

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

Tuesday, May 26, 2026 – 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce
331 W 3rd St, Davenport, IA

Council Members in Attendance

Mr. Larry Burns
Mayor Barb Cray
Mr. Rob Danielson
Ms. Sam Heilig
Mr. Tim Kammler
Mr. Greg Ludwig *

Mr. Jeff Reiter
Mr. Greg Schaapveld*
Ms. Brittany Wells
Ms. Kathy Wine
Ms. Jenelle Wolber*
Mr. Don Wrenn

** Current QCRFC Officers*

Others in Attendance

Ms. Heather Aaronson Martin
Mr. Zach Sutton

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Mr. Schaapveld at 12:03 p.m.
2. **Approval of the March 24, 2026 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** Mr. Ludwig made a motion to approve the March 24, 2026 minutes. Mr. Reiter seconded, and the meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
3. **Presentation of 2025 Certificates of Appreciation.** There were two recipients of a Riverfront Council Certificate of Appreciation for 2025. They were:
 - **City of Rock Island** – For their efforts to enhance riverfront recreation at Sunset Marina, including dredging, and installing electrical and dock upgrades.
 - **Figge Museum** – For their contributions to the cultural resources of the riverfront via the installation Evanescence Field lighting project.

The City of Rock Island was unable to attend, but expressed their gratitude for having been awarded the certificate. Ms. Aaronson Martin accepted on behalf of the Figge Museum. She then gave a brief presentation on Evanescence Field and the exhibits currently in the Figge. She noted that Evanescence Field, created by artist Leo Villareal, never repeats a pattern and is turned off during peak bird migration season. She then highlighted that the museum is offering free admission in the month of July, as well as their regularly offered free admission on the second Saturday of every month. She also highlighted the process for how exhibits are selected for the Figge, including those that are procured through the National Gallery loan program.

4. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**

- *REDEEM/East Moline* – Ms. Wolber informed the group that work on the RAISE grant project was continuing in East Moline, with construction on 12th Avenue hopefully being completed this year.
- *Bi-State* – Mr. Sutton informed of recent developments regarding the Centennial Bridge replacement project, noting that an open house public meeting had been held on May 20th, and that process was down to two preferred alternatives: a new bridge directly next to the current one, or a new bridge linking Marquette St. in Davenport with 11th St. in Rock Island. Mr. Burns expressed concern that a new bridge directly next to the current one would necessitate the demolition of the recently constructed park at the site of the old courthouse. Mr. Sutton brought the group's attention to upcoming grant opportunities, including the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program and Iowa Federal and State Recreational Trails.
- *Scott County* – Mr. Schaapveld said that the county's Pioneer Village event would take place on Memorial Day, that all county campgrounds are now open, and that the pool at Scott County park is currently closed.
- *River Action* – Ms. Wine reported that the Channel Cat talks had begun, and that River Action's annual Ride the Island event would take place on Father's Day (June 21). She also reported that River Action would be offering a golf cart tour of the Hennepin Canal, and that the organization's Upper Mississippi River Conference would be held in November.
- *Bettendorf* – Mr. Reiter said that the State St improvements are expected to be completed soon. Bettendorf will be hosting a meeting of the Iowa League of Cities in September. The city also recently purchased a parcel of land in the footprint of the old I-74 bridge, and had been receiving more requests for E-Bike rentals.
- *Visit Quad Cities* – Ms. Wells told the members that Visit QC is hosting a civil rights exhibit in Union Station, in collaboration with the Putnam Museum, Visit QC's free bike rental program has begun, and that craft beer week starts on May 29. She also noted that a self-guided Arsenal trail tour is being offered via mobile registration.
- *Rock Island County* – Mr. Burns said that seasonal operations were now underway, as are boat rentals.
- *LeClaire* – Mr. Danielson and Mr. Ludwig reported that the underground work on the Cody Road project has been completed, with a final completion date for the project being targeted for October. They also reported that engineering on the Eagle Ridge Rd to May St trail is underway, and will go out for bid in October, and that the first section of the Wisconsin St project is almost complete.
- *Rock Island Arsenal* – Mr. Wrenn said that the Arsenal is in the process of wrapping up its Memorial Day events and that a groundbreaking for the substation replacement would occur soon. He also noted that Moline's fireworks display will be launched from the Arsenal on July 2, and that a change of command ceremony will take place on July 14.
- *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* – Ms. Heilig informed the group that, due to staffing shortages, the auxiliary lock at Lock and Dam 14 will be unavailable for recreation this season, although the Corps hopes to have lock open for the Fourth of July and for Tugfest
- *Port Byron* – Mayor Cray announced that the manganese filtering project would begin next month, and that planning for Tugfest is currently underway. She also noted that the village had recently hosted a Memorial Day event and would have a car show at the end of June.

5. **Next Meeting.** The members were reminded that the next meeting will be on July 28, 2026. Multiple members suggested that the next meeting could be held at the Figge, and Ms. Aaronson Martin said that the Figge would be happy to host.
6. **Other Business.** None
7. **Adjournment.** Mr. Burns moved to adjourn the meeting, and Ms. Wolber seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.