

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

Wednesday, July 23, 2014, 3:30 p.m.
Scott County Administration Building
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT: Minard – Chair, Banaszek, Callaway-Thompson, Earnhardt, Furlong, Goodwin, Heninger, Hillman, Hopkins, Howard, Liddell, O’Boyle, Raes, Schloemer, Sherwin, Sunderbruch, Tank, Thodos, Volz

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anderson, Austin, Crouch, Gallagher, Gluba, Gordon, Lawrence, Meeker, Newton-Butt, Pauley, Stoermer, Tossell, Wells, Washburn, Williams

OTHERS PRESENT: Betsy Pratt, Regional Chief Executive Officer, American Red Cross; Dawn Neuses, Moline Dispatch/Rock Island Argus; Angie Sharp, WQAD

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Grabowski, McCullough, Moritz

Chair Minard called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

1. Approval of the June 25, 2014 Minutes. Mr. Furlong moved to approve the minutes of June 25, 2014 as presented. Mr. Liddell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mayor O’Boyle presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending June 30, 2014, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$568,823.63. Mayor O’Boyle moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Sunderbruch seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Ms. Hillman presented the bills totaling \$80,059.50, as listed on the following bills listing and addendum dated June 25, 2014:

Bills List

Hurt, Norton & Associates, June 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)	4,165.00

Addendum

Dell Marketing LP, Dell M4800 Series Laptop Computer (Lisa Miller)	2,172.08
Louisa Ewert, Treasurer	5,723.13
08/2014 Rent	\$4,618.38
08/2014 Internet Access	88.00
06/2014 Postage	886.07
06/2014 Supplies	50.50
06/2014 Cell Phone	80.18*
*(Partial costs reimbursed by HCEDP/Rural Accelerator Grant)	
Moline Dispatch Publishing Company, L.L.C., advertisement for air quality awareness promotion	2,408.00
National Association of Development (NADO), membership renewal	2,000.00
Quad City Times, advertisement for air quality awareness promotion	4,562.87
Strategic Development Group, Inc., Innovation Hub Research (reimbursed by EDA grant)	17,391.04
URS Corporation, Household Survey and Model Integration Project (reimbursed by Air Quality grants)	33,887.38

Ms. Hillman moved approval of the bills totaling \$80,059.50 as presented above.

Ms. Goodwin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2013-14 Program Budget as of June 30, 2014. Ms. Hillman explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in members' packets. The Commission is 100% through the fiscal year with 94.8% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented the following contract over \$7,500 for the Commission to consider:
 - Contract with Cambridge Systematics Team for Bi-State Region Freight Commodity Enhancement Study in the amount up to \$300,000 starting at contract execution ending June 30, 2015.

Mayor Hopkins moved to approve the contract as presented, and Mr. Volz seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- 4. Flooding in the Bi-State Region. Ms. Pratt provided a summary of the flood relief efforts occurring within the region since the first flooding event beginning June 30, 2014.

Ms. Pratt said that The Red Cross identifies its key disaster efforts as: Prepare. Respond. Recover. On the preparation side, media releases and communications technology assist in providing tools when a disaster strikes.

Regionally, Red Cross responded with its partners by distributing 800 relief items, deploying 80 volunteers, assisting 300 people, housing 17 people over night, and serving more than 530 meals. Relief was provided throughout the Bi-State Region. The largest Red Cross response area this summer was in the Watertown Area in East Moline due to flash flooding.

Ms. Pratt noted that The Red Cross Midwest River Region encompasses 28 counties along the Mississippi River with 1.5 million people. In addition to relief supplies, food, and shelter, Red Cross also assists with emotional support and health services, such as providing eye glasses, access to prescriptions, and other items damaged by flooding or other disasters. Partnerships

were noted as a key aspect of response and recovery through work with other non-profits, local government, and private businesses.

Following the presentation, Commissioners asked questions on prior flooding relief efforts and flood insurance. It was noted that 40% of the disaster victims do have some form of insurance of those served, but the figure was not specific for flood insurance.

5. Bridge Construction Update. Ms. McCullough updated Commissioners on the status of Quad Cities bridge restrictions for the current construction season. A report for the Mississippi and Rock River bridges was provided. The largest bridge construction concern is on the Centennial Bridge.

Ms. McCullough said that two public open house meetings were held on June 11, hosted by the Illinois Department of Transportation for the Centennial Bridge construction. To address concerns on both sides of the river, meetings were held at the Rock Island County Building and the Scott County Administration Building.

The Centennial Bridge closure will begin August 3 and run through September 6. Prior and post closure, one lane restrictions off peak hour are possible through October 2014. Work on Fort Armstrong Avenue is expected to start after the Centennial Bridge closure. This project will affect cross river travel. Staff has been working with CitiBus and River Bend Transit and the Arsenal representatives to determine whether early notification of the Government Bridge swing span openings can be conveyed to the transit operators. Radio and internet options were made available.

Ms. McCullough encouraged Commissioners and those they serve to:

- Postpone meetings around the closure period or using teleconferences or webinars to reduce trips to meeting locations, or use internet 511ia.org to check traffic
- Hold meetings at the north and south ends of the Quad Cities, taking I-280 and I-80
- Give extra time to get to work, meetings and other events/activities
- Travel off peak hour times by avoiding 6:30 – 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.
- Allow more flexible schedules during the closure period for employees
- Check daycare/childcare options for extended hours if parents/family runs behind due to bridge travel
- Consider walking or bicycling. Park nearby and take the last leg of your trip by walking or bicycling via the Government Bridge or Centennial Bridge (anticipating access by pedestrians and bicyclists).

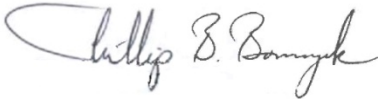
There was discussion among Commissioners concerning traffic congestion and alternate routes during the Centennial Bridge closure. Ms. McCullough noted that there has been lots of media coverage on the closure and that there are websites and phone numbers to call for traffic updates. Ms. Bulat said that the I-280 and I-80 bridges should be utilized as much as possible and to give plenty of travel time when possible to cross on alternate bridges.

6. Consideration of Endorsement Resolution of Regional Economic Development Vision. Ms. Bulat presented a resolution of support for the regional economic development vision as previously presented to Commissioners by Quad Cities First.

Mayor O'Boyle moved to approve the resolution as presented, and Mr. Howard seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no additional questions or comments by Commissioners.
8. Other Business. Commissioners were reminded that the August 27 meeting will be held at the LeClaire City Hall due to the closure of Centennial Bridge.
9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Phillip Banaszek
Secretary