

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

Wednesday, November 19, 2014, 3:30 p.m.  
Scott County Administration Building  
600 West Fourth Street  
Davenport, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT: Minard – Chair, Austin, Callaway-Thompson, Earnhardt, Gluba, Heninger, Hopkins, Lawrence, Liddell, O’Boyle, Raes, Schloemer, Sunderbruch, Thodos, Volz, Wells

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anderson, Furlong, Gallagher, Goodwin, Gordon, Hillman, Holmes, Howard, Maranda, Meeker, Newton-Butt, Pauley, Sherwin, Stoermer, Tank, Tossell, Washburn, Williams

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Warren, Muscatine Area GIS Consortium (MAGIC); Todd Green, City of Moline; Ray Weiser, Scott County

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Grabowski, McCullough, Miller

Chair Minard called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.

1. Approval of the October 22, 2014 Minutes. Mayor Gluba moved to approve the minutes of October 22, 2014 as presented. Mr. Austin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mayor O’Boyle presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending October 31, 2014, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$665,815.54. Mayor O’Boyle 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 \$18,328.08, as listed on the following bills listing and addendum dated November 19, 2014:

Bills List

Hurt, Norton & Associates, October 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)	4,655.00

Addendum

Louisa Ewert, Treasurer	5,923.08
12/2014                      Rent	\$4,618.38
12/2014                      Internet Access	88.00
09/2014                      Postage	852.98
10/2014                      Supplies	183.69
10/2014                      Cell Phone	180.03*

\*(Partial costs reimbursed by HCEDP/Rural Accelerator Grant)

Mr. Austin moved approval of the bills totaling \$18,328.08 as presented above. Mayor O'Boyle seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission's FY 2014-15 Program Budget as of October 31, 2014. Mr. Austin explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in members' packets. The Commission is 33.3% through the fiscal year with 32.3% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented the following contracts over \$7,500 for the Commission to consider.
  - Contract with Hurt, Norton & Associates, Inc. for Legislative Technical Services Support. The contract is in the amount not to exceed \$96,000 and the period of the contract is December 1, 2014 to November 30, 2015.
  - Contract with Quad City Health Initiative for Partnerships to Improve Community Health – Safe route to schools planning and web-based map and mobile application. The contract is in the amount of \$123,874 and runs for 12 months after grant execution.

Mayor Thodos moved approval of the contracts as presented above. Ms. Earnhardt seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Mr. Liddell abstained from the vote on the contract with Quad City Health Initiative.

4. Update on GIS Activities in the Region. Ms. Miller reported that Bi-State staff has built relationships with the GIS staff in the various cities and counties in the region. The GIS data they produce and maintain is integral to the work Bi-State staff does for the region – from planning documents, to direct technical assistance to member governments, to regional maps and projects. Some examples include the following:
  - County-assessed value from GIS databases is used to determine approximate property loss due to potential flooding in Hazard Mitigation Plans produced for Muscatine and Rock Island Counties
  - Current parcel-level base maps and jurisdictional boundaries are used to keep zoning and other maps up-to-date for many member governments
  - Detailed point of interest, parks, schools, and other features are collected from local GIS partnerships to insure regional maps, like the QC Marathon Map and XStream Clean Up Maps are accurate

Ms. Miller also reported on behalf of Bruce Lang, GIS Coordinator in Henry County. Mr. Lang and his staff use GIS on an ongoing basis to maintain cadastral property maps for property taxation, voters registration precinct boundaries, and zoning information; provide property changes for E911 emergency services; and perform various inquiries including "location compliance" of convicted offenders and FOIA requests.

This year, Henry County staff used GIS tools to develop natural disaster maps (tornados, floods, etc.) for creation and FEMA adoption of the "Henry County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan." GIS staff partnered with Bi-State to digitize zoning areas in unincorporated areas from paper maps dating from prior to 1959. Staff is working with Henry County Economic Development Partnership (HCEDP) to expand Enterprise Zones in eight Cities/Villages in the County.

Henry County Staff also implemented online access to the county's GIS database. Two levels of access are available: free and subscription-based. Subscriptions are \$600 a year and include additional information primarily useful to appraisers and law offices. There are currently 15 paid subscribers, plus 12 additional subscribers who receive a free subscription due to their relationship with the county, like township assessors.

Mr. Warren, GIS Manager for Muscatine Area Geographic Information Consortium (MAGIC), explained that the consortium was formed in 1999 as a partnership with the City of Muscatine, Muscatine County, and Muscatine Power and Water – a shared investment in the development and management of geographic information system (GIS) data and technology. This partnership promotes more efficient & effective government by avoiding redundant GIS data creation via a central data repository; providing cost-shared investments in GIS technology, data, and staff; and supporting better decision-making related to community development and management. Besides maintaining many layers of geographic data, a major project for 2014 has been acquiring updated basemap aerial imagery. MAGIC participated in the Bi-State-coordinated, multi-jurisdictional Aerial Photo Flyover and realized an approximate 35% savings over acquiring comparable product alone. MAGIC uses industry-leading Esri™ software, and a multi-jurisdictional, enterprise license agreement provides almost unlimited deployment and access to most advanced features of the software to all MAGIC partners.

Mr. Warren concluded his presentation by saying that MAGIC staff are keeping up with current trends in GIS with several services. Web-based access to the consortium's GIS data is available for the public, through the Beacon website, <http://beacon.schneidercorp.com/>. Staff also "serves" GIS data to users and clients across the three organizations and others via a Server/Desktop environment and is implementing several mobile applications to collect GIS data. ArcGIS Online is currently being implemented for in-house, partner, and public consumption of GIS information.

Mr. Green, GIS Administrator for the City of Moline, works closely with Rock Island County GIS staff and the county's parcel data in many of its GIS activities. Moline staff use GIS to answer many complex questions, for example: "Are drivers routing themselves in the most efficient manner and can the number of garbage routes be reduced without introducing overtime?" GIS is also used to increase staff efficiency by helping to manage rental properties. Numerous interactive maps aid in customer service to city residents and others including an alderman/ward query, garbage/recycling pickup, city attractions, boil orders, leaf collection progress, gravesite locations at Memorial Park Cemetery, and school district boundaries. In the past year, staff used GIS to map and document flooding data and information to better prepare for future years. Staff is planning to get involved in mapping crimes across the city in coming months. The city also participated in the 2014 Multi-Jurisdictional Aerial Photo Flyover and with the new geospatial data will continue working with 3-D modeling, incoming solar radiation potential, steep slope identification, and line of sight calculations, and will also update various GIS layers like building footprints.

Mr. Weiser, GIS Director for Scott County, highlighted four recent GIS projects. Scott County staff worked with the Auditor's Office and Davenport Assessor's Office to implement a Department of Revenue land use based ag valuation for parcels in the county. The new assessment approach involves land use adjustments and updated corn suitability ratings with an automated process in a GIS environment. Another project included creating new detailed maps and trail markers for the Conservation and Health Departments. These were incorporated into an emergency trail marker system and new brochures for county parks. Staff is also working with Scott County Emergency Communication Center and Emergency Management Agency to

update addressing and emergency response layers to the dispatch center and to provide street centerline information to Medic EMS for ambulance routing. Finally, staff developed a secure application for sex offender compliance and tracking. Scott County Sheriff's Department, the City of Davenport, and the Iowa Department of Corrections have fast, efficient, and secure access to these GIS-based tools.

5. Economic Development Tools. Ms. Miller informed the Commissioners that Bi-State Regional Commission offers three economic development reporting, visualization, and analysis tools to member governments, economic development organizations, and businesses to aid in decision-making.

Esri™ Community Analyst contains thousands of demographic, Census, economic, health, crime, and business data variables for the entire United States, including historic, current, and projected data. Clients can get information for exact areas needed—including standard Census geographies, hand-drawn shapes, or rings or drive times around a location. Data can be displayed on maps or in detailed reports with charts and graphs.

Emsi™ Analyst is an economic modeling application that also features many demographic and economic data variables, which can be displayed in numerous reports. Detailed economic data is only available for the states of Illinois and Iowa and for the five-county Bi-State Region, plus five additional adjacent counties, but most demographics are available for the U.S. Data available includes occupations, industries, jobs, earnings, training and educational programs, gross regional product, exports & imports, and much more. One key tool is the Input/Output model. This can be used to determine the ripple effect of change in a region by adding or removing jobs, earnings, or sales in an industry. Another useful statistic is an area's Location Quotient. It is a concentration of an industry or occupation in relation to the nation and communicates the uniqueness of that industry or occupation in a region.

Infogroup™ ReferenceUSAGov is a business database with over 24 million records (U.S. businesses). Businesses can be queried by company name, business type (keyword or NAICS/SIC codes), location, business size (number of employees or sales volume), and much more. Bi-State staff can generate mailing and other business communication lists for members and also uses ReferenceUSAGov for creating top employers lists for various areas.

Bi-State subscribes to all three cloud-based tools and makes the data available free of charge to all member governments and economic development organizations and for a minimal charge to businesses and other interested parties.

6. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments by Commissioners.
7. Other Business. There was no other business conducted.
8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Larry Minard  
Chair