

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

Wednesday, February 24, 2016, 3:30 p.m.
Scott County Administrative Center
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, IA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Thodos – Chair, Austin, Callaway-Thompson, Gradert, Heninger, Holmes, Holst, Howard, Klipsch, Lawrence, Maranda, Newton-Butt, O’Boyle, Raes, Sherwin, Stoermer, Sunderbruch, Tank, Terry

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anderson, Broderson, Conrad, Earnhardt, Gallagher, Gordon, Hillman, Liddell, Looney, Pauley, Schloemer, Sorensen, Washburn

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

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

1. Approval of the January 27, 2016 Minutes. Mr. Maranda moved to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2016 meeting 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 January 31, 2016, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$639,610.87. Mayor O’Boyle moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Stoermer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Mr. Austin presented the bills totaling \$28,707.13, as listed on the following bills listing:

Bills List

Esri, Inc., ArcGIS Maintenance, March 31, 2016 thru March 30, 2017	\$ 5,100.00
HNTB Corporation, Modeling Development services December 26, 2015 thru January 22, 2016	8,221.65
Hurt, Norton & Associates, January 2016 legislative technical service and Professional Media Services (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	9,750.00
Rock Island County Treasurer	5,635.48
03/2016 Rent	\$4,618.38
03/2016 Internet Access	88.00
01/2016 Postage	611.30
01/2016 Supplies	197.98
01/2016 Cell Phone	119.82*

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

Mr. Austin moved approval of the bills totaling \$28,707.13 as presented above. Mr. Sunderbruch seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2015-16 Program Budget as of January 31, 2016. Mr. Austin explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in members' packets. The Commission is 58% through the fiscal year with 55.0% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented the following contracts or grants for consideration.
 - Amendment to grant with Federal Transportation Administration to fund transit projects approved by Transportation Policy Committee in the Transportation Improvement Program. The grant is not to exceed \$1.5 million, and the period of the grant is July 1, 2012 to September 30, 2018.

Mr. Maranda moved approval of the grant amendment as presented above. Mr. Austin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4. Commission Committee Assignments for 2016-2017. Chair Thodos presented the list of the 2016-2017 officers and committees distributed in the agenda packet. Mr. O’Boyle motioned to approve the Commission officers and committee assignments as presented. Mr. Stoermer seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
5. 2045 Quad Cities Long Range Transportation Plan Summary and Report on Public Comments. Ms. McCullough stated that based on comments from the public meetings to-date, the Quad Cities is in need of improvements to the transportation system, particularly in the public transit, road infrastructure, and passenger rail areas. Feedback also included suggestions for park-and-walk options in the downtowns; complete the Mississippi River Trail through the Quad Cities; and provide more, easy to understand information on the I-74 reconstruction project.

The I-74 Mississippi River reconstruction continues to be the area’s #1 priority, with new I-74 bridge anticipated by 2020. Replacement of the I-80 Mississippi River Bridge is planned in the long term, and there is a need to conduct a major investment study of road and rail crossing capacity for the Mississippi River corridor.

Ms. McCullough explained the current LRTP anticipates an \$8.9 billion dollar investment over the next 30 years on multi-modal transportation projects. Future funding will support capacity enhancements as well as maintenance and operational needs. Fifty-three percent of the total investment will go to maintaining the existing transportation system, with projects still needing further study, such as an East Rock River Bridge and containerized port facility.

The Quad Cities metro area is projected to grow to 328,500 population by 2045 and employ 188,360 people. The metro area’s largest employers today are the Rock Island Arsenal and Deere and Company, followed by the health systems. Between Rock Island and Scott Counties, 25% commute between the two counties for work. Households crossing the Mississippi River make more trips per household than those that don’t – 11.24 trips compared to 7.74 trips. Residents mostly drive alone to work (85%), however, 2.6% of workers don’t have vehicle to get to work. The mean travel time is 17.9 minutes and is considered low.

Ms. McCullough said that future traffic models are predicted using forecasted population and employment figures. For example, the highest traffic count location in the Quad Cities is at I-74 Bridge and the Mississippi River with a 2013 count of 70,500. By 2045, with the reconstruction

of the I-74 bridge, traffic is projected to be 97,600 vehicles per day. Eighteen miles of new locally-sponsored roads, 42 miles of reconstructed locally-sponsored roads, and 57 miles of state-sponsored capacity enhancements are anticipated by 2045.

Additionally, Ms. McCullough reported that 280 miles of new bikeways are envisioned, including the completion of the Mississippi River Trail, new crossing at I-74 with the reconstruction project, River to River Trail in Moline, and completion of the American Discovery Trail. Eleven transit priority corridors have been identified to increase density and potential ridership of the three fixed route transit systems. By 2045, 333 buses are anticipated to be replaced and new routes implemented. The area will be working to close gaps and address “Complete Streets” corridors.

6. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2016 Update. Ms. Berkley reported that the Gross Regional Product was flat \$19.7 million in 2014, which is the most recent data available. Unemployment is flat compared to last year, but the workforce is also shrinking. According to modeling software EMSI, overall jobs are projected to grow 5% in the next five years, with the largest growth in the sectors of Management of Companies and Enterprises; Transportation and Warehousing; Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services; Finance and Insurance; and Health Care and Social Assistance.

The CEDS update will include an Opportunities and Threats discussion with the following themes: Arsenal, Infrastructure, Fiscal Matters, Housing, Education and Workforce Training, Environment, Culture, and Planning and Programs to be reported at the next Commission meeting.

Ms. Berkley stated the CEDS Committee is currently working on finalizing the goals, objectives, and strategies for the plan with the following topics: Business Retention and Expansion, Workforce Development, Infrastructure, Public-Private and Intergovernmental Partnerships, Economic Resilience, and Quality of Life.

Bi-State staff will bring a draft of the 2016 CEDS full update to the Commission in March for review and a final draft in April for approval.

7. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments by Commissioners.
8. Other Business. There was no other business.
9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kimberly Callaway-Thompson
Secretary