

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

Wednesday, January 28, 2026, 3:30 p.m.
Rock Island County Office Building
1504 Third Avenue, Third Floor County Board Room
Rock Island, IL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard “Quijas” Brunk – Vice Chair; David Adams; Mike Bartels; Maria Bribiesco; Danny Chick; Michael Davis; Jean Dickson; Reggie Freeman; Jason Gordon; Ralph Heninger; Marshall Jones; Kurt Kirchner; Jerry Lack; Michael Limberg; John Maxwell; Drue Mielke; Scott Naumann; Eileen Roethler; Rich Volkert

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brad Bark; Kippy Breeden; Kimberly Callaway-Thompson; Rick Dunn; Robert Gallagher; Ashley Harris; Dan McNeil; Marcy Mendenhall; Gary Moore; Jazmin Newton; Dylan Parker; Sangeetha Rayapati; Rick Schloemer; William Stoermer

OTHERS PRESENT: Colonel Parker, Don Wrenn, and Ellie Camlin, Rock Island Arsenal; William Gillespie, Mayor of McCausland

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

Vice Chair Brunk called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m. The meeting began with introductions.

1. Approval of the December 17, 2025 Minutes. Mr. Maxwell motioned to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2025 meeting as presented. Mr. Jones seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Mayor Volkert presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending December 31, 2025, noting an ending total bank book balance of \$735,112.02. 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 Limberg presented the bills totaling \$28,019.91, as listed on the following bills listing:

Bills List

Mel Foster Insurance, 2026 Auto-Owners Insurance Renewal	\$ 14,518.40
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Addendum

Rock Island County Treasurer	5,312.02	
02/2026	Rent	4,841.75
02/2026	Internet Access	88.00
12/2025	Postage	382.27

Mayor Limberg moved approval of the bills totaling \$28,019.91 as presented above. Mr. Jones seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2025-26 Program Budget as of December 31, 2025. Mayor Limberg explained that on Program Budget Status Report, the Commission is 50% through the fiscal year with 43.4% expended and within budget.
- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented the following contract for consideration.
 - Contract with City of Silvis to prepare a comprehensive plan update for the city for \$17,065 from May 1, 2026 through May 31, 2027.

Mr. Maxwell moved approval of the contract with the City of Silvis as presented above. Mr. Davis seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4. Executive Committee

- a. Election of Officers. Vice Chair Brunk reported the Executive Committee, serving as the Nominating Committee, met January 28, 2026 to recommend a slate of officers for consideration to the full Commission. The By-Laws provide that officers shall serve a term of one year (with eligibility for re-election to a second term) and must be elected officials with no more than one officer from each jurisdiction and no more than two officers from the same state. The office begins March 1, 2026. The slate nominated is:

Chair – Brad Bark, Mayor, City of Muscatine

Vice Chair – Richard “Quijas” Brunk, Chair, Rock Island County Board

Secretary – John Maxwell, Member, Scott County Board

Treasurer – Rich Volkert, Mayor, Representing Henry and Mercer County Small Community Members

Vice Chair Brunk called for nominations from the floor, and none were received. Mayor Limberg motioned to approve the slate of officers as presented, and Mayor Gordon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Commission Committee Assignments for 2025-2026. Vice Chair Bark presented the list of the 2025-2026 officers and committees distributed at the meeting. Mr. Maxwell motioned to approve the Commission officers and committee assignments as presented. Mayor Limberg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Project Updates.

Status of Thrive 2055 Quad Cities Long Range Plan Update – Ms. McCullough reported that chapters of the *Thrive 2055: Quad Cities Long Range Transportation Plan* are currently available for review on the Bi-State website, and invited Commissioners to take a look in advance of considering the recommendation by the Policy Committee for adoption at the March meeting. Public meetings are being scheduled in February. She will give a more detailed presentation at the February meeting to overview the plan.

6. Rock Island Arsenal Presentation. Colonel Parker provided an update on U.S. Army Garrison activities at the Rock Island Arsenal (RIA). The Garrison vision is an adaptive, conscientious, and talented team providing ready infrastructure and responsive services that enhances readiness and quality of life, through efficient and effective resource management. The Garrison mission is to deliver and integrate installation support services to enable readiness for RIA mission partners. The resulting goals include: mission partners have the infrastructure and support to accomplish their global mission; RIA is a renowned place to

work, live, and play (superior quality of life); Quad Cities community engages with the resources and people of the Arsenal; and local, state, and national leaders understand RIA's value to national security and the local community.

The RIA employs nearly 7,000 with majority of the employees are civilians with 1,000 being active military. He noted 44% of the employees are veterans with 54% from Iowa and 46% from Illinois. RIA the only full-service Army installation in Iowa, Illinois, and Minnesota and home to over 50 Department of Defense organizations and private companies with a global impact. The local economic impact is over \$1.28 billion per year and 14,000 induced jobs.

One example of Command integration is the development of the howitzer. First, the Army Contracting Command issues and manages contracts to supply parts and materiel for Army equipment; next, the Army Garrison' ready and resilient infrastructure services to all RIA Commands; then the RIA-Joint Manufacturing & Technology Center builds the howitzer and its components/repair parts. Army Sustainment Command ships, maintains, stores, issues, and integrates sustainment for the howitzer in the field and through prepositioned stocks. The Joint Munitions Command supplies the shells the howitzer fires and manages munition stockages globally. Finally, the First Army trains the soldiers or partners who use the howitzer while preparing them to deploy.

The Arsenal is a critical component to Army readiness and is setting conditions for modernization of the Organic Industrial Base (OIB). They are pursuing energy resilience through improvements, such as a natural gas generator, solar energy generation, a transmission line project, material handling equipment electrification, and dredging Sylvan Slough to support hydroelectric plant improvements. In FY26, there are \$70 million going toward this effort with the intent to move the RIA toward net-zero by FY32, which would meet the Army's 14-day energy resilience standard.

Right sizing space utilization to create efficiency by lowering costs is also a part of the OIB modernization. In 2021, Rock Island Arsenal was designated a pilot installation for the Army's Real Property Space Availability (RPSA) Multiple Listing Service (MLS) in support of the 2021 NDAA. The initiative is still in the testing and development phase with a goal that potential tenants can search installations for available space, similar to commercial real estate applications, such as Zillow. Currently, there are eight buildings in MLS available for use, totaling approximately 535 thousand square feet with another 50 thousand square feet to be added this winter. The hope is to target the placement of more federal offices at the Arsenal, thus reducing overhead expenses in places like Washington D.C. and Chicago.

The RIA is committed to community partnerships and is actively seeking additional partnerships. The Defense Community Infrastructure Program is a competitive grant program funding repairs to the Moline viaduct and Intergovernmental Support Agreement (IGSA), which are agreements between the Army and local governments for services, such as solid waste collection, water supply, and landscape maintenance.

Infrastructure projects that the RIA is anticipating include developing the area near Quarters One and deconstructing out buildings, constructing a new Child Development Center building with a new Teen Center Addition planned in FY27, an RV Park expansion, constructing a new golf club house and deconstructing the current club house, constructing a doggy day care area, dredging the Moline Pool. and upgrading the hydroelectric dam.

Colonel Parker emphasized that RIA welcomes the public to visit and use the Island for outdoor recreation, auto repair services, and leisure travel services. The RIA is also scheduling Arsenal Tours with the riverboat cruise lines. He finished by inviting the Commission to upcoming events on the Island and shared a calendar of events and holidays.

7. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments.
8. Other Business. Ms. Bulat said that there was an open house in Davenport on the Centennial Bridge Phase 1 study. She also noted that this October marks Bi-State's 60th anniversary. There is a lunch Commission meeting planned for October's meeting.
9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Maxwell', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Maxwell
Secretary