

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

Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 3:30 p.m.
Teleconference

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Breeden, Holmes, Kendall, Maranda, Matson, Maxwell, G. Moore, R. Moore, Peacock, Thoms

OTHERS PRESENT: Colonel Todd Allison, Garrison Commander, Rock Island Arsenal; Colonel Steve Sattinger, P.E. Commander and District Engineer, Rock Island District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Mia Frommelt, Bohnsack & Frommelt

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Connors, Grabowski, McCullough

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

1. Approval of the March 24, 2021 Minutes. Mr. Beck moved to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2021 meeting as presented. Mr. Brunk seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Brunk presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending March 31, 2021, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$683,190.29. Mayor O’Boyle moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Kinzer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.

- a. Bills. Mayor O’Boyle presented the bills totaling \$48,045.51, as listed on the following bills listing:

Bills List

Bohnsack & Frommelt LLP, Final Year-End June 30, 2020 Audit and Single Audit and Preparation of Financial Statement	\$22,150.00
The Roosevelt Group LLC, March 2021 Legislative Technical Services (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	20,000.00

Addendum

Rock Island County Treasurer		5,895.51
05/2021	Rent	4,689.58
05/2021	Internet Access	88.00
04/2021	Managed Print Services	333.50
03/2021	Postage	469.95
03/2021	Printing	50.00
03/2021	Supplies	238.45
03/2021	Cell Phone	26.03

Mayor O'Boyle moved approval of the bills totaling \$48,045.51 as presented above. Mr. Stoermer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

b. Report on Progress on Commission's FY 2020-21 Program Budget as of March 31, 2021. Mayor O'Boyle explained the Program Budget Status Report was sent prior to the meeting. The Commission is 75.0% through the fiscal year with 63.7% expended and within budget.

c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented the following contracts for consideration.

- Contract with Scott County to update the Scott County Hazard Mitigation Plan including FEMA, State and local or in-kind funding for up to \$40,000. The contract is for the period of June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2023.

Mayor O'Boyle moved approval of the contract with Scott County. Mayor Broderson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- Contract with West Liberty to update the Park and Recreation Plan for \$11,330. The contract is for the period of July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Mayor O'Boyle moved approval of the contract with West Liberty. Mayor Dawson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4. Consideration of Recommendation to Accept the Financial and Compliance Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2020. 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.

Mr. Beck made a motion to accept the Financial and Compliance Report for the year ended June 30, 2020. Mayor O'Boyle seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

5. Consideration of Adoption of the *Bi-State Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2021 (CEDS)*. Ms. Bulat presented the final draft of the *Bi-State Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2021 (CEDS)* that had been distributed to Commissioners for the March 24, 2021 meeting for review and provided to the public on the Bi-State website. Minor comments were received through the 30-day review regarding economic development related projects as noted in the projects list.

Mayor Dawson moved to approve a resolution to adopt the 2021 CEDS, and to submit the report to the Economic Development Administration. Mayor Limberg seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

6. Overview of the Upper Mississippi River Navigation Program. – Colonel Sattinger provided an overview of the activities of the Rock Island District. Their area of responsibility is over more than 73,000 sq. miles in portions of Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Missouri and portions of the Mississippi, Illinois, Des Moines, Iowa-Cedar, and Rock River basins. He stated that in 1866 Rock Island District opened its first office in Keokuk, Iowa, and in the 1930s, the District moved to Clock Tower Building to maintain the 9-foot channel and eventually maintain the tributary rivers.

The Rock Island District's mission is to deliver vital engineering and water resource solutions in collaboration with partners to secure the nation, reduce disaster risk and enhance quality of

life, providing value to the region and nation. The vision of the District is to be a premier public service and engineering organization of trusted, talented professionals delivering innovative and sustainable solutions to the region and the nation. Their business lines include:

- Navigation
- Flood risk management
- Environmental stewardship
- Emergency preparation, response, and recovery
- Recreation
- Support to military programs

Colonel Sattinger reported that the navigation system includes 18 Lock & Dam Sites with 582 miles of navigation channel. The cost benefit of the system is \$1 billion dollars annually. The Rock Island District operates and maintains nearly half the lock and dam sites in the Upper Mississippi River System, which includes the Illinois Waterway. The Mississippi Valley Division's backlog of maintenance for navigation is valued at more than \$1 billion, and Rock Island District's portion is nearly 40% of this amount. Maintenance projects are extremely important to sustaining the mission because aging/degrading infrastructure risks the economic value at the local, regional, and national level.

Regarding flood risk, there are 146 levee drainage systems, over 900 miles of levees, and various reservoirs to prevent flood risk with over \$17 billion in flood damages prevented. In addition, Silver Jackets has projects in both Iowa and Illinois and is collaboratively working with federal, state, local, and tribal agencies to reduce flood risk across the Midwest.

As for environmental stewardship, there are various Upper Mississippi River System Restoration (UMRS) Projects including 16 in the planning/design stage, 7 under construction, 56 completed to-date, and 106,000 acres restored to-date with an annual budget of \$33.17 million. One notable project is Brandon Road on the Great Lakes, which is a project involving construction of control options and technologies to prevent upstream transfer of aquatic nuisance species such as Asian carp while minimizing impacts to waterway uses and users.

Colonel Sattinger stated emergency management includes flood fighting, and in 2019 involved 4.2 million standard sandbags, 6,000 large (airlifted) sandbags, 6 miles of HESCO Gabion Baskets, 2 miles of polyethylene sheeting, and 84 portable pumps. The National Flood Fighting Materiel Center provides reach-back emergency contracting and direct assistance to all USACE Districts to facilitate expeditious delivery of critical flood fighting resources before, during, and after a flood event. The PL 84-99 Program helps state and local government prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies.

The recreation business line includes 1850 campsites, 97 recreation sites, 38 boat ramps, 10 swimming beaches, and 5 visitor centers with the project being located on the Mississippi River, Illinois Waterway, Coralville Lake, Saylorville Lake, and Lake Red Rock. The support to military business line includes overseas contingency operations contracting

support for the 88th Regional Support Command, partnering w/active duty brigades, Reserve & ROTC Units, and support to Wounded Warriors.

Colonel Sattinger noted the importance of the Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program (NESP). NESP is important to the nation because it provides for global market competition, infrastructure investment, protection and restoration of the environment, and job creation. It includes reliable, resilient infrastructure for faster locking times and safer operations with seven new 1,200-foot lock chambers at Peoria and LaGrange in the Illinois Waterway and Locks 20, 21, 22, 24, and 25 on the Mississippi, and mooring cells. NESP increases capacity by 50% at the seven highest-use locks on the UMRS. The NESP ecosystem restoration will consist of over 200 projects that restore the natural river structure and function and maximize environmental benefits of the 2.7-million-acre ecosystem. With significant stakeholder and Congressional support, NESP is awaiting a Construction New Start designation.

In closing, Colonel Sattinger referenced the Inland Navigation Design Center Mandatory Center of Expertise (INDC-MCX), which is an organization that provides engineering, design, analysis, and review services for studies, new locks, new navigation dams, major rehabilitation of existing inland navigation locks and dams, and significant inland navigation lock and dam Operations & Maintenance (O&M) projects located at Lock and Dam 14.

7. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. None
8. Other Business.
 - Colonel Allison informed the Commission about Industry Day and reported that the Enhanced Use Lease is in process for Quarters One and the golf course. Tours of Quarters One are scheduled for May 22 and 28. Colonel Allison asked elected officials to help generate buzz about Industry Day, especially to state and federal congresspersons. Also, Viking Tours has been looking into creating a stop on the Arsenal.
 - Ms. Bulat reported that although state population numbers from the Census had been released, city and county population numbers won't be released until August or September.
9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diana Broderson
Secretary