waterway system, according to a 2007 Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) study, over 60 million tons of goods valued at over \$29 billion dollars crossed the La Grange Lock on the Illinois River and Lock 25 on the Mississippi River in 2005. An example of the importance of barge freight is shipping the same volume of all goods that traveled on the inland waterway system in the fourth quarter of 2005 would have cost an additional \$580 million to ship by rail and another \$1.6 billion dollars to ship by truck.

The new transportation reauthorization bill, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP 21) establishes an emphasis on improving the freight network. The new freight policy will include four major components: indentifying a freight network, developing freight plans, establishing freight advisory teams, and requiring a performance based program.

The provision to identify a National Freight Network and its components, as designated by the Secretary of Transportation, will increase access to rural communities and support regional economic development. Details from the Federal Highway Administration Office of Freight Management show a base network in 2008 that includes Interstate 80. However, the network does not appear to include Interstates 74 or 280 in the Quad Cities. As redundant structures to Interstate 80, it is felt this would be an important addition to provide future reliability and safety for the Interstate 80 freight corridor.

Finally, the U.S. spends less than 1% of GDP on infrastructure compared to China who spends 9% and India who spends 3.5%. Currently approximately 3% of the total federal budget is spent on all types of infrastructure. From 1959 through 1966, over 10 percent of the budget was spent on infrastructure.

6. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. Mr. Wells expressed his thanks and appreciation to Bi-State staff and especially Mark Hunt for Bi-State's work on the EDA/USDA grants.
7. Other Business. Ms. Bulat reminded Commissioners that next month's meeting will be held in the Rock Island County Office Building, 1504 Third Avenue, Rock Island, in the County Board Chambers on third floor.
8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Thodos
Secretary