

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

Wednesday, May 28, 2014, 3:30 p.m.  
Scott County Administration Building  
600 West Fourth Street  
Davenport, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT: Minard – Chair, Callaway-Thompson, Earnhardt, Furlong, Gallagher, Gluba, Gordon, Hillman, Howard, Lawrence, Liddell, Meeker, Newton-Butt, O’Boyle, Pauley, Raes, Schloemer, Stoermer, Sunderbruch, Tank, Thodos, Volz, Wells

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anderson, Austin, Banaszek, Crouch, Goodwin, Heninger, Hopkins, Sherwin, Tossell, Washburn, Williams

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

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

1. Approval of the April 23, 2014 Minutes. Mayor Gluba moved to approve the minutes of April 23, 2014 as presented. Ms. Earnhardt seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Ms. Bulat presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending April 30, 2014, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$669,723.17. Mr. Furlong 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. Ms. Hillman presented the bills totaling \$51,946.51, as listed on the following bills listing and addendum dated May 28, 2014:

*Bills List*

Hurt, Norton & Associates, April 2014 legislative technical service (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	\$ 7,750.00
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	1,435.00

Addendum

Louisa Ewert, Treasurer			6,150.49
06/2014	Rent	\$4,618.38	
05/2014	Internet Access	88.00	
04/2014	Postage	1,059.73	
04/2014	Printer Paper	204.20	
04/2014	Cell Phone	180.18*	
*(Partial costs reimbursed by HCEDP/Rural Accelerator Grant)			
Strategic Development Group, Inc., Innovation Hub Research (reimbursed by EDA grant)			36,611.02

Ms. Hillman moved approval of the bills totaling \$51,946.51 as presented above.

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

- b. Report on Progress on Commission's FY 2013-14 Program Budget as of April 30, 2014. Ms. Hillman explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in members' packets. The Commission is 83% through the fiscal year with 79.6% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented the following contracts and grants over \$7,500 for the Commission to approve:
- Rock Island County for a hazard mitigation plan update. The contract is for \$62,504. It will run from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015.
  - Place Dynamics, LLC for a rural tourism asset map. The contract is for \$20,000. It will run from June 1, 2014 to October 31, 2014.
  - Iowa and Illinois DOT and consultant for a freight study. The contracts total \$300,000, with \$250,000 with Illinois DOT & \$50,000 with Iowa DOT. They will run from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015.

Mayor Thodos moved to approve the contracts and grants as presented, and Mr. Wells seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- d. Consideration of Revised FY2014 Commission Budget. Ms. Bulat reported members of the Finance & Personnel Committee reviewed the proposed revised FY2014 Commission Planning Budget. She asked if anyone had any questions regarding the changes in the right hand column of the line item budget. There were no questions.

Mayor Pauley moved to approve the revised FY2014 budget as presented, and Mayor Thodos seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- e. Presentation of Recommended FY2015 Commission Budget Plan. Ms. Bulat reviewed the draft FY 2015 Budget as recommended by the Finance and Personnel Committee. She reported revenues for FY 2015 are projected to be down 0.3% from the current year, primarily due to changes in contracts.

Dues for Bi-State's member governments are proposed to increase 2.0%. There has not been a dues increase for five years, and Bi-State's available funds to provide non-grant work in the region has been decreasing. Of member dues, 61.2% of dues go to match federal and state grant funding.

Ms. Bulat stated that continuation of the merit performance review program, with a projected average of 2.5%, is recommended along with a 1.5% across the board wage adjustment budgeted. The average across the board wage adjustment over the last five

years has been 0.8%. The budget will lay on the table and be considered for approval at the June 25, 2014 Commission meeting.

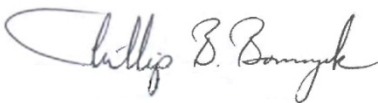
4. 2014 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Progress Report. Ms. Bulat reviewed the status of the draft 2014 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Progress Report. She provided commissioners a draft of the Opportunities & Threats, Demographics, and Projects Planned/Underway/Completed sections of the report. Staff members continue with efforts to make the document more graphic to convey data and showcase economic development projects. Staff is also updating the look of the report by increasing the sophistication of the page design and color schemes.

Ms. Bulat stated that for the Opportunities and Threats section, input was requested from member governments and economic development representatives throughout the region. There were many recommendations regarding quality of life, housing, infrastructure, and educational attainment in addition to the standard comments that continue from the previous 2013 Report, such as sequestration, base realignment, and defense cuts. She stressed the document was a draft and requested input from Commissioners and their staff. The Projects Planned, Underway, and Completed section of the report is also a draft and the last section to be written because it requires input from members on the status of their infrastructure and economic development projects. Staff is continuing to contact all members for their updates.

Ms. Bulat said the Demographics section provides more detail on data compared to national averages and trends. Much work is being done on to the report as a whole to incorporate more information from the entire Bi-State Region. Commissioners will be asked to approve the 2014 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Progress Report at the June 25 meeting.

5. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. Mr. Schloemer voiced concern about the expected closure of the Centennial Bridge for 35 days beginning in August. He said that he was concerned that the individuals who rely on public transportation would be uninformed about how to navigate around the closure. Mr. Lawrence stated that all media outlets need to provide information on the closure so more people can plan their routes accordingly. Ms. McCullough mentioned that there will also be dynamic message signs by the bridge in advance of the closure to warn motorists. Ms. Bulat told the Commissioners that staff created talking points to distribute and the Illinois DOT would be holding a public meeting on the closures. Staff had also requested a second public meeting, discussed alternatives with transit systems, and alerted United Way of the issue related to day care providers.
6. Other Business. There was no other business.
7. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Phillip Banaszek  
Secretary