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## City Administrator Report to Mayor & City Council

*February 22, 2013, Edition No. 78*

### REPORT:

1. ATE: We received a deposit from GATSO last week in the amount of \$23,815.00. Net of GATSO's fee, City revenue in this deposit is \$15,904.00. The updated summary schedule is attached.
2. Pensions: Please see the attached opinion letter that was in the Des Moines Register this past weekend.
3. Bi-State: Attached is the February Commission Packet. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 27.
4. FEMA: Per Nancy Lueck, Finance Director - Attached for your information is a summary of the FEMA projects from the 2008 Flood and Windstorm Disaster and the FEMA and State share funding. A total of \$1,969,540.22 in Federal and State funding was received for 27 different Project Worksheets (PW's). Our appeal on the Riverfront Slope/Concrete PW was denied. All of the projects have now been closed out and the box in my office will finally be placed in storage.
5. Iowa League: Per the Iowa League - The League wanted to provide an update on some recent developments regarding property tax reform. There seems to be a flurry of activity after long anticipation of this session's reform efforts.

**GOVERNOR:** Governor Branstad's property tax bill. HSB150, was filed today (this week) in the House. The bill:

- Implements a 20 percent commercial and industrial property tax rollback over a four year period
- Appropriates complete backfill for four years for local governments (with a prorated amount for years FY18 and beyond, not to exceed the maximum amount appropriated in FY17).
- Creates a backfill mechanism based on taxing districts
- Aims to create backfill for urban renewal areas
- Restricts valuation growth to two percent or whichever class is lowest, for all classes of property

**Action Step:** The League is currently analyzing the impacts on cities from this bill before registering, and we encourage you to reach out with your thoughts on its provisions. We will send out an analysis and other information on the bill implementation as soon as we have it completed.

**HOUSE:** The house also took up HF2 at the same time as the Governor's bill Wednesday, February, 20 at 1:15 p.m. in Room 102. The bill provides an increase in the regular program foundation base under the state school foundation program. The League has registered in support of this bill, because it lowers local property taxes using state dollars, without significantly harming city budgets.

**"I remember Muscatine for its sunsets. I have never seen any on either side of the ocean that equaled them" — Mark Twain**

**SENATE:** The Senate's property tax bill, SSB1135, was filed last week, and would establish a state property tax credit for commercial, industrial, and railway properties. This approach is similar to bills from previous years in the Senate. A \$50 million annual state appropriation would be placed into a newly created Business Property Tax Relief Fund beginning in FY2014. The appropriation would increase by \$50 million each year the state's revenue increased by at least 4 percent for a maximum \$250 million in any one year. Properties valued at \$324,000 or less would be taxed at the same rate as residential properties, and larger businesses would be taxed at the residential rate for the first \$324,000 of value with the remaining value taxed at the current commercial rate. The League supports the bill, because it provides property tax relief without reducing necessary city revenues.

**Action Step:** A subcommittee has been scheduled for Monday, February, 25 at 11 a.m. in Room 22 of the Capitol. The Senate wishes to focus on small businesses at the subcommittee.

**City of Muscatine**  
**Automated Traffic Enforcement System**  
**Summary of Tickets Collected by GATSO**

<u>Date Range</u>		<u>Collections</u>		<u>GATSO Fee</u>	<u>Net City</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>(\$27/pd ticket)</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Amount (City)</u>	<u>Total (City)</u>
<b><u>FY 2010/2011</u></b>							
4/26/2011	5/10/2011	\$ 16,400.00	218	\$ 5,886.00	\$ 10,514.00	\$ 10,514.00	
5/11/2011	5/26/2011	59,225.00	779	21,033.00	38,192.00	48,706.00	
5/27/2011	6/10/2011	77,080.00	1,011	27,297.00	49,783.00	98,489.00	
6/11/2011	6/25/2011	73,115.00	945	25,515.00	47,600.00	146,089.00	
6/26/2011	6/30/2011	26,570.00	338	9,126.00	17,444.00	163,533.00	
(Fiscal Yr-End Cutoff)							
Subtotal - FY 2010/2011		\$ 252,390.00	3,291	\$ 88,857.00	\$ 163,533.00		\$ 163,533.00
<b><u>FY 2011/2012</u></b>							
7/1/2011	7/10/2011	\$ 31,790.00	405	\$ 10,935.00	\$ 20,855.00	\$ 20,855.00	184,388.00
7/11/2011	7/26/2011	99,105.00	1,264	34,128.00	64,977.00	85,832.00	249,365.00
7/27/2011	8/10/2011	82,675.00	1,065	28,755.00	53,920.00	139,752.00	303,285.00
8/11/2011	8/26/2011	68,265.00	870	23,490.00	44,775.00	184,527.00	348,060.00
8/27/2011	9/10/2011	51,010.00	642	17,334.00	33,676.00	218,203.00	381,736.00
9/11/2011	9/26/2011	63,040.00	798	21,546.00	41,494.00	259,697.00	423,230.00
9/27/2011	10/10/2011	39,675.00	496	13,392.00	26,283.00	285,980.00	449,513.00
10/11/2011	10/27/2011	52,915.00	672	18,144.00	34,771.00	320,751.00	484,284.00
10/28/2011	11/10/2011	34,910.00	446	12,042.00	22,868.00	343,619.00	507,152.00
11/11/2011	11/25/2011	36,410.00	459	12,393.00	24,017.00	367,636.00	531,169.00
11/26/2011	12/10/2011	31,235.00	400	10,800.00	20,435.00	388,071.00	551,604.00
12/11/2011	12/27/2011	28,250.00	352	9,504.00	18,746.00	406,817.00	570,350.00
12/28/2011	1/10/2012	37,060.00	478	12,906.00	24,154.00	430,971.00	594,504.00
1/11/2012	1/26/2012	41,130.00	528	14,256.00	26,874.00	457,845.00	621,378.00
1/27/2012	2/10/2012	37,225.00	481	12,987.00	24,238.00	482,083.00	645,616.00
2/11/2012	2/24/2012	24,230.00	307	8,289.00	15,941.00	498,024.00	661,557.00
2/25/2012	3/10/2012	27,120.00	347	9,369.00	17,751.00	515,775.00	679,308.00
3/11/2012	3/26/2012	28,690.00	366	9,882.00	18,808.00	534,583.00	698,116.00
3/27/2012	4/10/2012	26,460.00	342	9,234.00	17,226.00	551,809.00	715,342.00
4/11/2012	4/25/2012	44,465.00	573	15,471.00	28,994.00	580,803.00	744,336.00
4/26/2012	5/10/2012	34,050.00	434	11,718.00	22,332.00	603,135.00	766,668.00
5/11/2012	5/26/2012	35,300.00	446	12,042.00	23,258.00	626,393.00	789,926.00
5/27/2012	6/10/2012	31,130.00	403	10,881.00	20,249.00	646,642.00	810,175.00
6/11/2012	6/25/2012	52,415.00	668	18,036.00	34,379.00	681,021.00	844,554.00
6/26/2012	6/30/2012	20,765.00	267	7,209.00	13,556.00	694,577.00	858,110.00
Total - FY 2011/2012		\$ 1,059,320.00	13,509	\$ 364,743.00	\$ 694,577.00		
						Fiscal Year total before MCA collections	
<b><u>FY 2012/2013</u></b>							
7/1/2012	7/10/2012	\$ 40,360.00	517	\$ 13,959.00	\$ 26,401.00	\$ 26,401.00	1,048,044.00
7/11/2012	7/26/2012	56,520.00	723	19,521.00	36,999.00	63,400.00	1,085,043.00
7/27/2012	8/10/2012	52,805.00	668	18,036.00	34,769.00	98,169.00	1,119,812.00
8/11/2012	8/26/2012	44,170.00	559	15,093.00	29,077.00	127,246.00	1,148,889.00
8/27/2012	9/10/2012	49,420.00	624	16,848.00	32,572.00	159,818.00	1,181,461.00

9/11/2012	9/26/2012	56,340.00	709	19,143.00	37,197.00	197,015.00	1,218,658.00
9/27/2012	10/10/2012	45,655.00	581	15,687.00	29,968.00	226,983.00	1,248,626.00
10/11/2012	10/27/2012	52,895.00	676	18,252.00	34,643.00	261,626.00	1,283,269.00
10/28/2012	11/10/2012	39,395.00	501	13,527.00	25,868.00	287,494.00	1,309,137.00
11/11/2012	11/25/2012	25,540.00	322	8,694.00	16,846.00	304,340.00	1,325,983.00
11/26/2012	12/10/2012	34,155.00	435	11,745.00	22,410.00	326,750.00	1,348,393.00
12/11/2012	12/27/2012	36,205.00	459	12,393.00	23,812.00	350,562.00	1,372,205.00
12/28/2012	1/10/2013	29,690.00	384	10,368.00	19,322.00	369,884.00	1,391,527.00
1/11/2013	1/27/2013	26,575.00	333	8,991.00	17,584.00	387,468.00	1,409,111.00
1/28/2013	2/10/2013	23,815.00	293	7,911.00	15,904.00	403,372.00	1,425,015.00

Total - FY 2011/2012

<u>\$ 613,540.00</u>	<u>7,784</u>	<u>\$ 210,168.00</u>	<u>\$ 403,372.00</u>
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Fiscal Year total before  
MCA collections

Total to Date

<u>\$ 1,311,710.00</u>	<u>16,800</u>	<u>\$ 453,600.00</u>	<u>\$ 858,110.00</u>
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**City of Muscatine**  
**Automated Traffic Enforcement System**  
**Summary of Tickets Forwarded to MCA Collection Service**

Date to MCA	Unpaid Amounts to MCA from GATSO				MCA Collections					MEMO Number Canceled
	Number		Amount		Payment date from MCA	Number		Payments		
	Current	Cumulative	Current	Cumulative		Current inc. Partials	Cumulative	Current	Cumulative	
7/7/2011	144	144	\$ 15,990.00	\$ 15,990.00	8/12/2011					
8/1/2011	417	561	46,440	62,430.00	(July collections)	26	26	\$ 2,694.06	\$ 2,694.06	3
9/6/2011	364	925	40,565	102,995.00	9/12/2011	(21 full or pd in full pmts)				
10/4/2011	477	1,402	53,395	156,390.00	(Aug collections)	74	100	7,438.75	10,132.81	9
10/31/2011	288	1,690	32,345	188,735.00	10/14/2011	(60 full or pd in full pmts)				
11/23/2011	191	1,881	21,750	210,485.00	(Sept collections)	98	198	9,682.38	19,815.19	1
12/30/2011	276	2,157	30,895	241,380.00	11/10/2011	(76 full or pd in full pmts)				
1/26/2012	144	2,301	16,085	257,465.00	(Oct collections)	150	348	13,938.33	33,753.52	12
2/27/2012	198	2,499	22,150	279,615.00	12/12/2011	(101 full or pd in full pmts)				
3/30/2012	215	2,714	24,065	303,680.00	(Nov collections)	128	476	10,224.38	43,977.90	1
4/26/2012	131	2,845	14,660	318,340.00	1/9/2012	(87 full or paid in full pmts)				
5/31/2012	237	3,082	26,425	344,765.00	(Dec collections)	115	591	8,945.93	52,923.83	1
6/28/2012	213	3,295	24,080	368,845.00	2/9/2012	(57 full or pd in full pmts)				
7/30/2012	259	3,554	29,040	397,885.00	(Jan collections)	112	703	9,725.62	62,649.45	0
8/30/2012	336	3,890	37,905	435,790.00		(75 full or pd in full pmts)				
9/27/2012	313	4,203	35,320	471,110.00	GATSO Portion of Collections		703	(12,879.00)	49,770.45	
10/26/2012	218	4,421	24,255	495,365.00	July-Jan (477 tickets)					
11/30/2012	311	4,732	34,710	530,075.00	(Feb collections)	115	818	10,182.02	59,952.47	1
12/31/2012	256	4,988	28,560	558,635.00		(93 full or pd in full pmts)				
1/31/2013	217	5,205	24,820	583,455.00	(Mar collections)	85	903	7,449.22	67,401.69	0
						(63 full or pd in full pmts)				
					(Apr collections)	98	1,001	8,054.93	75,456.62	2
						(65 full or pd in full pmts)				
					(May collections)	98	1,099	7,988.47	83,445.09	3
						(65 full or pd in full pmts)				
					(Jun collections)	107	1,206	8,403.18	91,848.27	1
						(68 full or pd in full pmts)				
					GATSO Portion of Collections		1,206	(9,747.00)	82,101.27	
					Feb-June (361 tickets)					
								Fiscal Year net total		
								Cumulative		
					(July collections)	110	1,316	8,892.61	90,993.88	

		(74 full or pd in full pmts)			
(Aug collections)	108	1,424	9,295.97	100,289.85	
		(79 full or pd in full pmts)			
(Sept collections)	111	1,535	10,174.39	110,464.24	
		(80 full or pd in full pmts)			
(Oct collections)	125	1,660	10,852.47	121,316.71	
		(87 full or pd in full pmts)			
(Nov collections)	122	1,782	10,151.66	131,468.37	1
		(81 full or pd in full pmts)			
(Dec collections)	156	1,938	11,813.15	143,281.52	
		(95 full or pd in full pmts)			
(Jan collections)	169	2,107	14,326.58	157,608.10	
		(128 full or pd in full pmts)			

FINANCIAL  
(green)

ACTION NEEDED  
(yellow)

INFORMATIONAL  
(white)

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT AND AGENDA BI-STATE REGIONAL COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 27, 2013, 3:30 p.m.  
Scott County Administration Building  
600 West Fourth Street  
Davenport, IA

- | FINANCIAL<br>(green) | ACTION NEEDED<br>(yellow) | INFORMATIONAL<br>(white) |  |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--|
|                      | X                         |                          | 1. <u>Approval of the January 23, 2013 Minutes (See enclosed)</u> – Danny McDaniel, Chair                  |
| X                    | X                         |                          | 2. <u>Treasurer's Report</u> (See enclosed) – Kas Kelly, Treasurer   |
|                      |                           |                          | 3. <u>Finance and Personnel Committee/Financial Matters</u> – Chuck Austin, Finance Chair                  |
| X                    | X                         |                          | a. Bills. (See enclosed)   |
| X                    |                           | X                        | b. Report on Progress on Commission's FY 2013 Program Budget as of 1/31/2013. (See enclosed)               |
| X                    | X                         |                          | c. <u>Contracts/Grants for Consideration</u> – Denise Bulat, Executive Director                            |
|                      | X                         |                          | 4. <u>Commission Committee Assignments for 2013-2014</u> – Danny McDaniel, Chair                           |
|                      |                           | X                        | 5. <u>Update on Mississippi River Navigation Infrastructure</u> – Gary Meden, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers |
|                      |                           | X                        | 6. <u>Flood Forecast and Conditions</u> – Jim Stiman, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers                         |
|                      |                           |                          | 7. <u>Questions or Comments by Commissioners</u>   |
|                      |                           |                          | 8. <u>Other Business</u>   |
|                      |                           |                          | 9. <u>Adjournment</u>  |

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Agendas\BSRC Agenda.docx

NEXT MEETING: **Wednesday, March 27, 2013 – 3:30 p.m.**  
Scott County Administration Building  
600 West Fourth Street  
Davenport, Iowa

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

Wednesday, January 23, 2013, 3:30 p.m.  
Scott County Administration Building  
600 West Fourth Street  
Davenport, Iowa

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** McDaniel – Chair, Anderson, Austin, Banaszek, Callaway-Thompson, Earnhardt, Fox, Gluba, Goodwin, Heiland, Hillman, Kelly, Lawrence, Liddell, Minard, O’Boyle, Schloemer, Sherwin, Sorensen, Stecker, Stoermer, Sunderbruch, Tank, Terry, Volz

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Burrage, Gordon, Heninger, Hopkins, Pauley, Rangel, Tossell, Washburn, Wells, Welvaert, Williams

**STAFF PRESENT:** Bulat, Grabowski, Hunt, McCullough, Miller

Chair McDaniel called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. He opened with an introduction of members present.

1. Approval of the December 19, 2012 Minutes. Mr. Austin moved to approve the minutes of December 19, 2012 as presented. Mr. Banaszek seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s Report. Ms. Kelly presented the Treasurer’s Report for the month ending December 31, 2012, noting an ending total bank and book balance of \$661,240.74. Ms. Kelly moved the report be accepted as written and mailed. Ms. Sherwin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
3. Finance and Personnel Committee.
  - a. Bills. Mr. Austin presented the bills totaling \$50,743.85, as listed on the following bills listing and addendum dated January 23, 2013:

**Bills List**

Cumulus Quad Cities, ads to promote air quality (cost reimbursed by ALCOA Grant)	\$ 1,200.00
Joseph F. Fackel, Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	700.00
Hurt, Norton & Associates, December 2012 legislative technical service (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	7,750.00
Illinois Association of Regional Councils, Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) Administrative Assistance, July 1 – December 31, 2012	1,662.50
Infogroup, web-based access to business database	2,050.00
Moline Dispatch Publishing Company, L.L.C., (cost reimbursed by ALCOA grant)	1,020.00*
Craig Piggot, MUNICES reimbursement	580.00

Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES) 2,905.00

Addendum

Bancard Center, VISA charge card expenses related to office/computer supplies 1,338.58  
 CBS4 Coronet Communications, ads to promote air quality (cost reimbursed by ALCOA Grant) 1,464.00

Deluxe for Business, accounts payable checks 533.33

Louisa Ewert, Treasurer 6,651.70

02/2013 Rent \$4,618.38

02/2013 Internet Access 88.00

12/2012 Postage 1,535.52

12/2012 Printing 148.91

12/2012 Supplies 200.90

12/2012 Cell Phone 59.99

Ian MacCannell, MUNICES reimbursement 580.00

Mel Foster Co., Inc., annual premium for Business Owner’s Package, Auto Policy, Worker’s Comp Policy, Crime Policy, Public Officials Policy, and Employment Practice Policy 12,036.73

Quad-City Times, ads to promote air quality (cost reimbursed by ALCOA Grant) 5,604.61

\*Correction–

Moline Dispatch Publishing Company, L.L.C. (previously listed as \$1,020.00), additional invoice for ads to promote air quality 5,687.40

Mr. Austin moved approval of the bills totaling \$50,743.85 as presented above. Mayor Gallagher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Report on Progress on Commission’s FY 2012 Program Budget as of December 31, 2012. Mr. Austin explained the Program Budget Status Report was included in committee members' packets. The Commission is 50.0% through the fiscal year with 42.9% expended and within budget.

- c. Contracts/Grants for Consideration. Ms. Bulat presented one contract for consideration by the Commission.

- Illinois Department of Transportation for a Henry County Comprehensive Transportation Plan for \$37,579.00 for a period of 2 years upon execution.

Ms. Kelly moved approval of the contract. Mayor Gluba seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

4. Executive Committee.

- a. Election of Officers. The following slate of officers for 2013-2014 nominated by the Executive Committee was presented to the Commission for approval:

Chair – Larry Minard, Chair, Scott County Board of Supervisors

Vice Chair – John Thodos, Mayor, City of East Moline

Secretary – Phillip Banaszek, Chair, Rock Island County Board

Treasurer – Kas Kelly, Chair, Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

Mayor Gluba motioned to approve the slate of officers, and Mr. Volz seconded. The motion passed unanimously by the Commission.

5. Consideration of Recommendation to Articles of Agreement and By-Laws. Ms. Bulat presented changes to the current Articles of Agreement and By-Laws of Bi-State Regional Commission. The Commission approved changes to the Articles of Agreement and By-Laws as recommended by the Executive Committee. Articles of Agreement changes are as follows: Illinois small member government appointments changed from January to June, and Iowa small member government appointments changed from January to February to match the timing of municipal elections in each state.

The language in appointments from minority interests as defined by EDA changed to diverse interest as EDA no longer defines this in our grant. Also, the Executive Committee changed from eleven to up to eleven members and from five counties to all member counties will have representation. The expenditure threshold for Commission approval was deleted as it is covered in the By-Laws.

Changes in the By-Laws include the Executive Committee language changes above, the word "mail" was changed to "communicate" throughout the document, and the need for Commission approval for warrants increased from over \$500 to over \$2,000.

Ms. Bulat concluded that each member government will be requested to approve a resolution to adopt the updated Articles of Agreement. Once all member governments adopt the Articles of Agreement, we will file them with each state and member county as required.

6. Update on the Rural Jobs and Innovation Challenge Grant. Mr. Hunt told the Commission that Bi-State Regional Commission and Henry County Economic Development Partnership (HCEDP) were co-applicants on the Rural Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge grant (RJIAC), which received \$193,500 in federal funding. The federal funds are provided by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). EDA covers about 70% of the federal funding, while USDA covers about 30%. Local matching funds of \$193,500 were provided by local businesses and governments within Henry County.

The grant was officially awarded on October 1, 2013. Bi-State staff and HCEDP board members used the first two-months of the grant to hire a full time Rural Community and Economic Development Program Manager and a 3/4 time Rural Community and Economic Development Specialist. The hiring process resulted in Kathleen Repass of Geneseo accepting the Program Manager position, and Katie Hobbs accepting the Specialist position.

Kathleen Repass holds an MBA from the University of Houston and has 20 years of community development experience in Henry County. Kathleen has a proven record in sales, fundraising, grant writing, and recent experience in lending.

Katie Hobbs, HCEDP Community and Economic Development Specialist, holds a BA from St. Ambrose University and has 5 years of economic development experience in the Quad Cities and Cedar Rapids. Katie has a history of success in marketing and sales. Additionally, she has worked with local, state, and federal legislators on economic development projects.

Over the next three years, Ms. Repass and Ms. Hobbs will work to complete six major grant required functions, while also working in various other capacities to create job growth in Henry, Rural Rock Island, and Mercer Counties. The major tasks of the grant are listed below.

**Activities of the RJAC**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>EDA/USDA</b>
Rural Economic Development Plan/Cluster Analysis (REDP)	EDA
Business Needs Assessment	EDA
Rock Island Arsenal Connectivity Assessment	EDA
Establish/Expand HRRM Local Foods Network	USDA
Coordinate and Increase HRRM Rural Entrepreneur Engagement	USDA
Rural Tourism Community Assessment	USDA

7. Questions or Comments by Commissioners. There were no questions or comments by Commissioners.
8. Other Business. Ms. Bulat informed the Commission about staying current in the grants.gov registry and said that a full article on the program would appear in the *Commission in Review*.
9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Thodos  
Secretary

**BI-STATE REGIONAL COMMISSION  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
FOR THE MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2013**

	<u>Balance January 1</u>	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Withdrawals</u>	<u>Balance January 31</u>
<b>GENERAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT BANK &amp; BOOK BALANCE:</b>				
Balance – January 31, 2013	\$ 534,344.69			
Add Deposits		\$ 233,354.75		
Less Transfers			\$ 238,389.02	
Balance – January 31, 2013				\$ 529,310.42
<b>RLF SAVINGS ACCOUNT BANK &amp; BOOK BALANCE:</b>				
Balance – January 31, 2013	\$ 1,168.34			
Add Deposits		\$ 0.15		
Less Transfers			\$ 0.00	
Balance – January 31, 2013				\$ 1,168.49
<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT BANK AND BOOK BALANCE:</b>				
Balance – January 31, 2013	\$ 24,164.31			
Add Deposits		\$ 138,782.71		
Less Checks Written			\$ 141,669.28	
Balance – January 31, 2013				\$ 21,277.74
<b>PAYROLL ACCOUNT BANK &amp; BOOK BALANCE:</b>				
Balance – January 31, 2013	\$ 1,563.40			
Add Deposits		\$ 99,591.71		
Less Checks Written			\$ 97,686.51	
Balance – January 31, 2013				\$ 3,468.60
<b>INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS BANK &amp; BOOK BALANCE:</b>				
Balance – January 31, 2013	<u>\$ 100,000.00</u>			
State Bank of Orion 12/25/12 – 06/25/13 (.25%) Add Investments Made		<u>\$ 0.00</u>		
Less Investments Matured			<u>\$ 0.00</u>	
Balance – January 31, 2013				<u>\$ 100,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL BANK &amp; BOOK BALANCE:</b>				
Balance – January 31, 2013	<u>\$ 661,240.74</u>			
Deposits in January		<u>\$ 471,729.32</u>		
Withdrawals in January			<u>\$ 477,744.81</u>	
Balance – January 31, 2013				<u>\$ 655,225.25</u>
<b><u>PASS THROUGH FUNDS</u></b>				
<b>ORIGINAL &amp; RECAPPED RLF ACCOUNTS:</b>				
Balance – January 31, 2013	<u>\$1,004,720.29</u>			
Add Deposits		<u>\$ 16,223.68</u>		
Less Withdrawals			<u>\$ 55.00</u>	
Balance – January 31, 2013				<u>\$1,020,888.97</u>

**BILLS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR APPROVAL  
AT THE FEBRUARY 27, 2013  
BI-STATE REGIONAL COMMISSION MEETING**

Dell Marketing LP, 2 laptop computers, software and accessories (cost reimbursed by USDA/EDA Grant)	\$ 3,000.98
City of East Moline, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds	8,859.31
Hurt, Norton & Associates, January 2013 legislative technical service (cost reimbursed by participating member governments)	7,750.00
City of Rock Island, Municipal Code Enforcement System proceeds	55,625.28
Thomas A. Skorepa, P.C., Administrative Hearing Officer services (cost reimbursed by MUNICES)	<u>2,170.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$77,405.57</u></b>

Additional bills will be listed on the addendum which will be distributed at the meeting.

**BI-STATE REGIONAL COMMISSION  
FY 2012-13 Program Budget Status Report  
Through Month of January – 58.3% of Year**

<b>ADOPTED BUDGET:</b>	\$1,981,352.00	<b>EXPLANATION:</b>
<b>EXPENDED THROUGH JANUARY:</b>	\$1,006,789.42 (50.8%)	
<b>STAFF LEVEL BUDGETED:</b>	23.25 F.T.E.	
<b>STAFF LEVEL MAINTAINED:</b>	22.30 F.T.E.	

**MEMBER GOVERNMENTS SERVED DIRECTLY AND ACTIVITIES DURING JANUARY**

**ALEDO** – MERGO Participation; Website Support; RLF Coord.; HSTP Planning; Logo Design.  
**ALPHA** – HCEDP Participation; DCEO Bond Grant Asst.; HSTP Planning.  
**ANDALUSIA** – RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council; Website Support; Mapping Inquiry.  
**ANDOVER** – HCEDP Participation; HSTP Planning; Park/Rec Planning/Grant Asst.  
**ATKINSON** – HCEDP Participation; Website Support; HSTP Planning.  
**BETTENDORF** – Joint Purch.; Scott Co. Hsg Cncl.; Transit Planner Coord. & IAQC Transit Issues; Riverfront Cncl.; Solid Waste Coord.; I-74 Brdg. Coord.; Drug/Alcohol Testing Consort.; RLF Loan Admin./Marketing; Trail Coord.; DOJ Interoperability; Air Quality Asst.; Scott Co. Haz Mit Plan; NSBP/EDA Apps; Park/Rec Planning & Mapping Asst.; QCICNet; STP Process; Annexation Review.  
**BLUE GRASS** – Reg. 9 Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Website Support; Scott Co. Haz Mit Plan; Grant Asst.  
**BUFFALO** – Trail Planning; RFP Asst.; Riverfront Council; Solid Waste Coord.; Scott Co. Haz Mit Plan.  
**CAMBRIDGE** – HCEDP Participation; Website Support; Logo Asst.; HSTP Planning.  
**CARBON CLIFF** – RICWMA Staffing; Joint Purchasing; Trail Planning.  
**COAL VALLEY** – Joint Purchasing; RICWMA Staffing.  
**COLONA** – Trail Png; Joint Purchasing; Utilities GIS/Mapping Asst.; Logo/Graphics Asst.  
**CORDOVA** – RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council; Website Support.  
**DAVENPORT** – Joint Purch.; Rvfrt. Activities, RiverVision; Drug/Alcohol Testing Consort.; Scott Co. Hsg. Cncl.; Solid Waste Coord.; RLF Loan Admin.; Transit NTD; Transit Planner Coord. and IA QC Transit Issues; QCICNET Interoperability Project; BRAC/OEA Coord.; Air Quality Asst.; Davenport Schools Haz Mit Plan; Trail Planning; Legislative Priorities Asst.; STP Process; LRTP School Data; Funding Inquiry.  
**EAST MOLINE** – IL QC Intergov. Comm.; E9-1-1 Coord.; Joint Purch.; RICWMA Staffing; RMS Coord.; Riverfront Cncl.; Interop. Project; RLF Admin.; MUNICES; Air Quality Asst.; Trail Planning; Park Planning & Mapping; Consol. Disp. Study Asst.; QCICNet; Econ. Dev. Strategic Plan; Traffic Study; Data/Map Asst.  
**ELDRIDGE** – Solid Waste Coord.; Drug & Alcohol Consort.; Website Support; Scott Co. Haz Mit Plan; Grant Inquiry.  
**FRUITLAND** – Region 9 Transportation Coordination; Solid Waste Coord.  
**GALVA** – Broadband Coordination; HSTP Planning; HCEDP.  
**GENESEO** – HCEDP Participation; Website Support; Trails Planning; HSTP Planning; Census BAS Asst.  
**HAMPTON** – RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council; Website Support.  
**HENRY COUNTY** – Joint Purch.; HCEDP Part.; Transit Mobility Coord.; Trail Coord.; Zoning Reviews; LESA Program Review; Workforce Dev. Brd.; Legislative Priorities Asst.; Comprehensive Plan Scope; EDA/USDA Grant; Graphics Asst.; Evacuation Plan; Funding Inquiry; Springfield Trip Planning.  
**HILLSDALE** – Cops Grant Application.  
**KEWANEE** – HSTP Planning.  
**LECLAIRE** – Joint Purchasing; Riverfront Council; Solid Waste Coord.; Trail Planning; Scott Co. Haz Mit Plan.  
**LONG GROVE** – Reg. 9 Trans. Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Website Support; Scott Co. Haz Mit Plan.  
**MCCAUSLAND** – Reg. 9 Trans. Coord., Solid Waste Coord.; Scott Co. Haz Mit Plan; Stormwater Meeting; Logo Design; Comp Plan; Funding Inquiry.  
**MILAN** – Joint Purch.; RICWMA Stfg.; IL QC Intergov. Comm.; E9-1-1 Coord.; RMS Coord.; RLF Admin.; Interoperability Project; Website Support; Park/Trails Planning/Mapping; MUNICES Coord.; Cons. Dispatch Study Asst.; QCICNet.  
**MOLINE** – MUNICES Coord.; IL QC Intergov. Comm.; E9-1-1 Coord.; Joint Purch.; I-74 Bridge Coord.; RICWMA Stfg.; RMS Coord.; Riverfront Cncl.; RLF Loan Admin.; Trails Coord.; Interoperability Project; Rail Coord.; Air Quality Asst.; Park/Rec Planning; Cons. Dispatch Study Asst.; QCICNet.; Traffic Study; STP Process.  
**MUSCATINE CITY** – Trl. Png; Reg. 9 Coord; Solid Wst Coord.; Jnt Purch.; Air Quality Asst.; RLF Coordination; Sidewalk Plan Inquiry.  
**MUSCATINE COUNTY** – Trls. Png.; Website Maint. & Updates; Reg. 9 Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Joint Purch.; Transit Mobility Coord.; Haz. Mit. Plan; Air Quality Asst.; OEA Grant; Coord. EDA RLF Coordination; IA Mississippi River Partnership.  
**NEW BOSTON** – MERGO Participation; Website Support; Grant Research; Comprehensive Plan Inquiry.  
**OAK GROVE** – E9-1-1 Coord. Consolidated Dispatch Study.  
**ORION** – HCEDP Participation; Website Support; Safety Policies Research; HSTP Planning.  
**PORT BYRON** – RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council; ED Strategy; Comprehensive Plan Inquiry.  
**PRINCETON** – Riverfront Council; Solid Waste Coord.; Trail Planning; Scott Co. Haz Mit Plan.  
**RAPIDS CITY** – RICWMA Staffing; Riverfront Council; Comprehensive Plan Inquiry.  
**RIVERDALE** – Riverfront Council; Trail Coordination; Solid Waste Coord.; Website Support; Haz Mit Plan; Grant Applications.  
**ROCK ISLAND CITY** – IL QC Intrgv. Comm.; E9-1-1 Coord.; Joint Purch.; Riverfront Cncl.; RiverVision; RICWMA Stfg.; MUNICES Coord.; RMS Coord.; RLF Loan Adm.; Interop. Proj.; Rail Coord.; AQ Asst.; Workforce. Dev. Bd.; Consol. Dispatch Study App; QCICNet; STP Process; EDP Appl.  
**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY** – E9-1-1 Coord.; LEPC Committee; IL QC Intergov. Comm.; RICWMA Stfg. & Website Support; Joint Purch.; Trail Coord.; WIB Part.; RMS Coord.; Transit Mobility Coord.; Passenger Rail; Air Quality Asst.; Legislative Priorities Asst.; QCICNet; Evac. Plan; Forest Preserve Planning, Census Boundary Inquiry; Stationery and Graphics; STP Process; Hazard Mitigation Png. Appl.; QC Health Initiative.  
**SCOTT COUNTY** – Fin. Mgnt. - Scott Co. KIDS; Scott Co. Hsg. Cncl.; Joint Purch.; I-74 Brdg. Coord.; Trail Png.; RLF Admn.; Reg. 9 Coord. & Regional Transit; Interop. Project; Goals Booklet; Transit Mobility Coord.; OEA; Passenger Rail Coord.; Housing Assessment; Budget Report; Air Quality Asst.; Haz. Mit. Plan Asst.; IA Mississippi River Partnership; Solid Waste Coord.; Joint Purchasing Input; Zoning Review; Aerial Photo Coord. Asst.; QC Health Initiative.  
**SHERRARD** – MERGO Participation; Website Support; HSTP Planning.  
**SILVIS** – E9-1-1 Coord.; Joint Purch.; IL Intergov. Comm. Coord.; RICWMA Stfg; RMS Coord.; CDAP Grant Admin.; Trail Planning; Consol. Dispatch Study App.; QCICNet; Utilities Mapping; Misc. Mapping Asst.  
**VIOLA** – MERGO Participation; HSTP Planning.  
**WALCOTT** – Reg. 9 Trans. Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Trail Coord. ; Scott Co. Haz Mit Plan; RLF Marketing.  
**WEST LIBERTY** – Reg. 9 Trans. Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Website Support; Muscatine Co. Haz Mit Plan; IA Public Health Initiative.  
**WILTON** – Reg. 9 Trans. Coord.; Solid Waste Coord.; Muscatine Co. Haz Mit Plan; IA Public Health Initiative/Health Fair; EDA Application; Traffic Study.  
**WINDSOR** – HCEDP Participation; HSTP Planning.  
**WOODHULL** – HCEDP Participation; HSTP Planning.

## **Bi-State Report – January**

**COMMUNITY/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Attended Henry County Economic Development Partnership (HCEDP) meetings. Assisted with purchase and setup of computer & office equipment for HCEDP Office. Continued administration of EDA/USDA Rural Jobs and Innovation Challenge Grant Program on behalf of multiple member governments in Henry, Mercer and Rock Island counties. Initiated the CEDS Planning Process. IA RELAT meetings. Assisted with economic development funding program information for legislative efforts. Attended Iowa Regional Council, Illinois Regional Council, and Northwest Municipal Association meetings. Assisted members with legislative priorities.

### **DATA/GRAPHICS/MAPPING/ON-LINE SERVICES:**

**Data Center:** Staff responded to approximately 18 data and map requests in January 2013 including 6 from local governments, 6 from businesses, 3 from non-profits, 2 from academic institutions, and 1 from the federal government. The data section of the Bi-State website had 693 page views. The data warehouse site ([www.greaterqcregion.org](http://www.greaterqcregion.org)) had 278 visits and 530 page views. Staff participated in the 1st Quarter ACCRA Cost of Living Survey ([www.coli.org](http://www.coli.org)).

**Graphics/Mapping:** 2014 Aerial Photo Flyover Coordination; Crash Study Data and Mapping; Planning for 2013 QC Street Map Update (Folded & Wall Versions) and Distribution of 2008-09 Edition; QC Chamber Regional Marketing Maps; Surface Transportation Program (STP) Evaluation; Title VI Plan Mapping; Transit Development Plan Mapping; Update/Maintain GIS Data for Street Centerlines, Traffic Counts, Travel Model Geography, Fed. Functional Class Routes, Corporate Limits, Landmarks, Rail, Trails, and other layers.

**www.bistateonline.org.** Top files downloaded and pages viewed for January 2013 include: The Loop Rider's Guide (6,315); BSRC Home Page (3,183); 2040 Quad Cities Long Range Transportation Plan (2,764); Scott County Evacuation Plan (2,614); QCTransit.com (2,048); Joint Purchase Program (377); and BSRC About Agency Page (162). Watch for new website coming soon!

**ENVIRONMENTAL, RECREATION, RIVERFRONT SERVICES:** Responded to inquiries & assisted with trail/recreation project funding assistance/grants. Served RICWMA with coordination of meetings, oversight and management of waste disposal and recycling programs, reporting and overall agency administration. Responded to RICWMA telephone inquiries from general public & media concerning solid waste and recycling issues. Attended River Action meetings, including Waterfront Center/Upper Mississippi River Conference planning sessions. Continued coordination of issues related to Bi-State Region Clean Air Partnership and strategies for emission reduction. Initiated "Make Air Quality Visible" strategic plan update process. Served inquiries on various programs as they become available on infrastructure, energy and other areas. Continued multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation planning. Organized bi-monthly meeting of Quad City Riverfront Council.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORUMS AND REGIONAL SERVICES:** Continued assistance to the Joint Purchasing Council (JPC). Worked on the following bids: spring copier and plotter paper, spring printer supplies, janitorial products, can liners, food service supplies, turf chemicals, and seed. Compiled information from JPC Survey and reviewed at JPC meeting. Staffed Quad City Area intergovernmental forums and meetings of area recreation directors, managers and administrators, and chief elected officials. Continued coordination and planning for the awarded DOJ interoperability grant. Assisted with Rock Island Arsenal issues.

**REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RLF):** Administered Bi-State RLF Program: Prepared meeting cancellation notice and Financial Summary Report. Provided information to potential applicants. Continued receiving job creation information from active companies. Administered Mercer/Muscatine RLF Program: Provided information to potential applicants. Continued to work on initial draw from EDA for first loan.

**TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, PROGRAMMING AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT:** Attended related meetings, presented information and continued staff coordination of river crossing issues, including I-74 Mississippi River Corridor. Facilitated consultant contracting for household survey and travel model enhancements. Initiated urban 2045 LRTP travel model development and plan timeline. Continued IL Region evacuation planning effort. Coordinated bridge restrictions issues. Conducted traffic analyses and data requests. Continued preparation of urban crash report. Participated in Iowa interdisciplinary traffic safety team meeting and preparing update to Intelligent Transportation System Architecture. Monitoring status of MAP-21 implementation. Attended ILDOT/MPO meeting on Transportation Alternatives funding program. Prepared monthly reports of federal transportation programs and coordinating related funding/reporting. Continued air quality emission reduction efforts and organized bi-monthly meetings of Air Quality Task Force. Worked on connections of American Discovery Trail (ADT)/Grand Illinois Trail and MRT, attending related meetings, as well as other trail planning and grant assistance. Organized bi-monthly meeting of the Bi-State Regional Trails Committee. Coordinated Bi-State Drug and Alcohol Testing Consortium and random testing program. Monitored urban and Iowa Region 9 FY13 Transportation Planning Work Program and FFY13-16 TIPs, and need for data entry in Iowa TPMS as part of transportation improvement programming. Facilitated urban STP project programming process. Administered IAQC and Illinois Region 2 transit coordinator positions. Preparing Region's Transit Development Plan update. Facilitating MAP-21 transit funding issues and Title VI policy document assurances. Monitored ITN-QC and attended human services coordination meetings. Served inquiries and assisted with transportation funding programs and transportation information for legislative efforts. Attended Iowa Bicycle Summit.

## **BI-STATE REGIONAL COMMISSION 2013-2014 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

### **OFFICERS**

- Chair** - Larry Minard, Member, Scott County Board  
**Vice-Chair** - John Thodos, Mayor, City of East Moline  
**Secretary** - Phillip Banaszek, Chair, Rock Island County Board  
**Treasurer** - Kas Kelly, Chair, Muscatine County Board

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Larry Minard - Chair</b><br>Chair, Scott County Board               | <b>Tim Wells</b> , Chair, Henry County Board       |
| <b>John Thodos - Vice-Chair</b><br>Mayor, City of East Moline          | <b>Dennis Pauley</b> , Mayor, City of Rock Island  |
| <b>Phillip Banaszek - Secretary</b><br>Chair, Rock Island County Board | <b>Vacant</b> , Chair, Mercer County               |
| <b>Kas Kelly - Treasurer</b><br>Chair, Muscatine County Board          | <b>Bill Gluba</b> , Mayor, City of Davenport       |
|  | <b>Nathaniel Lawrence</b> , Program Representative |
|  | <b>DeWayne Hopkins</b> , Mayor, City of Muscatine  |
|  | <b>Bob Gallagher</b> , Mayor, City of Bettendorf   |

### **FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Chuck Austin</b> , Chair, City of Rock Island    | <b>Jason Gordon</b> , Alderman, City of Davenport       |
| <b>JoAnn Hillman</b> , Member, Henry County Board   | <b>Marty O'Boyle</b> , Mayor of Eldridge, IA Small City |
| <b>Carol Earnhardt</b> , Member, Scott County Board | <b>Liz Sherwin</b> , Citizen Appointee Rock Island      |
| <b>Cheryl Goodwin</b> , Program Representative      | <b>Bill Stoermer</b> , Program Representative           |
|   | <b>Don Welvaert</b> , Mayor, City of Moline             |

**City of Muscatine**  
**2008 Flood and Windstorm - FEMA Disaster #1763**  
**Summary of FEMA and State Matching Funds Received - Final**  
**1/19/2013**

<b>FEMA PW Number</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Federal FEMA Share (90%)</b>	<b>State Share (10%)</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>
942	Emergency Services - Police and Public Works Flood gates, sandbagging, sand, public works and police overtime, levee patrols, etc. (Flood)	\$ 25,560.06	\$ 2,840.01	\$ 28,400.07
1323	Papoose Pump Station - removal of silt in tunnel from lift station to the river including area extending into the river	98,469.58	10,941.06	109,410.64
1972	Police Pistol Range - floor repair (Flood)	8,175.60	908.40	9,084.00
2005	Silt Removal - Old Boat Launch Ramp area This includes the area between the statue and Pearl City Station	9,251.10	1,027.90	10,279.00
2037	Riverfront Slope and Sidewalk Restoration Replace rip rap, etc.	78,654.79	8,739.43	87,394.22
2665	Riverview Center Flood Damage Repairs	20,933.82	2,325.98	23,259.80
2802	Riverfront Siltation Removal - Park to Statue	8,517.60	946.40	9,464.00
3124	Riverfront Parking Median Bricks and Repairs and 2nd Street Bridge Repair (\$2,189.97)	31,788.47	1,761.35	33,549.82
3371	City Right-of-Way Debris Removal -Public Works (Wind Storm)	130,747.71	14,527.52	145,275.23
3440	Flood debris removal	64,641.33	7,182.37	71,823.70
3448	Tree Debris Removal - Parks, Cemetery, and Golf Course	51,454.80	5,717.20	57,172.00
3536	Playground Repairs - Play Area	84,401.95	9,377.99	93,779.94
3668/69	Insurance Deductible - Weed Park Shelter, WPCP	4,500.00	500.00	5,000.00
3878	Compost Area - Chipping Contract #1	40,923.00	4,547.00	45,470.00
3892	Sunset Park Tree Debris Removal - Contract Work and City Staff work	6,809.68	756.63	7,566.31
4516	Pearl City Station Exterior - River Wall, Building Underpinning, and Surface Repairs	533,512.17	59,279.13	592,791.30
4529	Papoose Tunnel Leak	3,323.85	369.32	3,693.17
4532	Pearl City Station Interior Repairs	8,993.09	999.23	9,992.32

<b>FEMA PW Number</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Federal FEMA Share (90%)</b>	<b>State Share (10%)</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>
4624	Sunset Park Roof Deductible (11 PW's)	1,125.00	125.00	1,250.00
4655	Sunset Park Roof Deductible	1,125.00	125.00	1,250.00
4972	Iowa Field Debris Removal	4,626.90	514.10	5,141.00
4973	Papoose Pump Station Bar Screen plus Trash Rack	396,390.37	44,043.37	440,433.74
5702	Additional Cemetery Tree Debris Removal	5,498.10	610.90	6,109.00
6169	Marina Dredging	97,562.92	10,840.32	108,403.24
6268	Golf Course Debris Cleanup - Staff Labor and Equipment	7,841.35	871.26	8,712.61
6270	Parks Staff & Equipment - Storm Cleanup	49,351.60	5,483.51	54,835.11
3672	Volunteer Hours/Equipment - Cemetery (State offset federal share against overall State share)	4,832.05	(4,832.05)	-
Totals		\$ 1,779,011.89	\$ 190,528.33	\$ 1,969,540.22

had just about every type of insurance, from employers, the military, Medicaid and Medicare. I have never seen such a deficient health care delivery system as IowaCare," said Ames.

Davis is re-created in 200 health services Iowans. There prescription health. Patient travel to Des Moines for care. It do

ANDIE DOMINICK  
adominick@dmreg.com

live hours away. It doesn't matter if there is a huge snowstorm. The well-intentioned is better than nothing, it

ately, almost all the Iowans in IowaCare will be Medicaid coverage — ces, including prescription coverage, provided in communities — under reform law next year.

program. Iowa hospitals, physicians and AARP know this is a bad idea. So do thousands of Iowans enrolled in the IowaCare program.

Davis is among them. Her son Matt is enrolled in the program. Diagnosed years ago with Asperger's syndrome, an autism spectrum disorder, he also suffers from asthma and allergies. He works parttime at a fast-food restaurant that doesn't offer health insurance and is not currently eligible for Medicaid. No insurer will sell him

staff last week: "The expansion of Medicaid without attention to outcomes fails the very people Medicaid intends to serve: vulnerable Iowans," spokesman Tim Albrecht said.

What does this mean? Tell us, Governor, what is the "outcome" for someone who has a heart attack or is diagnosed with cancer but cannot afford treatment?

**INSIDE**

A full page on the Medicaid issue, **Page 40P**

A related editorial: Monday's Opinion page.

See **DOMINICK**, Page 40P

From Sunday's  
Des Moines  
Register

# Police and fire pensions are crowding out local budgets

A few months ago the Taxpayers Association of Central Iowa sponsored a visit by San Jose, Calif., Mayor Chuck Reed, a Democrat who has gained national recognition for leading police and fire pension reform in one of the most liberal communities in arguably the most liberal state in the nation.

We were interested in learning how he accomplished what would have once been deemed impossible — unthinkable, even — and in determining what relevance there might be for Iowa. The answer was: Get

## Iowa View



gtegeler@taxpayersci.org.

**GRETCHEN TEGELER** is the executive director of the Taxpayers Association of Central Iowa. Contact:

the facts out.

As is happening elsewhere across the nation — and as happened in San Jose — Iowans are beginning to question why their city parks, li-

braries and sometimes even public safety services are being cut. In 49 of Iowa's largest cities, those belonging to the Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System (the "411 plan"), police and fire pension costs are the most significant cost driver behind these budget reductions.

This is what we have in common with San Jose: the serious impact these pension plans are having on city services.

Over the past 10 years the

number of members in the system hasn't changed, but the cost of taxpayer-funded pension contributions has nearly tripled.

In the past two years, police and fire pension costs in the city of Des Moines have increased by nearly \$2 million, a 20 percent increase at a time when its property tax revenue was shrinking. In order to absorb the increase, a series of service reductions and a property tax rate increase were required. The one-day-per-week library closing yielded

\$427,000; reduced mowing and having fewer trash barrels in city parks saved \$115,000; elimination of a fire department medic squad saved \$530,000; reduced street cleaning \$325,000.

The list goes on, and next year, the city faces another \$2.6 million increase.

In West Des Moines, citizens are starting to ask why a new fire station remains unstaffed three years after it was built. With police and fire pen-

See **PENSION**, Page 30P

# PENSION

Continued from Page 10P

sion costs climbing by nearly \$1 million over this time period, and projected to climb another \$400,000 next year, it is difficult to see how the city will ever come up with the \$600,000 that would be needed to staff the station.

Similar stories can be found in any of the 49 cities that are a part of the police and fire retirement plan.

**The question for taxpayers is whether it is reasonable to increasingly cut library, park, public safety and other services — and raise property taxes — in order to pay for these benefits. Or is it time to look at an adjustment in benefits and/or a more equitable sharing of costs?**

One way to gauge the reasonableness of a given plan is to compare it with other large, public pension systems in the same state. In Iowa, the best comparison is with the Iowa Public Employees Retirement System (IPERS) plan for “protection occupation” class members, i.e. police and firefighters.

On the cost side, a comprehensive analysis by the Taxpayers Association of Central Iowa shows that when all factors are considered (including differences in Social Security and disability), taxpayers are

## How pension plans compare

A comparison of contributions made by employees and employers under the Iowa IPERS retirement system and the Municipal Fire and Police Employee system.

Comparison of Iowa Retirement and Disability Systems for Municipal Fire and Police Employees, July 1, 2013

### CITY CONTRIBUTIONS (PERCENTAGE OF PAYROLL)

	IPERS	MFPRS
Plan contribution	10.14%	30.12%
Social Security	6.20%	0%
Medicare	1.45%	1.45%
Workers' Comp*	9.81%	0%
Disability Medical**	0%	7.02%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27.60%</b>	<b>38.59%</b>

### EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS (PERCENTAGE OF PAYROLL)

	IPERS	MFPRS
Plan contribution	6.76%	9.40%
Social Security	6.20%	0%
Medicare	1.45%	1.45%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14.41%</b>	<b>10.85%</b>

\*Workers' compensation cost for non-411 full-time police and firefighters was estimated using a weighted average of market rates for these occupations.

\*\*Medical disability costs are not covered in the 411 Plan. A weighted average of market rates for these occupations was used to estimate this cost for 411 employees."

Sources: Taxpayers Association of Central Iowa; U.S. census (2011); Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System; Iowa Municipal Worker's Compensation Association.

THE REGISTER

contributing 40 percent more for retirement and long-term disability for the police and fire employees in the 411 plan than they are for police and fire employees covered under IPERS — 39 percent vs. 28 percent of payroll.

This discrepancy will grow significantly over the next few years.

**Not surprisingly, there are also differences on the benefit side.** Members of the 411 sys-

tem can earn up to 82 percent of final pay (calculated as the average of the final three years), while IPERS special service members can earn a maximum of 72 percent.

Some of the difference can be attributable to the absence of Social Security for most of the 411 system members. It should be noted that the maximum percentage for “regular” IPERS members (non law-enforcement) is 65 percent of

final pay, with retirement eligibility at age 65 rather than age 55.

For cities, the most immediate challenge with the 411 system has to do with how funding shortfalls that arise from poor investment returns are handled. In IPERS, when increases in contributions are required to make up for such shortfalls, the increase is shared between the employer and the employee on a 60/40 basis. However, under the 411 system, cities pay 100 percent of any required increase. A 60/40 sharing in the 411 system would provide some immediate budget relief to cities, while increasing the employee contribution by two percentage points next year.

Only the Legislature, not the 49 cities in the 411 system, can make these changes.

Because it is politically difficult for elected officials of either party to take on the task, police and fire pension reform especially will only happen when citizens begin to make the link between declines in city services and the growing cost of these pension obligations.

Police and firefighters in Iowa's largest cities are much respected and appreciated for the difficult jobs they do. But this should not exempt their retirement plan from scrutiny in a world where resources are limited and serious trade-offs are being made.

base teacher pay to \$35,000, paying educators for mentoring colleagues, and offering tuition assistance for top graduates who teach in the state.

**Maybe the governor is doing a better job of selling his school plan to the public than to members of his own party.**

Meanwhile, Branstad has emphasized that commercial property taxes should be the priority because Iowa's high rates hinder business development. Republicans nod at that, but they're not wild about reimbursing local governments for every penny they stand to lose. The GOP has also called for broader income-tax cuts that the governor has not recommended.

Both parties have listed property tax relief near the top of their session to-do lists, but Democrats continue to push for providing relief through tax credits rather than reducing rates. That's a safer plan for local governments but does not guarantee taxpayers the full reduction if state revenue growth cools off.

Branstad and Democrats are closer together on money, but could wind up in the same philosophical dispute that helped derail property tax reform last year. That's even more likely now that it appears commercial property taxes are not Iowans' greatest desire for tax cuts.

**The Iowa Poll, conducted Feb. 3-6** by Selzer & Co., shows only 7 percent think commercial property tax cuts are the best use of the budget surplus. The House GOP's proposal to give all taxpayers an income-tax credit of about \$375 gets support from 22 percent as a good way to spend the surplus.

Asked more directly about Branstad's plan to cut commercial property taxes by 20 percent, almost half of Iowans say the idea is a good start. Roughly four in 10 Iowans say don't cut those taxes.

Iowans are far more enthusiastic about reducing taxes for the lowest income earners, at 71 percent. Only 25 percent oppose that idea, which is best represented by Democrats' proposal to raise the earned income tax credit.

The Iowa Poll didn't ask about residential property tax relief, which would likely rank higher than business taxes. The good news is that the governor and both majority parties in the Legislature have proposals to slow increases on all property taxes. The bad news is they have to agree on education reform, school aid and probably commercial property taxes before that's going to happen.

Keep your hankies ready — there's going to be a lot of spit and lipstick to wipe off before the end.