

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

Wednesday, July 23, 2025, 3:30 p.m.
Rock Island County Office Building
1504 Third Avenue, Third Floor County Board Room
Rock Island, IL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Bark – Chair; David Adams; Mike Bartels; Kippy Breeden; Maria Bribiesco; Richard “Quijas” Brunk; Danny Chick; Michael Davis; Jean Dickson; Reggie Freeman; Ashley Harris; Ralph Heninger; Marshall Jones; Jerry Lack; Michael Limberg; John Maxwell; Drue Mielke; Scott Naumann; Eileen Roethler; Jeff Sorensen; Rich Volkert

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kimberly Callaway-Thompson; Rick Dunn; Robert Gallagher; Mike Matson; Dan McNeil; Marcy Mendenhall; Gary Moore; Randy Moore; Jazmin Newton; Dylan Parker; Sangeetha Rayapati; Rick Schloemer; William Stoermer

OTHERS PRESENT: Don Wrenn, Rock Island Arsenal

STAFF PRESENT: Denise Bulat, Gena McCullough, Lisa Ahern, Jill Henderson

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

1. Approval of the June 25, 2025 Minutes. Mr. Maxwell motioned to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2025 meeting as presented. Mayor Limburg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mayor Volkert presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending June 30, 2025, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$612,436.38. Mayor Volkert moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Mr. Maxwell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
 - a. Bills. Mayor Limburg presented the bills totaling \$, as listed on the following bills listing:

Bills List

Kaskaskia Engineering Group, Professional Services, April 2025		\$8,725.99
Kaskaskia Engineering Group, Professional Services, May 2025		1,973.49
Rock Island County Treasurer		5,726.95
06/2025	Postage	610.95
08/2025	Rent	4,841.75
08/2025	Internet Access	88.00
06/2025	Print Job	25.03
06/2025	Paper	161.22

Addendum

Benesch, Professional Services, 3/24/25 to 7/13/25

8,371.22

Mayor Limburg moved approval of the bills totaling \$ as presented above. Mr. Maxwell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission's FY 2024-25 Program Budget as of June 30, 2025. Mayor Limburg explained the Program Budget Status Report was distributed at the meeting. The Commission is 100% through the fiscal year with 89% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented the following contract for consideration
 - Contract with Maureen Riggs as an Alternate MUNICES Hearing Officer. The contract is for \$250.00 per hour beginning immediately.

Mayor Harris asked if this is second attorney for the program, and Ms. Bulat explained that this is an alternate when Tom Skorepa is unavailable. Only one attorney is charging the program at a time. Mr. Maxwell moved approval of the contract as presented above. Mr. Davis seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4. Update on the Quad Cities International Airport. Mr. Leischner outlined the Metropolitan Airport Authority that includes eight commissioners who are appointed by local mayors and the county board based on taxing districts for the airport. He noted the airport only collects taxes from Illinois residents within those taxing districts, and therefore all commissioners must reside in the towns or county from which they are appointed, but they are charged with representing the interests of the entire region. The intent is to ensure the residents of Iowa, which make up more than 50% of the airport's passengers, are considered in all aspects of airport decision-making. Charging for parking is a way the airport collects fair user fees from all airport patrons.

He stated the Quad Cities International Airport hosts four airlines with 11 routes, has an annual economic impact of \$700 million dollars, and employs 1,400 persons. He listed the following details regarding the air service:

- American – 2 daily to Chicago, 2-3 daily to Dallas (3rd during high demand), 2 daily to Charlotte
- United – 4-5 daily to Chicago (5th during high demand), 1 daily to Denver
- Allegiant – 2 weekly to Las Vegas, Phoenix, Punta Gorda, Orlando, and St. Pete; Seasonal service to Sarasota
- Delta – 2 daily to Atlanta

Mr. Leischner stated there are ongoing discussions with Delta for additional Atlanta service and/or restoration of Minneapolis service. He also mentioned the QCIA provides competitive operations and aggressive incentives for new service with conditions based on frequency, location, and other factors.

Future-proofing designs to meet regional growth needs is a goal of the QCIA. Recent airport and regional successes include increased frequencies to Chicago with American and United; increased use of CRJ 550, a larger jet with United; increased frequency to Dallas with American; seasonal service to Sarasota with Allegiant; and completion of Project GATEWAY Phase 1. He also noted the airport and region will be hosting SAFECON 2026,

the Safety and Flight Evaluation and Conference, which brings in the best in collegiate aviation students for a national competition in aviation knowledge.

Project GATEWAY is a \$40-60 million project was funded through FAA grants, airport capital, and debt service with no airline rates and fees be increased. The project includes baggage screening and handling improvements with a unified baggage make-up location and centralized baggage screening behind the ticket counters. Curbside and pre-security terminal renovations including a curbside canopy will be constructed. Restrooms will be renovated to exceed ADA requirements with family/companion care restrooms, and mother's rooms. Other project amenities consist of a public conference room and meeting space and an indoor/outdoor observation garden and patio. Phase 1, which included the baggage improvements, has been completed. Phase 2 will include the updated restrooms, relocated public meeting space, indoor/outdoor public lounge space and replacing the brick floor with terrazzo at an estimated cost of \$20 million dollars. Phase 3 includes the terminal roadway replacement, curbside canopy, and building exterior at a cost of \$10 million dollars. Phase 4 will widen the TSA Checkpoint and renovate the airside concessions at a cost of \$5 million.

The QCIA has also planned \$105 million of projects in their Capital Improvement Program with taxiway improvements, runway and roadway rehabilitation, snow removal equipment, and airport firehouse upgrades.

Mr. Leischner ended his presentation by providing information on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding that includes \$5 billion for U.S. airports over 5 years. The QCIA receives airport entitlement and discretionary funds (AIP funds through FAA) and receives approximately \$2.9 mil each year for 5 years as part of BIL. There is also an Airport Terminals Program that involves competitive funds under BIL, with \$100 million available to airports of QCIA's size.

5. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments.
6. Other Business. Ms. Breeden thanked everyone for the plaque recognizing her service as Chair.
7. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Maxwell
Secretary