

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

Wednesday, December 20, 2017, 3:30 p.m.
Scott County Administrative Center
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, IA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Earnhardt – Chair, Carroll-Duda, Gordon, Gradert, Howard, Kiser, Klipsch, Knobbe, Lack, Lawrence, Maranda, O’Boyle, Schloemer, Sorensen, Terry, Tompkins, Waldron

MEMBERS ABSENT: Acri, Beck, Broderson, Brown, Callaway-Thompson, Dawson, Freeman, Gallagher, Geenen, Heninger, Looney, Mendenhall, Moore, Newton-Butt, Sherwin, Stoermer, Tank, Thoms

OTHERS PRESENT: Mia Frommelt, Bohnsack & Frommelt

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Grabowski, Moritz

Chair Earnhardt called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. and asked for introductions of attendees.

1. Approval of the November 15, 2017 Minutes. Mayor Klipsch moved to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2017 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 November 30, 2017, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$828,110.12. Mayor Klipsch moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Terry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Mayor O’Boyle presented the bills totaling \$82,402.17, as listed on the following bills listing:

Bills List

NADO (National Association of Development Organizations), annual membership dues, 1/1/18 – 12/31/18	2,000.00
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrator Hearing Officer November 2017 services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	3,115.00
The Roosevelt Group LLC, November 2017 Legislative Technical Services (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	20,000.00

Addendum

Blackhawk Bank & Trust, VISA charge card expenses related to Iowa Intergov Meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); Managers and Administrators Committee meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); Chief Elected and Chief Administrative Officials meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); 5 software licenses for EasyProjects.net; 1 staff attending finance webinars; MediaFire subscription; office supplies	2,394.63
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Bohnsack & Frommelt LLP, final billing for year-end audit for June 30, 2017 and Single Audit	13,500.00
Han’s Body Shop, repair of business vehicle	3,384.53
Infogroup, USAGov US Businesses database license agreement December 14, 2017 thru December 14, 2018	2,100.00
Mel Foster Co., Inc, annual premium for renewals of Business Owner’s Package, Crime Policy, Umbrella Policy, Auto Policy, Worker’s Comp Policy, and Public Officials Policy	14,024.84
Opportunity Alliance LLC, consulting related to the enterprise zone application (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	6,667.00
RK Dixon, Tech assessment rural communities Scott County and remote support	9,255.00
Rock Island County Treasurer	5,961.17
01/2018 Rent	\$4,832.58
01/2018 Internet Access	88.00
12/2017 Managed Print Services	323.72
11/2017 Overage	(79.16)
11/2017 Postage	633.59
11/2017 Supplies	72.02
11/2017 Cell Phone	90.42

Mayor O’Boyle moved approval of the bills totaling \$82,402.17 as presented above. Mr. Maranda seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2017-18 Program Budget as of November 30, 2017. Mayor O’Boyle explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in members' packets. The Commission is 42.0% through the fiscal year with 37.5% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. There were no contracts or grants for consideration.
- d. Consideration of Recommendation to Accept the Financial and Compliance Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2017. Mayor O’Boyle stated the Finance and Personnel Committee received a detailed audit presentation and are recommending approval of the audit report. Ms. Frommelt reported that Bohnsack & Frommelt reported no findings and 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 questioned costs.

Mayor O’Boyle made a motion to accept the Financial and Compliance Report for the year ended June 30, 2017. Mayor Klipsch seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- e. Consideration of Recommendation to Partner with the Scott County Phone System Software. Ms. Bulat presented the cost estimates of sharing with the Scott County phone system. Ms. Moritz reported that Bi-State’s current phone system was purchased in 1998 and the phones are in poor condition and hard to repair. After further discussion, Mayor O’Boyle said that the Finance and Personnel Committee had reviewed the plan and recommended approval.

Mayor Klipsch made a motion to partner with the Scott County phone system software. Mayor O’Boyle seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- f. Consideration to Renew the Executive Director's Annual Employment Agreement. Mayor O'Boyle reported evaluation forms were sent to Commissioners and member government officials, with Ms. Bulat receiving high marks by those who responded. Mayor O'Boyle stated the Finance and Personnel Committee recommended the Executive Director's employment contract be renewed for the year November 1, 2017 – November 1, 2018, with a 1.5% merit increase, along with any budgeted wage adjustment received by all staff across the board.

Mayor O'Boyle made a motion to renew the Executive Director's annual employment agreement with a 1.5% merit increase in addition to any budgeted wage adjustment received by all staff across the board. Mayor Klipsch seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4. Interstate 80 Study Status. Ms. Bulat reported that in 2015, Interstate 80 carried 46,700 vehicles per day in the Quad Cities Area. This is an increase of 32% from 2002. In addition, truck traffic is increasing in the Quad Cities at a greater rate than many other portions of the state at 37%. Local representatives believe 6-laning of I-80 would allow for merging and weaving movements at interchanges. Because of these issues and others, the Iowa Department of Transportation conducted an Interstate 80 System Study. The need for this study was identified in the last two Quad Cities long range transportation plans. The study included an analysis of geometry, physical condition, traffic operation, and safety. The study has found that 21 of 28 ramps are rated poor in safety due to crashes, crash rates are expected to increase, the right shoulder of I-80 is rated poor throughout the Quad Cities, and reconstruction would eliminate left hand exits that don't meet current interstate design standards.

Ms. Bulat noted that a separate study was also conducted by both Illinois and Iowa DOTs for the I-80 Bridge over the Mississippi River. The I-80 Bridge study compared reconstruction to full replacement of the structure and determined full replacement was the preferred alternative, widening to six lanes. Both DOTs are now preparing to conduct a Planning and Environmental Linkages Study for the I-80 Bridge.

Iowa DOT staff and Federal Highway Administration worked with City of Bettendorf staff to complete the Middle Road Interchange Justification Report (IJR). An IJR or an Interchange Operations Report (IOR) is required for major improvement projects on interstate interchanges, and only I-80 at Middle Road has a completed report. Also, the City of Bettendorf purchased the right-of-way for the eastbound ramp of the Middle Road interchange. The interchange in 2015 had nearly 36,000 entering vehicles, and with recent development, these numbers are even higher today. Plus, 67% growth of traffic is expected in the future. The interchange has not been updated since its construction, and it does not meet current design standards with inadequate merging lanes on a narrow bridge overpass.

Ms. Bulat said the interchange at I-74 and I-80 also needs improvement with over 63,000 entering vehicles and 39% growth expected in the future. Three of four ramps at this interchange are rated poor for crashes, and the east and westbound I-74 bridges over I-80 are rated poor for width. The I-80 Study recommended a flyover from westbound I-80 to southbound I-74.

The I-80 and U.S. 61 interchange in Davenport is very congested. There are over 78,000 entering vehicles per day with 28% growth in traffic expected. The merging lanes onto I-80 are inadequate, contributing to 232 average crashes. All of the ramps at this interchange are rated poor for geometry.

Ms. Bulat also noted the I-80 and Northwest Boulevard interchange in Davenport has over 51,000 entering vehicles per day with 23% future growth in traffic expected. Three of four

ramps at this interchange are rated poor for geometry, compounded by high truck volumes. The I-80 Study recommended reconfiguration of this interchange due to existing and projected truck volumes. The Eastern Iowa Industrial Park off of this interchange is attracting industry at this location including Sterilite and Kraft.

The interchange at I-80 and I-280 has over 58,000 entering vehicles with 70% growth in future traffic expected. The north and westbound bridges at this interchange are rated poor for width. In 2008, the City of Davenport worked with Iowa DOT on an analysis of the alignment of the Kimberly Road at I-280 interchange. The interchange is less than a half mile from the I-280 at I-80 interchange. Current safety standards require at least a one-mile separation between interchanges.

Ms. Bulat said that with all of the needs, the Iowa DOT has committed to conducting a Planning and Environmental Linkages Study for the Interstate 80 mainline. This study will identify improvement priorities prepare for future environmental requirements.

5. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no further questions or comments by Commissioners.
6. Other Business. Chair Earnhardt presented a certificate to Mr. Gordon thanking him for his seven years of service to the Commission serving on the Finance and Personnel Committee. Mr. Gordon expressed his thanks and appreciation of the work that was accomplished during his time on the Commission, specifically thanking Mr. Lack for his cooperation. Ms. Bulat thanked both Mr. Gordon and Mr. Lack for their work on I-74 Corridor advocacy.
7. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Carroll-Duda
Secretary