

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

Wednesday, August 26, 2015, 3:30 p.m.
Scott County Administration Building
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT: Thodos – Chair, Austin, Callaway-Thompson, Earnhardt, Gallagher, Gordon, Heninger, Hillman, Holmes, Holst, Hopkins, Howard, Kelly, Lawrence, Liddell, Maranda, Meeker, Newton-Butt, O’Boyle, Schloemer, Sherwin, Stoermer, Tank, Terry, Volz, Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anderson, Gluba, Gradert, Looney, Pauley, Raes, Sunderbruch, Washburn

OTHERS PRESENT: Nicole Carkner and Laura Fontaine, Quad City Health Initiative; Dawn Neuses, Dispatch-Argus Newspaper

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

Chair Thodos called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

1. Approval of the July 22, 2015 Minutes. Mr. Maranda moved to approve the minutes of July 22, 2015 as presented. Ms. Sherwin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mayor O’Boyle presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending July 31, 2015, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$642,927.51. 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 \$117,109.52, as listed on the following bills listing and addendum dated August 26, 2015:

Bills List

Hurt, Norton & Associates, July 2015 legislative technical service and Professional Media Services (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	\$ 9,750.00
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	2,975.00

Addendum

Cambridge Systematics, Inc., Bi-State Regional Commission Freight Commodity Efficiency Study/Plan (June 2015)	45,686.61
Center for Community GIS, Web-based Trails Map Development (July 2015)	13,315.00
City of East Moline, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds	6,312.42
City of Rock Island, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds and July fuel charges	33,745.71

Rock Island County Treasurer			5,324.78
09/2015	Rent	\$4,618.38	
09/2015	Internet Access	88.00	
07/2015	Postage	445.34	
07/2015	Supplies	60.91	
07/2015	Cell Phone	112.15*	
*(Partial costs reimbursed by HCEDP/Rural Accelerator Grant)			

Mr. Austin moved approval of the bills totaling \$117,109.52 as presented above. Ms. Kelly seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2014-15 Program Budget as of July 31, 2015. Mr. Austin explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in members' packets. The Commission is 8% through the fiscal year with 7% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented the following contract for consideration.
 - Contract with Iowa Department of Public Health/Iowa Association of Regional Councils for Healthy Community Asset Mapping (Buffalo, Iowa). The contract is for the amount of \$13,100 and will run from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

Ms. Earnhardt moved approval of the contract as presented above, and Mr. Gordon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Health-Related Planning in the Bi-State Region. Ms. Bulat stressed the importance of a healthy region because health affects all parts of a community, including work, environment, education, agriculture, food production, water and sanitation, housing, and health care. Health is 60% lifestyle, behavior, society, and environment, and government affects these factors. Some of the key activities in the region are alternative transportation planning and coordination, land-use and environmental planning, participation in health initiatives, and coordination of topical issues.

Alternative transportation planning includes preparation of ordinances and grant writing for projects such as sidewalks, multipurpose trails, Safe Routes to Schools, transit, rail, and complete streets guidelines. In the area of land use and environmental planning, items include mixed-use development, zoning/subdivision regulations, recreation planning, and air quality/water/solid waste/planning. As an example, the Muscatine Blue Zones project shows continued progress with the development of a sidewalk policy, a bike and pedestrian plan, the addition of miles of new sidewalk, and recreation improvements to parks, trails, soccer fields, and riverfront areas.

Ms. Bulat added that Bi-State’s participation in health initiatives and coordination of topical issues include the Quad City Health Initiative (QCHI) along with the Be Healthy QC Coalition; the West Liberty, Wilton, and upcoming Buffalo asset mapping projects through the Iowa Department of Public Health; the Partners in Community Health grant with QCHI; and the Food Hub. Future opportunities in the Bi-State Region are the consideration of policies within the workplace that encourage wellness, like healthy snacks, exercise opportunities, and vending options; projects that encourage wellness such as built environment improvements and local food systems; understanding and supporting mental and physical public health needs; and taking personal responsibility for one’s own health.

Ms. Carkner reported QCHI has provided the planning and communications backbone to enable cross sector community health improvement in the Quad Cities for over 15 years. With the

financial support of its founding sponsors, Genesis Health System, UnityPoint Health-Trinity, and other partners, QCHI has built an infrastructure that currently harnesses the collective work of more than 120 volunteers from 60 organizations and reaches thousands of community members.

Ms. Carkner said the Quad Cities excels at developing cross-sector partnerships and making a collective impact as a region. QCHI board partners include representatives from the business, healthcare, education, public health, government, community, and philanthropic sectors. Bi-State and local governments as well as county health departments have seats on the board. To assess progress of the core mission of the Quad City Health Initiative, partners have identified key nutrition, physical activity, and weight indicators from the *2012 Community Health Assessment*. The results of the *2015 Community Health Assessment* will be unveiled in September.

Ms. Carkner noted that the Be Healthy QC Coalition was formed with members from Bi-State, local cities, Community Health Care, Deere & Company, health systems, school districts, the Quad City Medical Society; county health departments, social service agencies including United Way, and the YMCAs to address issues that could improve community health. Activities include promoting worksite wellness programs/policies; school wellness policies; nutrition and physical activity interventions in preschools and childcare facilities; the number of people who have primary care physician driven medical homes; a built environment that supports active living; and access to healthy foods especially fresh fruits and vegetables. One major project is the administration of the Partnerships to Improve Community Health grant to reduce diabetes, heart disease, and stroke. QCHI was one of 39 awardees nationwide. The activities funded with the grant are enhanced comprehensive school wellness with a focus on healthy food; creating Safe Routes to School travel plans; establishing neighborhood gardens and distribution centers; developing an interactive, web-based trails map that shows connectivity between public resources for physical activity. Bi-State is conducting the latter of these two activities.

5. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments by Commissioners.
6. Other Business. Ms. Bulat advised that she and Mayor Thodos talked with a representative from the Economic Development Administration in regard to payments not received for the Rural Jobs Accelerator Grant, and they were hopeful the money would be released soon.

Ms. Bulat also noted that Commissioners received a copy of the *Bi-State Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2015 Progress Report* at the meeting. She encouraged Commissioners to take them to their respective communities and to inform Bi-State staff of any corrections for the next full CEDS to be completed in April 2016.

7. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kimberly Callaway-Thompson
Secretary