

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

Wednesday, June 28, 2017, 3:30 p.m.  
Scott County Administrative Center  
600 West Fourth Street  
Davenport, IA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Earnhardt – Chair, Acri, Beck, Callaway-Thompson, Carroll-Duda, Freeman, Geenen, Gordon, Gradert, Heningler, Howard, Kiser, Klipsch, Knobbe, Lack, Lawrence, Maranda, Mendenhall, Newton-Butt, O’Boyle, Schloemer, Sherwin, Sorensen, Terry, Thoms

MEMBERS ABSENT: Broderson, Brown, Gallagher, Justin, Looney, Moore, Stoermer, Tank, Waldron

OTHERS: Joe Taylor, Quad Cities Convention & Visitors Bureau; Jodi Hansen, Muscatine County Visitors Bureau; Cheryl Osborne, Henry County Visitors Bureau; Brian Roth, Stanley Consultants; Esperanza Delgado and Chad Fahy, State Farm Insurance

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

Chair Earnhardt called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

1. Approval of the May 24, 2017 Minutes. Mayor Klipsch moved to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2017 meeting as presented. Mr. Knobbe seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mayor Klipsch presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending May 31, 2017, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$575,957.70. Mayor Klipsch moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Howard seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
  - a. Bills. Mayor O’Boyle presented the bills totaling \$65,095.52, as listed on the following bills listing:

Bills List

Blackhawk Bank & Trust, VISA charge card expenses related to Illinois & Iowa (cost reimbursed by participants) Intergov meetings; Managers & Administrators Committee meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); Iowa Association of Regional Councils meeting; Chief Elected & Administrative Officials (cost reimbursed by participants); 1 staff attending the 2017 National Regional Transportation Conference; 1 staff attending the Land Use, Economic Development & Zoning Conference; 1 staff attending the 16th TRB National Transportation Planning Applications Conference; 1 staff attending the Grant Administrator Training; 1 staff attending the Human Services Transportation Plan meeting; office supplies	\$ 2,797.22
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The Roosevelt Group LLC, May 2017 legislative technical service and Professional Media Services (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	20,000.00
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrator Hearing Officer May 2017 services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	3,255.00

Addendum

Dell Marketing L.P., Dell Optiplex 3050 and Dell Precision 5810 computers	2,573.53
Far Reach, Project Strategy, Data Gathering and Report software	29,985.04
Rock Island County Treasurer	6,484.73
07/2017                    Rent	\$4,832.58
07/2017            Internet Access	88.00
06/2017  Managed Print Services	323.72
01-03/2017          Print Overage	335.64
05/2017                    Postage	767.93
05/2017                    Supplies	48.02
05/2017            Cell Phone*	88.84

\*(Partial costs reimbursed by HCEDP)

Mayor O’Boyle moved approval of the bills totaling \$65,095.52 as presented above. Mayor Klipsch seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2016-17 Program Budget as of May 31, 2017. Mayor O’Boyle explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in members' packets. The Commission is 92.0% through the fiscal year with 79.7% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented the following contracts and grant for consideration
  - Contract with Emergency Telephone System Board for Staff Support. The contract is for actual costs and will run from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.
  - Contract with Rock Island County Waste Management Agency for Staff Support. The contract is for actual costs and will run from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.
  - Contract with Scott County Kids for Financial Management. The contract is for actual costs and will run from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.
  - Contract with Scott County Housing Council for Financial Management. The contract is for actual costs and will run from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.
  - Contract with Rock Island Arsenal Development Group for Financial Management. The contract is for actual costs and will run from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.
  - Grant with Iowa Association of Regional Councils for Iowa Department of Economic Development for planning assistance to local governments. The grant is for \$11,764 and will run from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.
  - Rental agreement with Rock Island County for office space increasing from \$10.50 to \$11 per square foot effective July 1, 2017. The total cost for rent is \$55,991 for FY18 an annual increase of \$2,570.50.

Mayor Klipsch moved approval of the contract, grant, and rental agreement as presented above, and Mr. Terry seconded. The motion passed unanimously with Mr. Schloemer abstaining from voting on the Scott County Housing Council contract.

- d. Consideration of Recommended FY2018 Commission Planning Budget. Mayor O’Boyle moved approval of the recommended FY2018 Commission budget plan as presented at the May 24, 2017 meeting. Mr. Gradert seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
4. Report on Tourism Activities. Mr. Taylor presented Chair Earnhardt with the 2017 Trails for Health Award from American Trails. The award was given to Bi-State Regional Commission, Quad City Health Initiative, and Be Healthy QC for their combined efforts on the QCTrails.org website.

Mr. Taylor informed Commissioners that the groundbreaking for Bettendorf’s BettPlex sports center will be held on July 5. There has been an increase in the number of sporting events of all kinds in the Quad Cities Region, including softball tournaments.

The Illinois Office of Tourism is introducing a new “Takeover Day” program, in which area convention and visitors bureaus take over the Office of Tourism’s social media. QCCVB will participate in this program on July 28.

Ms. Hansen presented a new branding initiative for Muscatine County. The new branding will be a result of public/private partnership and will be used to increase tourism and economic development in the county.

The Merrill Hotel and Conference Center will be located in the riverfront district of downtown Muscatine and will be the city’s only full service hotel upon completion. With approximately 122 rooms, the hotel will be a catalyst for tourism and economic growth in Muscatine.

Ms. Osborne informed Commissioners that the new HCVB website launched on April 7, 2017. The goal of the site is to increase visitors and provide information about tourism in the area. HCVB is also looking to increase social media presence and engagement with the community, particularly with younger audiences.

5. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. Mayor Klipsch acknowledged the efforts by Ms. Bulat and the Bi-State staff to move the I-74 Bridge Corridor project forward.
6. Other Business. Mr. Schloemer announced an upcoming conference on August 29, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, 226 17th St., Suite 100, Rock Island, addressing the loss of wealth to communities and current homeowners when there are abandoned properties. Dr. Jerry Anthony from the Urban and Regional Planning Program at the University of Iowa will present his study on this issue, as well as how establishing Community Benefit Agreements to create pools of funds will allow not for profit agencies and other economic developers to deal with the properties through acquisition, rehab, and resale to re-establish that lost wealth and the lost property values and start to bring about positive change in our neighborhoods and to city revenues.
7. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Carroll-Duda  
Secretary