

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

Wednesday, January 25, 2017, 3:30 p.m.
Scott County Administrative Center
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, IA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Thodos – Chair, Austin, Beck, Broderon, Callaway-Thompson, Carroll-Duda, Conrad, Earnhardt, Gallagher, Gordon, Gradert, Heninger, Howard, Justin, Kiser, Klipsch, Knobbe, Lack, Lawrence, Maranda, Mendenhall, O’Boyle, Raes, Schloemer, Sherwin, Sorensen, Stoermer, Tank, Terry, Waldron

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brown, Looney, Moore, Newton-Butt, Pauley

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

Chair Thodos called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and began with introductions of those present.

1. Approval of the December 21, 2016 Minutes. Mayor O’Boyle moved to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2016 meeting as presented. Mr. Maranda seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mayor Klipsch presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending December 31, 2016, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$713,555.51. Mayor Gallagher 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 \$35,514.53, as listed on the following bills listing:

Bills List

Bohnsack & Frommelt LLP, final billing for year-end audit for June 30, 2016	\$ 4,000.00
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrator Hearing Officer, December 2016 services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	3,045.00

Addendum

City of East Moline, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds	2,787.29
City of Rock Island, December fuel charges (\$70.18) and Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds (\$20,037.61)	20,107.79
Rock Island County Treasurer	5,574.45
02/2017 Rent	\$4,618.38
02/2017 Internet Access	88.00
12/2016 Postage	704.16
12/2016 Supplies	105.34
12/2016 Cell Phone	58.57*

*(Partial costs reimbursed by HCEDP)

Mr. Austin moved approval of the bills totaling \$35,514.53 as presented above. Mr. Howard seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2016-17 Program Budget as of December 31, 2016. Mr. Austin explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in members' packets. The Commission is 50% through the fiscal year with 43.7% expended and within budget.
 - c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. There were no contracts or grants for consideration.
4. Executive Committee.
- a. Election of Officers. Chair Thodos reported the Executive Committee, serving as the Nominating Committee, met January 25, 2017 to recommend a slate of officers for consideration to the full Commission. The By-Laws provide that officers shall serve a term of one year (with eligibility for re-election to a second term) and must be elected officials with no more than one officer from each jurisdiction and no more than two officers from the same state. The office begins March 1, 2017. The slate nominated is:
 - Chair – Carol Earnhardt, Chair, Scott County Board of Supervisors
 - Vice Chair – Ken “Moose” Maranda, Chair, Rock Island County Board
 - Secretary – Kathy Carroll-Duda, Mayor, City of Geneseo
 - Treasurer – Frank Klipsch, Mayor, City of Davenport
- Chair Thodos called for nominations from the floor, and none were received. Mayor O’Boyle motioned to approve the slate of officers as presented, and Mr. Gordon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Data Services Update. Ms. Miller reported that since its launch in 2010, the web-based data portal for the region, www.GreaterQCRegion.org, has housed data for the five-county region, Illinois and Iowa, and the U.S. Users can select an area and get a quick report with key indicators or dig deeper into the data and get detailed reports or time series for these data. The website needs an overhaul as its underlying technology is becoming obsolete. Being mobile-responsive is critical these days, and the current website does not support this. In addition, it’s very laborious to keep the data up-to-date. Staff will work with Far Reach Technologies, Inc. to upgrade the technology to a modern platform and implement tools that allow the data to be updated automatically. The data reports on the website will be redesigned to make them more graphical with data visualizations. The site will get a new look, and data will be expanded on the site, if funding allows. Staff has been working with major consumers of data in the region for input into the project.

In regard to other data tools, staff recently replaced Emsi Analyst with Chmura JobsEQ, which provides many of the same features at an approximate annual savings of \$4,000. With JobsEQ, staff are able to provide demographic and economic overview reports and also model economic impact on an area with the potential gain or loss of jobs. Modeling is based on the number of jobs in an industry(ies) and is done at county-level, showing the impact in direct, indirect, and induced jobs and sales in that industry(ies). In addition, forecasts and trends are available on many factors, including employment, wages, occupations, industries, industry clusters, and location quotient.

Infogroup ReferenceUSA Gov is a web-based database with a listing of over 24 million businesses, which staff use to generate top employer lists for various communities and the region, or to query employers by company name, business size, type, sales volume, year established, etc.

With Esri Community Analyst, staff have access to thousands of data variables and can visualize them on a map, generate many quick reports on these data, or get market information around a location. The Marketplace Profile is a useful report that shows gaps in the supply and demand for various retail industries in a community or region.

6. Bridge Restrictions Update. Ms. McCullough reported that the majority of the bridge restrictions in 2017 will be bridge washings. Bridge approaches on Interstates 80 and 280 will see some nighttime closures for roadway patching, and there is currently storm sewer repair underway on U.S. 67 in Davenport underneath the Centennial Bridge. Pier repairs on the Moline Arsenal Bridge are scheduled for spring/summer 2017 with closures to be determined.

In the current timeline for the I-74 corridor, spring 2017 is the date for the letting for the bridge reconstruction, the largest letting in Iowa state history. Work will begin in the river starting July 2017. Traffic restrictions will be most prevalent in 2019 when the westbound bridge span closes and work on the new westbound river crossing begins. During the course of the project, through traffic will be diverted to Interstates 80 and 280 with local traffic down to minimal lanes. Work shifts to the eastbound section in 2020. The existing river bridge spans will be demolished in late 2020/2021, and the new bridge will be opened.

7. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no additional questions or comments by Commissioners.
8. Other Business. Chair Thodos presented certificates of appreciation to Mr. Washburn for his 15 years of service to the Commission representing labor and Ms. Holst for her one year of service serving on the Metro and Region 9 Transportation Policy Committees. Mayor Conrad announced that this would be his last Commission meeting as he will be out of the town for the next few meetings and is not seeking reelection this year. Mayor Conrad will remain on the board until May, but since this will be the last time he is in attendance, Chair Thodos thanked him for his service to the Commission and the Quad Cities Region.
9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kimberly Callaway-Thompson
Secretary