

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

Wednesday, December 17, 2014, 3:30 p.m.
Scott County Administration Building
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT: Minard – Chair, Austin, Callaway-Thompson, Furlong, Gluba, Goodwin, Gordon, Gradert, Heninger, Hillman, Holmes, Hopkins, Howard, Lawrence, Liddell, O’Boyle, Raes, Schloemer, Sherwin, Stoermer, Sunderbruch, Tank, Terry, Thodos, Volz, Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anderson, Earnhardt, Gallagher, Maranda, Meeker, Newton-Butt, Pauley, Tossell, Washburn

OTHERS PRESENT: Sarah Bohnsack, Bohnsack & Frommelt, LLC; Curt Burnett, Quad Cities Manufacturing Innovation Hub Executive Director; Colonel Elmer Speights, Jr., Garrison Commander, Rock Island Arsenal

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, McCullough, Moritz

Chair Minard called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. and asked for introductions of those present.

1. Ratify Actions Taken at November 19, 2014 Meeting. Mayor Gluba moved to ratify the actions taken at the November 19, 2014 meeting as presented. Mayor Thodos seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Approval of the November 19, 2014 Minutes. Mayor Gluba moved to approve the minutes of November 19, 2014 as presented. Mayor Thodos seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Treasurer’s Report. Mayor O’Boyle presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending November 30, 2014, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$696,309.83. Mayor O’Boyle moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Furlong seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
4. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Mr. Austin presented the bills totaling \$43,421.83, as listed on the following bills listing and addendum dated December 17, 2014:

Bills List

| | |
|---|----------|
| Hurt, Norton & Associates, November 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) | 2,765.00 |

Addendum

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| Bancard Center, VISA charge card expenses related to 1 staff attending the 2014 National Rural Transportation conference; 5 licenses for EasyProjects, NET annual subscription; ArcGIS subscriptions; Manager’s & Administrator’s meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); Chief Elected and Chief Administrative Officials meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); office supplies | 2,750.90 |
| Mel Foster Co., Inc., annual premium for Business Owner’s Package, Auto Policy, Crime Policy, Umbrella Policy, Worker’s Comp Policy, Professional Liability Policy, and Employment Practices Liability | 12,760.83 |
| Place Dynamics, background analysis, asset mapping and rating system for the period October and November 2014 (cost reimbursed by HCEDP/Rural Accelerator Grant) | 4,500.00 |
| Rock Island County Treasurer | 6,415.10 |
| 01/2015 Rent \$4,618.38 | |
| 01/2015 Internet Access 88.00 | |
| 10-11/2014 Postage 1,447.07 | |
| 11/2014 Supplies 59.13 | |
| 11/2014 Cell Phone 202.52* | |
| *(Partial costs reimbursed by HCEDP/Rural Accelerator Grant) | |
| TH Enterprises, Inc., Regional Council Management System Software Agreement for 2015 | 6,480.00 |

Mr. Austin moved approval of the bills totaling \$43,421.83 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 November 30, 2014. Mr. Austin explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in members' packets. The Commission is 41.7% through the fiscal year with 40.4% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. There were no contracts/grants for consideration.
- d. Consideration of a Recommendation to Accept the Financial and Compliance Report for the year ended June 30, 2014. Mr. Austin stated the Finance and Personnel Committee received a detailed audit presentation and are recommending approval of the audit report. He reported that Bohnsack and Frommelt stated that Bi-State complied with all laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. The Commission once again received the highest audit opinion, an unmodified opinion "Clean Audit" with no findings or questions.

Mr. Austin made a motion to accept the Finance and Compliance Report for the year ended June 30, 2014. Mr. Howard seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- e. Consideration to Renew the Executive Director’s Annual Employment Agreement. Mr. Austin reported evaluation forms were sent to Commissioners and member government officials, with Ms. Bulat receiving high marks by those who responded. Mr. Austin stated the Finance and Personnel Committee recommended the Executive Director’s employment contract be renewed for the year November 1, 2014 – November 1, 2015, with a 2.0% merit increase. Mr. Austin stated the Committee also encouraged Ms. Bulat to continue her education and training to benefit the region.

Mr. Austin made a motion to renew the Executive Director’s annual employment agreement with a 2.0% merit increase. Mayor Thodos seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

5. Rock Island Arsenal Report.

Colonel Speights provided an overview of base operations to the Bi-State Regional Commission. He manages services and facilities for the 950 acre Arsenal Island, which includes 336 buildable acres with 141,000 square feet of “move in ready” administrative space, and 310,000 square feet of expansion office & warehouse space. Colonel Speights reported the Arsenal is working towards energy self-sufficiency or “net zero.” They are replacing coal-fired energy plants with natural gas and expanding the use of hydroelectric power.

The regional reach of the Arsenal may also be demonstrated through the distribution of the employees shown in following percentages of workers from each county in the region.

| <u>Illinois:</u> | | <u>Iowa:</u> | |
|------------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| Rock Island | 41.5% | Scott | 44.5% |
| Henry | 4.5% | Muscatine | 0.5% |
| Mercer | 4.0% | Clinton | 1.5% |
| Whiteside | 0.5% | Jackson | 0.5% |
| Knox | 0.5% | Cedar | 0.5% |
| Jo Davies | 1.0% | Dubuque | 0.5% |

Colonel Speights said the Arsenal is the largest local employer in the region with 4,958 civilian, 1,021 military, and 691 contracted employees. The employment impact of the Rock Island Arsenal is over 14,000 community jobs. Salaries on the Arsenal average \$74,823, and the local economic impact of the Rock Island Arsenal is over \$1 billion per year.

Colonel Speights concluded his presentation by outlining the duties of the five commands that reach 40 states and 19 countries. Army Sustainment Command (ASC) provides globally responsive strategic logistics capability and material readiness to enable commanders in combat to conduct the full range of military operations and ensure Army readiness. ASC has a presence in 19 countries and 32 states and controls a \$5.7 billion budget.

Joint Munitions Command (JMC) provides America's Joint Forces with ready, reliable, and lethal munitions at the right place and time, in a cost effective manner, to enable successful military operations. Their goal is to provide conventional munitions for America’s warfighters in addition to world-class global logistics. The JMC stockpiles \$61 billion of munitions and conducts 135,000 inspections per year. They distribute the equivalent of 11,000 containers per year for training and sustainment and control a \$2.3 billion budget.

Army Contracting Command Rock Island provides global contracting support to America’s warfighters to support of the warfighter through the highest quality contracting solutions. Army Contracting Command manages 616 contracts.

First Army advises, assists, and trains reserve units during pre-mobilization periods to provide trained and ready forces in support of joint, combined, interagency, and active Army Forces.

The Rock Island District Army Corps of Engineers is also housed on the Arsenal. Their workforce employs experts in a variety of professions across the district’s 78,000 square miles. These include lock operators, mechanics, rangers, engineers, surveyors, biologists, realty, and

legal staff. They have approximately 850 employees with two thirds working at 27 different field operating sites and the remaining work in the Clock Tower complex on the Arsenal.

The Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center (JMTC) offers unique capability to fill multiple roles and responsibilities in rapid response to the National Security Strategy. JMTC serves as a vital link in the national defense structure, providing manufacturing, supply, and technical support services for the Joint Services and allies in all national emergencies and contingency operations. JMTC also partners with the private sector in the region to develop new manufacturing technologies.

6. Project Updates.

- a National Association of Development Organizations 2014 Excellence in Transportation Award. Ms. McCullough reported the National Association of Development Organizations recognized Bi-State Regional Commission's *Evacuation Plan for the Illinois Bi-State Region: A Preparedness Resource Guide for Evacuation Events* as part of the 2014 Excellence in Regional Transportation Awards. Awards were presented at the National Rural Transportation Peer Learning Conference, December 3-5, 2014, where the plan was part of a panel discussion on evacuation planning and resiliency. The planning effort was funded through the Illinois Department of Transportation rural planning funds program.
- b Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership Initiative. Mr. Burnett, Quad Cities Manufacturing Innovation Hub Executive Director, explained he is a loaned executive from John Deere. He started November 1 to begin execution of the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Hub Plan. He stated the Hub's mission is to help regional manufacturers grow through innovation and collaboration. This will be accomplished with services under development including: seminars and education events; an online catalogue of manufacturers, products, and competencies; a regional innovation asset map of labs, equipment, and talent; online information and collaboration space; a 7/24/365 help desk; and to grow the Quad Cities Manufacturing Lab. The Hub will connect manufacturers to new technologies, new solutions, new partners, new markets, new profits, and new possibilities.

7. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments by Commissioners.

8. Other Business. Chair Minard presented Mr. Furlong and Mr. Wells with certificates of appreciation for their service to the Commission. Vice Chair Thodos presented Chair Minard with a gavel plaque thanking him for his 13 years of service to the Commission and wishing him well in retirement.

9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Larry Minard
Chair