

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

Wednesday, January 22, 2020, 3:30 p.m.  
Scott County Administrative Center  
Sixth Floor Conference Room  
600 West Fourth Street  
Davenport, IA

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Maranda – Chair, Acri, Beck, Broderson, Brunk, Carroll-Duda, Deppe, Dunn, Gallagher, Gradert, Heninger, Jones, Knobbe, Lawrence, Matson, Mendenhall, Newton-Butt, O’Boyle, Peacock, Schloemer, Sherwin, Sorensen, Stoermer, Tank, Thoms, Waldron

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dawson, Freeman, Kinzer, Kiser, Lack, Mather, G. Moore, R. Moore, Parker

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Colonel Stephen Marr, Commander, U.S. Army Garrison – Rock Island Arsenal; Sergeant Major Tisa Scott, U.S. Army Garrison – Rock Island Arsenal

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

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

1. Approval of the December 18, 2019 Minutes. Mr. Beck moved to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2019 meeting as presented. Mr. Stoermer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mayor Carroll-Duda presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending December 31, 2019, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$759,277.96. Mayor Carroll-Duda 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. Mayor O’Boyle presented the bills totaling \$130,934.55, as listed on the following bills listing:

*Bills List*

Gewalt Hamilton Associates, Inc. (GHA), November & December 2019 professional expenses related to the Illinois 92 Corridor Study (cost funded by SPR grant and local government participants)	\$ 59,187.40
HDR Engineering, Inc., Mississippi River Rail Crossing Study for the period October 27 to December 28, 2019 (cost funded by SPR grant)	10,500.00
National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), membership renewal for the period January 1 thru December 31, 2020	2,000.00
Platinum, backup device, storage licenses, and installation	7,416.20
The Roosevelt Group LLC, December 2019 Legislative Technical Services (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	20,000.00

Addendum

Blackhawk Bank & Trust, VISA charge card expenses related to Managers & Administrators meeting (cost reimbursed by participants); 2 staff attending The Resilience & Durability Peer Exchange conference; Illinois Intergovernmental meeting; office supplies	2,230.03
City of East Moline, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds 10/1-12/31/19	4,292.28
Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (esri), Maintenance Agreement for ArcGIS Desktop Basic and Advanced software and license for Community Analyst Web App Online, March 31, 2020 thru March 30, 2021	6,798.63
Infogroup, USAGov US Businesses database license agreement December 14, 2019 thru December 13, 2020	192,100.00
City of Rock Island, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds 10/1-12/31/19	8,382.81
Rock Island County Treasurer	5,577.20
02/2020 Rent	4,689.58
02/2020 Internet Access	88.00
01/2020 Managed Print Services	326.96
12/2019 Postage	419.82
12/2019 Cell Phone	52.84
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrator Hearing Officer December 2019 services (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	2,450.00

Mayor O’Boyle moved approval of the bills totaling \$130,934.55 as presented above. Mr. Tank seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2019-20 Program Budget as of December 31, 2019. Mayor O’Boyle explained the Program Budget Status Report was mailed in members’ packets. The Commission is 50.0% through the fiscal year with 44.8% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented a grant for consideration. It is a co-application to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) with Black Hawk Hills Regional Council and North Central Illinois Council of Governments for up to \$10 million for extension of broadband into these three regions. The not-for-profit iFiber will prepare the application, and no matching dollars will be required of Bi-State. Partnering regional councils will work with iFiber on the most competitive application understanding that only some areas of each region will be served. The application will be submitted as soon as completed, and the project will begin upon notification of award by EDA. The completion date of the project will be based on access to the installation sites and the requirements of EDA.

Mayor Gallagher moved approval of grant application. Mr. Deppe seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4. Executive Committee.

- a. Election of Officers. Chair Maranda reported the Executive Committee, serving as the Nominating Committee, met January 22, 2020 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, 2020. The slate nominated is:

Chair – Ken “Moose” Maranda, Member, Rock Island County Board

Vice Chair – Bob Gallagher, Mayor, City of Davenport

Secretary – Jeff Sorensen, Member, Muscatine County Board

Treasurer – Marshall Jones, Chair, Henry County Board

Chair Maranda called for nominations from the floor, and none were received. Mr. Deppe motioned to approve the slate of officers as presented, and Mayor Broderson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Update on Rock Island Arsenal. Colonel Marr provided a presentation to the Commission. He manages services and facilities for the 946 acres Arsenal Island which has a significant global and strategic reach. The Garrison has three overall priorities:

- **Infrastructure** – Addressing the urgent infrastructure challenges brought on by a decade of underinvestment
- **Protection** – Focusing on installation protection exercises and full scale exercises
- **Soldier/Civilian/Family Programs** – Programs and services designated to improve the readiness and resilience of soldiers, civilians, and families, in order to allow their people to focus on their missions

RIA houses seven major Commands that reach 32 states and 20 countries, including Army Sustainment Command, Joint Munitions Command, Army Contracting Command, First Army, Army Corps of Engineers, Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center, the Garrison itself, and the Civilian Human Resource Agency. The regional reach may also be demonstrated through the distribution of the employees of RIA that are 48% from Iowa and 52% from Illinois.

Colonel Marr noted that RIA is the largest local employer in the Bi-State Region with 4,391 civilian, 1,293 military, and 573 contracted employees – 42% of this workforce are veterans. The induced employment impact of RIA is over 14,000 community jobs. Salaries average \$75,989, and the local economic impact is over \$1.2 billion per year.

The Rock Island Arsenal is the only full-service Army installation in Iowa, Illinois, and Minnesota. It supports more than 54K active, reserve, and retired military; civilian employees; and family members within a 150-mile radius. RIA is home to over 60 Department of Defense organizations and private companies with a global impact.

Since 1862, RIA has been a national treasure and cornerstone of the Bi-State Region. RIA was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1988, which includes historic Quarters One built in 1871; the swing-span bridge completed in 1896; the Browning Museum built in 1905 (the Army’s second oldest); the Clock Tower Building built in 1867; the hydroelectric plant built in 1901; the National Cemetery established in 1863 and still active; the Arsenal Island Golf Course established in 1897; and Fort Armstrong established in 1816.

Colonel Marr reported on the key activities of the installation including partnering with the community to host Red White and Boom and the Quad Cities Pops Concert; working with the education sector and holding a Superintendents Orientation; participating in the United Way Education Council; providing job retraining opportunities for prior installation staff; and collaborating with Western Illinois University and the Innovation Center. The Garrison continues to work on establishing intergovernmental support agreements for services with adjacent communities and licensure reciprocity for military families moving to the region. He noted the Lock and Dam locks are being replaced as well as RIA's continued interest in re-establishing the hydroelectric plant capacity. The Civilian for Human Resource Agency and Army Petroleum Center are growing.

The 2020 RIA Integrated Priorities are:

- Maximize the efficient use of limited resources on RIA IAW Army readiness priorities
  - Protect Department of Defense (DOD) and Army assets (people, infrastructure, and systems)
  - Ensure viable and productive programs remain available to the RIA workforce and residents
  - Ensure RIA remains a contributing member of the Quad Cities in a way that benefits the workforce
  - Contribute to Army readiness by maintaining experience and continuity in the RIA workforce
  - Ensure the welfare and safety of RIA residents and ensure RIA Army Family Housing remains a desired option
  - Strengthen mission assurance for critical DOD and Army mission requirements at RIA
  - Increase the number of developmental opportunities for the workforce and families
  - Leverage external programs to benefit the installation's workforce and families
6. Consideration to Submit a Request to the Corps of Engineers to Create the Mississippi River Ports of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois. Ms. Bulat requested approval to submit a request to the Corps of Engineers to create the MRPEIWI.
- Mayor Thoms moved approval of MRPEIWI request. Mr. Deppe seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
7. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. Ms. Newton-Butt motioned for the December 2019 minutes be amended to reflect her attendance. Mayor Gallagher seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
8. Other Business. There was no further business.
9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Sorensen  
Secretary