

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

Wednesday, February 28, 2024, 3:30 p.m.
Rock Island County Office Building
1504 Third Avenue, Third Floor County Board Room
Rock Island, IL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Breeden – Chair, Adams, Bark, Beck, Brunk, Davis, Dawson, Dunn, Freeman, Gallagher, Heninger, Lack, Limberg, Matson, Maxwell, McNeil, Mendenhall, Mielke, Paustian, Rayapati, Roethler, Schloemer, Sorensen, Volkert

MEMBERS ABSENT: Callaway-Thompson, Mather, G. Moore, R. Moore, Newton, Parker, Stoermer, Thompson, Thoms

OTHERS PRESENT: Trish Burnett, American Red Cross of the Quad Cities and West Central Illinois; Jonathan Ramsdell, Rock Island Arsenal; Kelly Krell, Riverdale City Clerk

STAFF PRESENT: Bulat, Grabowski

Chair Breeden called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m. following introductions by those in attendance.

1. Approval of the January 24, 2024 Minutes. Mr. Mielke motioned to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2024 meeting as presented. Mr. Beck seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Maxwell presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending January 31, 2024, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$425,605.25. Mr. Maxwell moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Beck seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Ms. Mendenhall presented the bills totaling \$47,810.82, as listed on the following bills listing:

Bills List

Blackhawk Bank & Trust VISA credit card expenses related to:	\$ 3,913.74
Office Supplies; Phone Bill; Munices Translation Service	
5 staff attending QC Stormwater Conference	
2 staff attending 35th Annual Rural Community and Economic Development Conference	
1 staff attending NADO Conference	
QC Riverfront Council Meeting (costs to be reimbursed by participants)	
Managers and Administrators Meeting (costs to be reimbursed by participants)	
Chief Elected and Administrators Meeting (costs to be reimbursed by participants)	
Adobe Creative Cloud subscription; Automobile Maintenance; Web Hosting	
John E. Frajman, Administrative Hearing Officer – January 2024 Fees	2,940.00
Dan Corbin, Inc., 2024 Aerial RFP and Consulting Services Contract	5,654.00
Rock Island County Treasurer	*5,295.12
03/2024 Rent	4,979.25
03/2024 Internet Access	88.00
01/2024 Colored Paper/Envelopes-MUNICES	207.87
01/2024 Printing for MUNICES	20.00

Addendum

Carol Connors – Contract Services for 1/24-2/26/2024	2,769.35
CPCS Transcom – BSRC Freight Plan Fees for Dec 2023	26,564.06

*CORRECTION:

Rock Island County Treasurer, on Bills List, shown as \$5,295.12; additional invoices added in the amount of 674.55 (Managed Print Services and Postage) for a total of \$5,969.67	5,969.67
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Ms. Mendenhall moved approval of the bills totaling \$47,810.82 as presented above. Mr. Beck seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2023-24 Program Budget as of January 31, 2024. Ms. Mendenhall explained the Program Budget Status Report was distributed in Commission members’ packets. The Commission is 50.0% through the fiscal year with 26.8% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. There were no contracts or grants for consideration.
4. Commission Committee Assignments for 2024-2025. Chair Breeden presented the list of the 2024-2025 officers and committees distributed at the meeting. Ms. Mendenhall motioned to approve the Commission officers and committee assignments as presented. Mr. Beck seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
5. Update from the American Red Cross Serving the Quad Cities & West Central Illinois. Ms. Burnett reported that the American Red Cross of the Quad Cities & West Central Illinois Chapter serves 21 counties, 13 in Illinois, 4 in Iowa and 4 in Missouri. The Chapter headquarters is located in Moline. Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross are to: support and develop a diverse, engaged, and inclusive Red Cross team of volunteers and employees; ensure the Red Cross is prepared to deliver our mission through strong relationships, community mobilization, fund development, and financial stewardship; and deliver equitable and timely services to clients and communities.

She noted the services humanitarian services delivery includes being community based, survivor centric, outcome and equity driven, inclusive and accessible, and volunteer powered (increasing disaster volunteer capacity is critical to fulfilling the mission of initial response within two hours to disasters both large and small. With the services to the armed forces (SAF) priorities will include:

- Transform to an expeditionary mobile organization and rigorously renew command relationships (engagement) at all US military bases and pentagon and to place maximum focus on Hero Care Center capacity;
- Serve the military and military dependents with steady state SAF/programs; and
- Serve our veterans, veteran’s families, and youth with steady state SAF programs.

Related to response and recovery, the Red Cross responds to more home fires than any other disaster. Their goal is to respond to every home fire and provide services based on the needs of those impacted. With disaster responses, volunteers comprise 90% of the Red Cross workforce. The Red Cross works in collaboration with many partners and agencies to provide disaster assistance and to minimize duplication of services. More disasters are occurring year round and there no longer is a “blue sky” period in the year when disasters are not occurring in the nation or the world. Red Cross recognizes that chronic health and mental health conditions, food insecurity, and the availability of safe and affordable housing are barriers to recovery. Red Cross is working to identify and strengthen relationships with other nonprofits that specialize in health, hunger, and housing to better understand the issues and help to build more communities where families are already struggling with societal

inequities. Sound the Alarm is an event when teams install smoke alarms and share home fire safety information including helping residents create a map of their floorplan and map two exit routes. Sound the Alarm this year will be held on Saturday, March 9, 2024 in the Quad Cities. They will be targeting East Moline and Campbells Island. Ms. Burnett noted there will be continuing ongoing smoke alarm installations and partnering with local fire departments to do installations.

6. Status of the *Bi-State Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Progress Report 2024*. Ms. Bulat provided a brief update on the status of the *Bi-State Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Progress Report 2024* (CEDS). The CEDS is redeveloped every five years and must be completed for the region to receive federal funds from the Economic Development Administration (EDA). The last full update was in 2021, and a progress report is prepared annually. The planning process is a collaborative effort with participation from local governments, economic development organizations, institutions of higher learning, and workforce training organizations. In order to ensure full representation of the region, meetings have been held throughout the Bi-State Region. The CEDS also serves as an umbrella economic development overview with broad goals that support projects from across the region.

Ms. Bulat explained the CEDS progress report includes a summary of economic and demographic data; an analysis on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to the region; a review of progress made toward the goals and strategies identified in the 2021 CEDS; and a comprehensive list of economic development projects that have been completed, are underway, and or are planned for the future. The jobs and investments from this list are reported to EDA, and the list may be utilized by legislatures to promote the region and champion projects. A draft of the 2024 CEDS progress report will be brought to the Commission in March to lay on the table and be reviewed for the following month with a final draft brought to the Commission at their April meeting.

7. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments by Commissioners.
8. Other Business. Ms. Bulat informed Commissioners that she will present revisions to the Bi-State Articles of Agreement and By-Laws at the March meeting. These include updates to the member government population counts as related to the decennial census, as well as the functions of the secretary/treasurer and allowing the executive director to sign checks under \$5,000.
9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard "Quijas" Brunk
Secretary