

**Minutes of the
QUAD CITIES RIVERFRONT COUNCIL (QCRFC)**

Tuesday, January 28, 2025, 12:00 p.m.
Mississippi River Project Office
25549 SE 182nd St
Bettendorf, IA

Council Members in Attendance

Mr. Larry Burns
Ms. Cassidy Darin
Mr. Rob Danielson
Maj. Matthew Fletcher
Mr. Ralph Heninger
Mr. Tim Kammler

Mr. Greg Ludwig
Mr. James Peterson*
Mr. Greg Schaapveld*
Dr. Rod Simmer
Mr. Don Wrenn

* *Current QCRFC Officers*

Others in Attendance

Mr. Zach Sutton
Mississippi River Project Office Staff

1. **Call Meeting to Order** The meeting was called to order by Mr. Peterson at 12:04 p.m.
2. **Approval of the November 19, 2024 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** Mr. Burns made a motion to approve the November 19, 2024 minutes. Mr. Schaapveld seconded, and the meeting minutes were approved.
3. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**
 - *LeClaire* – Mr. Danielson reported that LeClaire had recently rehired their previous city administrator after he had briefly retired, and that the city had purchased Green Gables Marina and could potentially install new docks. Mr. Ludwig said that the Wisconsin Street project public hearing had been held, the second phase of the Cody Road project would be out for bid soon, a request for proposal had been sent out for the Huckleberry Park splash pad, and that the city hopes to break ground on the new YMCA this summer.
 - *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* – Major Fletcher said that Corps had awarded contracts for mooring cells at Lock and Dams 14 and 15 and that the corps was prepping for dredging small harbors in the area, including at Andalusia. He then reported on efforts to contain invasive carp at the Brandon Road Lock and Dam on the Des Plaines River.
 - *Bi-State* – Mr. Sutton told the group that Bi-State would helping to facilitate a traffic safety summit as part of the Quad Cities-Kewanee-Muscatine Traffic Safety Action Plan. He also said that Bi-State would keep their member governments informed as soon as they had any information on how the proposed federal spending freeze would impact the disbursement of grant funds.

- *Scott County* – Mr. Schaapveld said that the new gun range is now open and that some trails in the county’s parks are open.
 - *Mercer County/New Boston* – Mr. Peterson gave a series of updates regarding activities in Mercer County and the town of New Boston. Lock & Dam 17 is now open after being closed for a period of time for maintenance, and levee repair at Port Louisa will begin soon. There is also expected to be more dredging taking place at New Boston this summer.
 - *Rock Island County* – Mr. Burns informed the council that the County Forest Preserve had received a state bike path grant that will pay for the widening of the section of the Great River Trail between Port Byron and Cordova. The county also received an EV charging systems grant. Dr. Simmer added that the new federal building in downtown Rock Island is nearing completion.
 - *Bi-State Regional Commission* – Mr. Heninger said that he was impressed by the quality of the emergency management services in the Quad Cities and that a presentation had been given to the commission highlighting the work done in the Quad Cities by these organizations.
 - *East Moline* – Per Mr. Kammler, the city will be beginning work on Phase I of their RAISE grant project this spring, which will involve constructing trails near the Bend complex. The city received a grant award for a ferry boat port, and MetroLINK had received an electric ferry boat grant. Mr. Kammler expressed the hope that the two grants together could lead to the start of ferry service for the city.
 - *Visit QC* – Ms. Darin had no updates.
 - *Rock Island Arsenal* – Mr. Wrenn informed the group that there would be a series of celebrations on the island this year for the 250th anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Army, and the revamped 9-hole golf course will be opening in April. Mr. Wrenn also mentioned other recreation opportunities on the arsenal that are available to the public, including kayak rental.
4. **Next Meeting.** Mr. Peterson reminded the members that the next meeting is scheduled for March 25. There was also a brief discussion about potentially moving the date of the May meeting to avoid conflict with Memorial Day. It was agreed that the date would be decided at the March meeting.
 5. **Other Business.** Mr. Sutton informed the members that the window to submit their nominations for recipients of a Riverfront Council certificate of appreciation was now open. He said that more details would be sent out after the meeting, and asked the members to be thinking about possible nominations.
 6. **Adjournment.** Mr. Burns moved to adjourn the meeting, Dr. Simmer seconded, and the meeting adjourned.
 7. **Tour.** Members of the group were given a tour of the Mississippi River Project facilities in which members were shown the service station, a series of flood pumps, both the old and new machine shops, a pair of lock doors under construction, and the plasma table.