

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

Wednesday, May 26, 2021, 3:30 p.m.
Teleconference

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gallagher – Chair, Beck, Breeden, Brunk, Dawson, Deppe, Dunn, Heninger, Kinzer, Lack, Lawrence, Limberg, Matson, Mendenhall, Newton, O’Boyle, Parker, Rayapati, Saucedo, Sauer, Schloemer, Sherwin, Stoermer, Thompson, Thoms, Waldron

MEMBERS ABSENT: Broderson, Freeman, Holmes, Kendall, Maxwell, G. Moore, R. Moore, Roethler

OTHERS PRESENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Connors, Grabowski, McCullough

Chair Gallagher called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Chair Gallagher presented a plaque in absentia to Ken “Moose” Maranda in recognition of his 7 years of service to the Commission.

1. Approval of the April 28, 2021 Minutes. Mr. Stoermer moved to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2021 meeting as presented. Mr. Beck seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Brunk presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending April 30, 2021, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$532,766.96. Mr. Beck moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mayor Matson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Mayor O’Boyle presented the bills totaling \$28,522.23, as listed on the following bills listing:

Bills List

Blackhawk Bank & Trust, VISA charge card expenses related to advertisement for an Accountant job opening; subscription to Data Reach Cloud Deployment; 1 staff attending the Qualified MS4 Stormwater Permit Compliance online seminar; office supplies	2,892.36
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Addendum

Rock Island County Treasurer		5,629.87
06/2021	Rent	4,689.58
06/2021	Internet Access	88.00
05/2021	Managed Print Services	333.50
04/2021	Postage	492.76
04/2021	Cell Phone	26.03

Mayor O’Boyle moved approval of the bills totaling \$28,522.23 as presented above. Mr. Brunk seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2020-21 Program Budget as of April 30, 2021. Mayor O’Boyle explained the Program Budget Status Report was sent prior to the meeting. The Commission is 83.3% through the fiscal year with 74.8% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented the following grants/contracts for consideration.
 - Grant and Contract with Economic Development Administration for Nuclear Energy Recovery Study and Coordination for \$600,000. The contract is for the period of August 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024.

Mr. Kinzer moved approval of the grant and contract with Economic Development Administration. Mr. Stoermer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- d. Consideration of Recommended FY2021 Proposed Revised Commission Planning Budget. Mayor O’Boyle and Ms. Bulat reported the Finance and Personnel Committee reviewed and recommended the proposed revised FY 2021 Commission Planning Budget.

Mayor O’Boyle motioned to approve the Revised FY2021 Program Budget as presented, and Mayor Matson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- e. Presentation of Recommended FY2022 Commission Planning Budget. Ms. Bulat reviewed the draft FY 2022 Budget as recommended by the Finance and Personnel Committee. She reported dues for Bi-State’s member governments will not increase, and 10% decrease in dues would continue for one more year due to the pandemic. Continuation of the merit performance review program, with a projected average of 2.5%, is recommended along with a 1.5% across the board annual wage adjustment. The budget will lay on the table and be considered for approval at the June 23, 2021 Commission meeting.

4. Consideration of Resolutions Supporting the FY2022 Quad Cities and Region 9 Transportation Work Planning Programs (TPWPs). Ms. McCullough reported that Bi-State Regional Commission receives federal pass through funds from the Iowa and Illinois Departments of transportation to plan for short and long range transportation needs. Planning areas include the Quad Cities and Region 9 for rural Scott County and Muscatine County, Iowa. Key travel issues in these areas include improving river crossing capacity, improving mobility and system reliability, and coordinating maintenance, operations and improvements between the modes of transportation for an effective system to move people and goods.

The Quad Cities and Region 9 FY2022 Transportation Planning Work Programs (TPWPs) reflect Bi-State staff transportation work activities and budget funding to accomplish that work for July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022. Tasks and activities to be undertaken by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Region 9 in the coming fiscal year updates to the regional Intelligent Transportation System Architecture and Title VI non-discrimination plan, as well as providing transportation technical assistance, such as grant-writing and traffic/trail counting. While fulfilling core programmatic requirements, the funding supports this type of technical assistance to aid local jurisdictions in implementing planned surface transportation projects – road improvements, transit services, trail and sidewalk extensions, and bridge work.

Ms. McCullough noted the transportation planning fund targets for FY2022 that reflect relatively static funding levels for both the Quad Cities MPO and Region 9 Planning Area. The MPO effort in federal, state, and local funds sums to \$956,807. The Region 9 effort amounts to \$64,166. Federal funds are matched with 20% local member dues or state funds. She noted that the respective Technical and Policy Committees provide information and feedback on the program activities while the Bi-State Regional Commission approves the budget and contracts.

Mr. Beck moved approval of the resolutions to authorize application of the federal transportation planning grants and execute the respective grant agreements as presented. Ms. Mendenhall seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Consideration of Request to De-Federalize Bi-State Revolving Loan Fund Dollars. – Ms. Bulat discussed the potential to request the defederalization of the Bi-State Revolving Loan Fund (RLF), which had a value of \$1,428,278 as of March 31, 2021. She noted the two proposed uses would be to continue the RLF with flexibilities as allowed by EDA and to match regional level economic related consultant studies with Commission approval. In regard to the RLF, Bi-State staff would work with local governments that matched the RLF to determine guidelines and a revised application process while continuing to comply with EDA requirements, which include continuing Davis Bacon and National Environmental Protection Act regulations for construction activities. The first economic study would be the Nuclear Energy Recovery Study that was approved in agenda item 3C and would need \$120,000 in match.

Mayor Matson moved to table the discussion until the June 23 meeting. Ms. Bulat noted that if the decision was tabled, funding would not be available for matching the EDA grant for the nuclear study, which EDA requested to be submitted as soon as possible. Upon further discussion, Mayor Matson withdrew his request.

Mayor Gallagher proposed the following three steps: to approve defederalization of the RLF, retain the current RLF federal regulations until the Commission can better understand the implications, and to use the defederalized EDA funds off the top to match the energy grant.

Mr. Beck motioned to approve the Request to De-Federalize Bi-State Revolving Loan Fund Dollars as revised by Mayor Gallagher, and Mayor Thoms seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. None
7. Other Business. Ms. Bulat noted that this is Bi-State's 55th anniversary, and a luncheon will be held in the Gold Room of the Blackhawk Hotel on October 27 at noon.
8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diana Broderson
Secretary