

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

Wednesday, December 19, 2018, 3:30 p.m.
Scott County Administrative Center
Sixth Floor Conference Room
600 West Fourth Street
Davenport, IA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Earnhardt – Chair, Beck, Broderson, Brunk, Carroll-Duda, Deppe, Freeman, Geenen, Gradert, Jones, Kiser, Klipsch, Knobbe, Lack, Lawrence, Maranda, Mendenhall, O’Boyle, Sauer, Schloemer, Sherwin, Stoermer, Tank, Tompkins, Waldron

MEMBERS ABSENT: Acri, Condon, Dawson, Gallagher, Heninger, Looney, Mather, Moore, Newton-Butt, Thoms

OTHERS PRESENT: Mia Frommelt, Bohnsack & Frommelt; Sam Shea, Iowa Department of Transportation

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Grabowski, McCullough, Moritz

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

1. Approval of the November 28, 2018 Minutes. Mayor Klipsch moved to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2018 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 November 30, 2018, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$752,353.66. Mayor Klipsch moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Maranda seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Mayor O’Boyle presented the bills totaling \$70,937.36, as listed on the following bills listing:

Bills List

Opportunity Alliance LLC, consulting related to the enterprise zone application, \$10,000.00 November 2018 services, (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	
The Roosevelt Group LLC, November 2018 Legislative Technical Services (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	20,000.00

Addendum

Blackhawk Bank & Trust, VISA charge card expenses related to Managers and Administrations Committee meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); Iowa Association of Regional Councils meeting; Illinois Intergovernmental meeting; Chief Administrative and Elected Officials meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); 1 staff attending the Federal Highway Administration Peer Exchange conference; 1 staff attending the Illinois Traffic Safety Summit; 2 staff attending the Community Development Block Grant Training; 1 staff attending Excel training class; office supplies/furniture	2,659.04
Dan Corbin, Inc., 2019 aerial photography and mapping services	10,023.00
Mel Foster Co., Inc., annual premium for renewals of Business Owner’s Package Crime Policy, Umbrella Policy, Auto Policy, Worker’s Comp Policy, and Professional Liability Policy	13,586.41
City of Moline, overpayment on Opportunity Alliance Enterprise Zone Technical assistance Phase I and II	7,125.50
Rock Island County Treasurer	4,988.41
01/2019 Rent 4,832.58	
01/2019 Internet Access 88.00	
11/2018 Printing 51.00	
11/2018 Supplies 16.83	
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrator Hearing Officer November 2018 Services (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	2,555.00

Mayor O’Boyle moved approval of the bills totaling \$70,937.36 as presented above. Mayor Klipsch seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2018-19 Program Budget as of November 30, 2018. Mayor O’Boyle explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in members' packets. The Commission is 42.0% through the fiscal year with 37.1% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. There were no contracts/grants for consideration.
- d. Consideration of Recommendation to Accept the Financial and Compliance Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2018. 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 Klipsch made a motion to accept the Financial and Compliance Report for the year ended June 30, 2018. Mr. Maranda seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- e. 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, 2018 – November 1, 2019, with a 2% merit increase, along with any budgeted wage adjustment received by all staff across the board.

Mr. Stoermer made a motion to renew the Executive Director’s annual employment agreement with a 2% merit increase in addition to any budgeted wage adjustment received by all staff across the board. Mayor Broderson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4. Status of I-80 Planning Studies. Mr. Shea reported on the status of planning for improvements to the Interstate 80 corridor and bridge over the Mississippi River. Both the Iowa and Illinois DOTs are now preparing to conduct a Planning and Environmental Linkages Study for the I-80 Bridge. Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) represents a collaborative and integrated approach to transportation decision-making. The PEL process considers environmental, community, and economic goals early in the transportation planning process and uses the information and analysis developed during planning to inform the environmental review process. The common benefits of PEL are to:

- Reduce duplication
- Assist the environmental review process
- Develop documentation
- Save costs and time
- Provide a holistic and flexible approach
- Enhance community involvement
- Improve relationships and coordination

Mr. Shea explained the I-80 Bridge was originally constructed in 1966 and included 28 spans using wide-flange beams/ welded plate girders on reinforced concrete piers. The deck was widened in 1990 and 1995. This type of construction leads to recurring issues including potential fracturing and being prone to vibration. Emergency repairs were performed in 2010 requiring closure of eastbound lanes during the summer. Also, vibration due to cantilevered exterior lanes necessitated replacement of lights. Widening of the existing structure is infeasible, and the existing waterway navigational channel configuration is not optimal for river traffic.

The Iowa Department of Transportation conducted an Interstate 80 System Study, which included an analysis of geometry, physical condition, traffic operation, and safety from Interstate 280 to the Mississippi River. The traffic on Interstate 80 in the Quad Cities is higher than many areas in the state.

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. Reconstruction of the interchange would potentially eliminate left hand exits that don’t meet current interstate design standards. 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.

The I-80 and Northwest Boulevard interchange in Davenport has over 51,000 entering vehicles per day with 23% future growth in traffic expected. Even though the interchange was recently improved, three of four ramps at this interchange are rated poor for geometry due to higher than anticipated truck volumes. The I-80 Study recommended reconfiguration of this interchange to a converging diamond.

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 and improvements will require increasing the length of ramps and weaving areas.

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. 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.

Mr. Shea also noted a rest area study that recommended closure of the eastbound rest area in Bettendorf and the Muscatine/Wilton rest areas. Bi-State staff mentioned the need for truck parking and offered to send contact information to comment on the proposed closures.

5. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. Mr. Schloemer announced that there is a Summit on Homelessness and Affordable Housing on January 10, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. at Community Foundation. He invited all to attend.

Mayor Klipsch announced that on December 20, 2018 would be a presentation at Eastern Iowa Community College in Davenport on the findings from the juvenile justice survey.

6. Other Business. Ms. Earnhardt presented certificates to outgoing commissioners Brown, Callaway-Thompson, and Terry in appreciation of their service. Mr. Gradert mentioned that Mr. Brown is a lieutenant in the Moline Fire Department and is stepping down due to work. Mr. Maranda welcomed Mr. Brunk and Mr. Deppe to the Commission, serving as representatives from Rock Island County.

Mr. Maranda presented Chair Earnhardt with a plaque in appreciation of her time as chair and her service to the Commission for 8 years. Chair Earnhardt thanked all present for their service and to Bi-State staff for their work over the years.

Ms. Bulat recognized Marshall Jones as the new chair of Henry County and welcomed him to the Commission.

7. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Carroll-Duda
Secretary