

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

Wednesday, September 27, 2023, 3:30 p.m.  
SAL Community Services  
3800 Avenue of the Cities, Suite 108  
Moline, IL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Breeden –Chair, Adams, Beck, Brunk, Callaway-Thompson, Dawson, Gallagher, Heninger, Lack, Limberg, Mendenhall, Mielke, Newton, Roethler, Sauer, Sorensen, Stoermer, Thompson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bark, Dunn, Freeman, Matson, Maxwell, G. Moore, R. Moore, O’Brien, Ortiz, Parker, Paustian, Rayapati, Schloemer, Thoms, Wise

OTHERS PRESENT: Jonathan Ramsdell, Rock Island Arsenal; S. Patrick Allie, Rock Island Arsenal Museum Director

STAFF PRESENT: Grabowski, Bulat, McCullough, Newcomb

Chair Breeden called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

1. Approval of the August 23, 2023 Minutes. Mr. Beck moved to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2023 meeting as presented. Mayor Dawson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Brunk presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending August 31, 2023, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$443,471.00. Mr. Brunk moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mayor Limberg seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
  - a. Bills. Mr. Stoermer presented the bills totaling \$30,931.10, as listed on the following bills listing:

*Bills List*

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Caliper Corporation – Transportation Planning Software – 1-Year Subscription<br>September 30, 2023-2024 | \$3,000.00 |
| CPCS Transcom, Inc. – BSRC Freight Plan Addendum – August 2023  | 8,541.46   |
| Ion Wave Technologies, Inc. – 1-Year Subscription July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024                         | 5,255.00   |
| Rock Island County Treasurer  | *5,898.42  |
| 10/2023 Rent  | 4,979.25   |
| 10/2023 Internet Access   | 88.00      |
| 09/2023 Managed Print Services  | 243.34     |
| 08/2023 Printing  | 72.42      |
| 08/2023 Postage   | 515.66     |
| Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Attorney At Law – August 2023 Fees   | 2,555.00   |

Addendum

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Blackhawk Bank & Trust VISA credit card expenses related to:                 | 3,204.19 |
| August 4th MAC Mgrs. & Admins. Mtg. (cost to be reimbursed by participants); |          |
| August 9th Iowa Intergovernmental Mtg. (cost reimbursed by participants);    |          |
| August 18th CEO/CAO Mtg. (cost reimbursed by participants);                  |          |
| August 22nd Henry County Tourism & Economic Development Mtg.;                |          |
| 1 staff attending August 2023 Midwest Comm. Dev. Institute Sessions/Yr. 1;   |          |
| 2 staff attending NADO National Summit on Rural Road Safety Tips;            |          |
| 1 staff attending 2023 American Planning Assn. Upper Midwest Annual Conf.;   |          |
| Foreign interpreter services/MUNICES;  |          |
| IA/IL Bi-State Region Freight Plan – Surface Transportation Board user Fees; |          |
| Software Subscriptions including Adobe Photoshop & Creative Cloud Licenses;  |          |
| Office Supplies  |          |
| JTI (John Thomas, Inc.) – Repairs for 3 Traffic Counters                     | 2,476.78 |

\*Correction:

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Rock Island County Treasurer total on Bills List, shown as \$5,898.42; | 5,898.67 |
| the corrected total is \$5,898.67.                                     |          |

Mr. Stoermer moved approval of the bills totaling \$43,377.13 as presented above. Mayor Gallagher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2023-24 Program Budget as of August 31, 2023. Mr. Stoermer explained the Program Budget Status Report was distributed in Commission members’ packets. The Commission is 16.7% through the fiscal year with 15.4% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented the following contract addendum for consideration.
  - Contract with DSI Medical Services, Inc. for the Drug and Alcohol Testing Consortium screening program. The contract is January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026. Costs are as follows:

| DESCRIPTION                         | UNIT COST PER TEST |                               |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                     | Walk-in Prices     | After Hours On-Site Prices    |
| <b>YEAR ONE</b>                     |                    |                               |
| Drug Testing as Specified in RFP    | \$49.50            | \$75.00                       |
| Alcohol Testing as Specified in RFP | \$47.50            | \$47.50                       |
| Combined Drug and Alcohol Test Cost | \$97.00            | \$150/hour plus D and A tests |
| <b>YEAR TWO</b>                     |                    |                               |
| Drug Testing as Specified in RFP    | \$49.50            | \$75.00                       |
| Alcohol Testing as Specified in RFP | \$47.50            | \$47.50                       |
| Combined Drug and Alcohol Test Cost | \$97.00            | \$150/hour plus D and A tests |

| DESCRIPTION                         | UNIT COST PER TEST |                               |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                     | Walk-in Prices     | After Hours On-Site Prices    |
| <b>YEAR THREE</b>                   |                    |                               |
| Drug Testing as Specified in RFP    | \$51.50            | \$77.00                       |
| Alcohol Testing as Specified in RFP | \$49.50            | \$49.50                       |
| Combined Drug and Alcohol Test Cost | \$101.00           | \$150/hour plus D and A tests |

After some discussion, Mr. Beck moved approval of the contract as presented above. Mr. Stoermer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4. Status of Federal Requirements and Hazard Mitigation Planning in the Bi-State Region. Mr. Newcomb provided a presentation on hazard mitigation planning, funding, and related projects in the Bi-State region. There are many benefits to local governments participating in hazard mitigation planning including increasing public safety and preventing fatalities and injuries, reducing damage to existing and future development, preventing harm to economic cultural and environmental assets, reducing downtime and response costs, meeting other community needs, and maintaining eligibility for non-emergency FEMA funding. Mitigation actions can include plans and regulations, structural and infrastructure projects, education and awareness, and natural systems protection.

Bi-State is working on or has worked on the latest hazard mitigation plans for Henry and Stark, Muscatine, Rock Island, and Scott Counties. Plans are approved by FEMA for five years, then must be updated. FEMA wants to see that hazard mitigation plans are both informing and informed by other planning efforts. Bi-State’s role in coordinating several regional and local planning processes including the CEDS, transportation planning, and local plans, lends itself to aligning these many planning activities.

On average, every dollar spent on mitigation saves six dollars on future losses. In addition to FEMA funding programs such as BRIC, FMA, and HMGP, other funding sources (EDA, HUD/CDBG, state funding) are also utilized for various mitigation projects in the region. For both mitigation planning and projects, FEMA has updated focuses on equity and disadvantaged communities, climate resilience, nature-based solutions, and adopting/enforcing building codes and land use/development ordinances. It is very important for local governments to collect documentation during hazard events to use in future funding applications. This documentation should include photos with dates and locations identified. Common items to look for and collect documentation on are general flooding, basement backups, wastewater treatment plant issues, and storm drainage issues.

5. Presentation on the Renovation of the Rock Island Arsenal Museum. Mr. Allie provided an update on the renovations at the museum. With the pandemic, there was an opportunity to close the museum. Beginning in 2021 through 2023, the museum saw its greatest overhaul since 1941. It is the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest military museum behind West Point. It was founded in 1905 in Building 102 housing military artifacts from Arsenal Island and abroad between 1905 and 1941. In 1948, the museum was reopened in Building 60 as the Browning Museum. Later it was renamed the Rock Island Arsenal Museum. In its history, it has served to educate the

military about the work on the island, and for the public to tell the Rock Island Arsenal's history.

Today, the museum tells the story using a variety of mediums. It has added untold stories that include diversity and provides a more sensory experience. Director Allie is working with the area school districts to include field trips to the museum and expand awareness to youth about the importance of the Rock Island Arsenal to the community at large. The taxidermy horse that many who have toured the museum remember from the past remains on display, and its own 140-year history is being retold. He noted as part of the educational component, a community room is being added with work to begin in the second quarter of 2024.

6. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments by Commissioners.
7. Other Business. Commissioners discussed the possibility of holding a holiday gathering following the December Commission meeting.
8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard "Quijas" Brunk  
Secretary