

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

Wednesday, October 28, 2020, 3:30 p.m.  
Teleconference

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dawson, Lack, G. Moore, R. Moore

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Matt Herrmann, Chris Hughes, Duke Deluca, and Steve Farman, Roosevelt Group; Tim Frye, Rock Island Arsenal Development Group; Kent Royster, City of Riverdale Administrator

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

Chair Maranda called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

1. Approval of the September 23, 2020 Minutes. Mr. Kinzer moved to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2020 meeting as presented. Mayor Gallagher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Jones presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending September 30, 2020, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$744,169.72. Mr. Jones moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mayor Gallagher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
  - a. Bills. Mayor O’Boyle presented the bills totaling \$34,402.54, as listed on the following bills listing:

*Bills List*

CDW Government (CDW-G), Microsoft Office Professional Plus software	\$ 3,085.53
Dell Marketing L.P., Dell computer and monitor	2,010.12
The Roosevelt Group LLC, September 2020 Legislative Technical Services (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	20,000.00
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrator Hearing Officer September 2020 services (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	3,465.00

*Addendum*

Rock Island County Treasurer			5,841.89
11/2020	Rent	4,689.58	
11/2020	Internet Access	88.00	
10/2020	Managed Print Services	326.96	
06-08/2020	Xerox Overage	(34.16)	
09/2020	Postage	589.13	
09/2020	Printing	51.50	
09/2020	Supplies	104.90	
09/2020	Cell Phone	25.98	

Mayor O’Boyle moved approval of the bills totaling \$34,402.54 as presented above. Mr. Kinzer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2020-21 Program Budget as of September 30, 2020. Mayor O’Boyle explained the Program Budget Status Report was included in members’ packets. The Commission is 25.0% through the fiscal year with 21.2% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented the following contract for consideration.
  - Contract with Henry/Stark Counties EMA for a Hazard Mitigation Plan. The contract is for \$26,845.96 with \$8,948.04 in-kind match from Henry County EMA and various local governments for a period of 18 months to begin upon execution of the contract with Henry/Stark Counties EMA. Mayor O’Boyle moved approval of the contract. Mayor Gallagher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4. Update on Rock Island Arsenal Support Efforts. Mr. Frye explained the Rock Island Arsenal Defense Alliance (RIADA) is a community led 501c6 organization that is dedicated to the support and promotion of the Rock Island Arsenal (RIA) and the Quad Cities region’s defense industry. The Alliance serves as a single community point of contact to the Rock Island Arsenal and speaks as one voice related to RIA matters. He noted the RIADA is governed by a board of directors, which approves an annual strategy and budget for implementation and is made up of both elected officials and private sector representatives. Mr. Frye serves as the RIADA Executive Director, and staff support is provided by the Quad Cities Chamber. The RIADA has retained the Roosevelt Group (TRG) to conduct contractual support activities that are funded by Quad Cities local governments and funding from retained earnings of the former Rock Island Arsenal Development Group. Mr. Frye introduced Matt Herrmann, Senior Advisor with TRG to discuss recent activities and future priorities for the Arsenal.

Mr. Herrmann introduced Major General Christopher Hughes who was in attendance and also representing TRG at the meeting. The Major General brings 35 years of leadership experience in the U.S Army, from platoon to Cadet Command. His service includes serving as the Commanding General of Fort Knox, in Kentucky, Chief of Staff of the United States Army Pacific Command, and founder and first Provost of the Army University.

Mr. Herrmann noted TRG has retained several retired senior military officers and experts so that their team is available to assist RIADA to improve their understanding of RIA and Army systems, priorities, and processes. The role of the TRG consultants is to advise and provide insight and situational awareness on how the Army operates and their existing priorities, ensuring RIADA and RIA have synergy and focus on their common interests and efforts. Mr. Herrmann stated that TRG has specifically grown its team of Army consultants to directly support RIADA and its growing range of needs. The TRG model allows them to adapt to clients’ needs and changing circumstances. The economic benefit of the Arsenal is important to the entire Bi-State Region. The RIA annually is responsible for \$845 million in economic activity and 7,510 direct and induced jobs.

Recent TRG results are:

- Led effort to obtain over \$115 million for Rock Island Arsenal which equates to an estimate of over 1,500 jobs (does NOT include joint efforts to sustain workload at Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center (JMTC)).
- Worked to help establish the Advanced Manufacturing Center of Excellence.

- Worked on jointless hull effort resulting in new Research Development Test & Evaluation (RDT&E) funding used to pay operating costs of activities related to research, development, and testing performed by a contractor and/or government organization. This will likely attract companies to set-up a new presence in the Region and led to Army interest in establishing Other Transaction Authority at the Advanced Manufacturing Center of Excellence
- Helped Civilian Human Resources Agency mission attract over 50 new jobs with 25-50 jobs more in the near term once the COVID freeze is lifted
- Established more strategic approach to engagement with the Army including improved dialogue with various commands at RIA and aligned Alliance goals with the National Defense Strategy and Army priorities

Future efforts of TRG Board and RIADA will include:

- Continue to focus on relevance of the Advanced Manufacturing Center of Excellence
- Continue to focus on all other elements and commands on the Island
- Attract additional jobs to the Island (likely from Civilian Human Resources Agency)
- Continue to improve and increase communication with all elements of the Island to determine where the community can be supportive
- Help to identify and direct community support for the Arsenal through efforts like the Defense Community Infrastructure Program and Intergovernmental Support Agreements
- Ensuring RIADA priorities are aligned, as much as possible, with Army and Arsenal leadership

In closing, Mr. Herrmann stated that TRG believes the Alliance efforts are well aligned to the National Defense Strategy and these tenets will remain fundamental to the Department of Defense regardless of administration.

5. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. None.
6. Other Business. Ms. Bulat thanked Tim Bain and the City of Rock Island IT staff for their help with the technical support for broadcasting the meeting remotely. Chair Maranda thanked Mr. Herrmann, Mr. Hughes, and Mr. Frye for presenting and reminded Commissioners that the November meeting will be held a week early on November 18 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.
7. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Sorensen  
Secretary