

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

Wednesday, February 27, 2013, 3:30 p.m.
Scott County Administration Building
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT: McDaniel – Chair, Banaszek, Callaway-Thompson, Cheffer for Thodos, Earnhardt, Fox, Goodwin, Heninger, Hopkins, Kelly, Liddell, Minard, O’Boyle, Pauley, Raes for Welvaert, Schloemer, Sorensen, Sunderbruch, Terry, Wells

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anderson, Austin, Burrage, Gallagher, Gluba, Gordon, Hillman, Lawrence, Rangel, Sherwin, Stoermer, Tank, Tossell, Volz, Washburn

OTHERS PRESENT: Gary Meden and Jim Stiman, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Grabowski, McCullough, Moritz

Chair McDaniel called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. He opened with an introduction of members present. Mr. Wells introduced the new Henry County Economic Development Partnership staff Kathleen Repass, Director, and Katie Hobbs, Specialist.

1. Approval of the January 23, 2013 Minutes. Mr. Banaszek moved to approve the minutes of January 23, 2013 as presented. Ms. Earnhardt seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Ms. Kelly presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending January 31, 2013, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$655,225.25. Ms. Kelly moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Minard seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Ms. Bulat presented the bills totaling \$91,893.17, as listed on the following bills listing and addendum dated February 27, 2013:

Bills List

Dell Marketing LP, 2 laptop computers, software and accessories (cost reimbursed by USDA/EDA Grant)	\$ 3,000.98
City of East Moline, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds	8,859.31
Hurt, Norton & Associates, January 2013 legislative technical service (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	7,750.00
City of Rock Island, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds	55,625.28
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	2,170.00

The result of delayed maintenance and new project implementation affects system reliability and contributes to congestion within the river navigation system. This will be further strained when improvements to the Panama Canal increase demand to transport agricultural projects from the Midwest to foreign ports. Today, farmers travel up to 70 miles to transport their goods on the Mississippi River. Once the Panama Canal Locks open (2014/2015), it is projected that river transportation will draw from 161 miles wide area and Davenport shipping costs to China are expected to decrease by \$12.00 per metric ton. Mr. Meden concluded the presentation emphasizing the need for recognizing the value and opportunities of the inland waterway system.

6. Flood Forecast and Conditions. Jim Stiman, Engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), provided an overview of how his agency monitors seasonal flooding within the Rock Island District in cooperation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Weather Service (NWS). Flood predictions through NOAA and NWS are based on data on precipitation, soil moisture, frost depths and current water levels. Precipitation was 25-50% of normal between June 1, 2012 and August 31, 2012 and since that time is 125% of normal.

Drought conditions and lower water levels contribute to lesser chance of flooding. He noted significant frost depths in Wisconsin that could factor into flooding of conditions with quick warm-up. Using data from these sources, it appears the probability for spring flooding on the Mississippi River is low while on the Rock River is higher. Flood stage at Davenport on the Mississippi River is considered minor flooding at 15 feet and major at 18 feet.

7. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. Ms. Kelly asked if Bi-State staff could keep a record of which member governments had signed the resolution adopting the most recent changes to the Articles of Agreement. Ms. Bulat said that a list would be generated.
8. Other Business. Ms. Kelly thanked Mayor McDaniel for his service as chair and his dedication to the Commission.
9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Thodos
Secretary