

**BI-STATE DEVELOPMENT
SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE MEETING
(VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM)
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
April 8, 2021 8:30 AM**

Committee Members Participating via Zoom

Rose Windmiller
Vernal Brown
Fred Pestello

Herbert Simmons, Chair
Derrick Cox
Irma Golliday – Absent

Other Commissioners Participating via Zoom

Nate Johnson – joined meeting at 8:35 AM
Sam Gladney – Absent

Terry Beach
Justin Zimmerman

Staff Participating via Zoom

Taulby Roach, President and Chief Executive Officer
Barbara Enneking, General Counsel and Deputy Secretary
Myra Bennett, Manager of Board Administration
Brenda Deertz, Administrator / Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
Stephen Berry, General Manager - Public Safety
Kevin Scott, Director - Public Safety
Jessica Mefford-Miller, Executive Director Metro Transit

Others Participating via Zoom

St. Louis County Police Captain Melissa Webb, Police Task Force Commander
Hannah Jones, ASL Interpreter
Nicole Devore, ASL Interpreter

- 1. Open Session Call to Order**
8:30 a.m. Chair Simmons called the Open Session of the Bi-State Development Agency, Safety & Security Committee Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
- 2. Roll Call**
8:30 a.m. Roll call was taken, as noted above.
- 3. Public Comment**
8:31 a.m. Chair Simmons asked Ms. Bennett if any speaker cards were submitted for today's meeting. Ms. Bennett noted that no comment cards were submitted.

4. **Approval of the Minutes of the January 14, 2021, Safety & Security Committee, Open Meeting**

8:31 a.m. The minutes of the January 14, 2021 Safety & Security Committee, Open Meeting, were provided in the Committee packet for review. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Pestello and seconded by Commissioner Windmiller. **The motion passed.**

5. **Approval of Minutes of the February 8, 2021 Safety & Security Committee, Special Meeting, Open Meeting**

8:32 a.m. The minutes of the February 8, 2021 Safety & Security Committee, Special Meeting, Open Meeting, were provided in the Committee packet for review. Commissioner Cox noted that he would like an amendment to the minutes, under Item #5, regarding his opposition to moving into Executive Session. Discussion was held regarding this issue. (Commissioner Nate Johnson entered the meeting at approximately 8:35 a.m.)

Commissioner Cox made a motion to amend the minutes by adding a sentence, under Item #5 to note that he “believes that moving into Executive, Closed Session, just because the conversation is difficult is not right.” The motion to amend was seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman. A roll call vote was taken, as follows:

Rose Windmiller – Abstain
Vernal Brown – Abstain
Fred Pestello – Yea
Nate Johnson – Yea

Derrick Cox – Yea
Justin Zimmerman – Yea
Herbert Simmons – Nay
Terry Beach – Nay

The motion passed.

A motion to approve the minutes, as amended, was made by Commissioner Zimmerman and seconded by Commissioner Cox. **The motion passed.**

6. **Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Normandy, MO Police Department for Secondary Police Officers**

8:41 a.m. A briefing paper was provided in the meeting materials, regarding a request that the Committee accept, and refer to the Board of Commissioners for approval, authorization of the President and CEO to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Normandy, Missouri, Police Department, in order to obtain the services of secondary Normandy Police Officers. A presentation regarding this item was provided by Kevin Scott, Director of Public Safety.

Commissioner Cox asked how many officers the contract will add to the security staff. Mr. Scott stated that he is not sure at this point, due to the fact that this will be voluntary on the part of the Police Officers; however, it is his understanding that several officers have expressed interest. Commissioner Cox asked what the incentive is for the Police Officers to participate. Mr. Scott noted that the transit system runs through their jurisdiction, and the secondary pay is very competitive. Commissioner Windmiller posed questions regarding the weapons that these officers would be using. Mr. Scott noted that they would be using weapons issued through the Normandy Police Department. Commissioner Windmiller asked if the Officers would be wearing their Normandy Police uniforms. Mr. Scott noted that they would be wearing a basic Police Officer uniform and would not include a Normandy badge. Commissioner Windmiller asked if

these secondary officers would have jurisdiction in both Missouri and Illinois. It was noted that the Officers will have jurisdiction in St. Louis County and St. Louis City, but not in Illinois.

A motion to approve the item as submitted was made by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Cox. **The motion passed.**

7. **Law Enforcement Services Agreement between Bi-State Development Agency and St. Clair County, Illinois for services provided by the St. Clair County, Illinois Sheriff's Department 8:48 a.m.** A briefing paper was provided in the meeting materials, regarding a request that the Committee accept, and refer to the Board of Commissioners for approval, authorization of the President and CEO to approve the renewal of the Law Enforcement Services Agreement with St. Clair County, Illinois. A presentation regarding this item was provided by Kevin Scott, Director of Public Safety, noting that this is the primary contract for law enforcement services for St. Clair County. It is not the contract for secondary police officers. He noted that this contract is currently a one year, year to year, contract, and the current contract is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2021. Commissioner Cox asked the dollar amount of the contract. Commissioner Windmiller noted that the information contained in the Board packet indicates a not to exceed amount of \$1,848,904.68.

A motion to approve the item as submitted was made by Commissioner Beach and seconded by Commissioner Windmiller. **The motion passed.**

8. **Update – Change to NIBRS from UCR Crime Reporting 8:50 a.m.** A verbal presentation regarding this item was provided by Stephen Berry, General Manager of Public Safety. He noted that the transition from the UCR system to the NIBRS system will allow for more details to be submitted in reports regarding incidents. Mr. Berry stated that Metro is currently in the process of transition to the NIBRS system. He also noted that due to the uniqueness of 2020, including COVID and reduced ridership, it will be difficult to compare numbers at the beginning of this changeover.

Commissioner Zimmerman asked Mr. Berry what he feels are the top two to three metrics to be reviewed regarding performance. Mr. Berry stated that he feels the top three metrics would be 1) alignment by location, to identify the most active areas, 2) the types of activity reported, and 3) the frequency. Commissioner Cox asked if the new system will be more detailed. Mr. Berry stated that the NIBRS system is considerably more detailed. Being no further discussion, Chair Simmons noted that this item was provided as information only.

9. **Annual Updates to Working Documents (PTASP, SSP and EOP) 8:55 a.m.** A verbal update was provided by Stephen Berry, General Manager of Public Safety, noting that revisions and updates to PTASP, SSP and EOP documents have been completed and forwarded for review by Safety Oversight. He noted that once those reviews are completed, the information will be coming before the Board of Commissioners for review. Mr. Berry stated that the updated plan includes a pandemic plan. Chair Simmons noted that this item was provided as information only.

10. Training Update

8:58 a.m. A verbal update was provided by Stephen Berry, General Manager of Public Safety, noting that the opportunity arose through grant support to promote additional training. He noted that trauma-informed and de-escalation training is currently being conducted on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, which is open to all Bi-State staff and its contractors. He stated that also included is training regarding human trafficking, safety and security awareness, and drugs and alcohol. Mr. Berry noted that over 200 certifications have been issued in these training areas, and he reported that steps were taken to ensure that these training sessions are POST certified trainings for our law enforcement partners, so that they will count towards their continuing education units. Mr. Berry also reported that a "Truckers Against Trafficking" event will be held on June 17th, which will include information from local law enforcement and survivors. He noted that this is a national event, and he anticipates that approximately 50 attendees will participate. Mr. Berry stated that the Agency is also providing additional training in the areas of Public Safety, including Systems Security, Industrial Safety, and Safety Management Systems, through the National Safety Training Institute. Chair Simmons noted that this item was provided as information only.

11. Unscheduled Business

9:00 a.m. Chair Simmons requested that an update be provided to the Committee, regarding the monies paid by each County with regard to Safety & Security issues. President/CEO Roach stated that this information will be forwarded to the Board.

Commissioner Pestello noted that, with regard to the key performance indicators that were discussed earlier, in addition to the data that will be provided to the Committee, it would be helpful, if a report on a finite set of key performance indicators, for example 5-10 key indicators, could be provided to the Committee at every Safety and Security Committee meeting, with graphics. Commissioner Pestello asked that this be a one or two page report, so that the Committee can get a crisp, clear picture of the trends, meeting by meeting.

Commissioner Cox stated that he agrees with Commissioner Pestello. Commissioner Cox also stated that he feels that the more we can outsource the Agency's security to the police officers, the better. He stated that the Agency may need to move some money around, or perhaps more money is needed, but how do we get more police officers on the system.

Commissioner Simmons stated that this has been done in St. Clair County. He stated that the St. Clair County Transit District, early last year, took the initiative to put more Deputy Sheriffs on the system. Mr. Scott agreed, and stated that this was not only with primary deployment, but also included secondary deployment, and a high visibility blitz.

Commissioner Cox posed questions regarding the status of the current communication system. Mr. Scott stated that the infrastructure is in place; however, at some point, previous to his employment with Bi-State, the City and St. Louis County chose to move to their own dispatchers, instead of operating on the public safety dispatch channel that we have. He stated that, when this happened, the St. Clair County Deputies remained on that channel. Mr. Scott reported that, in September 2019, we found that the system was in place, and there is a secondary channel that is available. He stated that we would like to get to the point that everyone is on the same system; however, there are issues to be worked out regarding dispatch. Mr. Scott noted that a dispatch to

dispatch situation, or point to point system, is being used currently; however, the goal is to get all law enforcement partners on the same channel. Additional discussion was held.

Commissioner Simmons stated that the technology is there, and has been there; there are just some logistical issues and political issues that have not been worked out yet. Commissioner Simmons stated that he would like to keep this issue as a priority.

Commissioner Cox asked if there is a specific political issue involved, and why the issue cannot be resolved.

President/CEO Roach stated that, in the past, part of the issue was that not all of the law enforcement partners were under contract. He noted that in the past two years, he and staff have managed to get all of the partners under contract, as well as to provide secondary contracts to provide more Police Officers on the system. He stated that there have been issues dealing with the contractual partnerships. Mr. Roach noted that interim steps have been taken to improve communications between the law enforcement partners. Commissioner Cox asked if there is one specific political issue involved and who is holding up this process. President/CEO Roach stated that it involves complicated issues, and there is no one, specific issue holding up the process. He noted that the Agency has been working to gain confidence of all of the partners, and have worked for months working through contractual understandings with all of the partners. He stated that now that the Agency has built those relationships, he is hopeful to move to the next step. Commissioner Zimmerman stated that he understands that progress is being made; however, if there is anything that the individual Board Members can do to help move the process along, to please let them know.

12. President / CEO Report

9:16 a.m. President/CEO Roach reported that Mr. Scott is still offering facility tours for anyone who is interested, and he urged the Commissioners to participate, if they have not already done so.

He noted that under the Peace App program, Bi-State Development has been nominated by both MoDOT and IDOT, to receive a reward for its work regarding pandemic preparedness. Mr. Roach also noted that he attended an East-West Gateway meeting, and questions were posed regarding security and the Agency's Compact Agreement. He noted that staff has drafted a memorandum, which will be presented at the April 23rd meeting, regarding a process for potential revisions to the Compact agreement, as well as a review of the entire document. He stated that he anticipates that the Board may wish to form an ad hoc committee to look at these issues.

Mr. Roach stated that coordination continues through the Joint Task Force. He noted that Captain Webb, Joint Task Force, is in attendance at today's meeting. He noted that Joint Task Force data will be sent to the Board today.

Captain Webb addressed the Board, noting that from the statistical data, performance metrics, she has seen, there is a decrease in Part 1 crimes, and also an increase in proactivity.

Commissioner Simmons asked how many Police Officers are riding the system daily. Captain Webb stated that over 14 St. Louis County Police Officers are on the system today, as well as three to four St. Louis City Police Officers.

Commissioner Pestello asked Captain Webb what is the greatest challenge at this point. Captain Webb stated that the greatest challenge is radio communications.

Chair Simmons thanked Captain Webb for her participation in today's meeting.

13. Motion to move Executive Session (if needed)

9:22 a.m. Chair Simmons noted that the only item for consideration for the Executive Session agenda is the Approval of the Minutes of the February 8, 2021 Safety & Security Committee, Special Meeting, Executive Session. He stated that, if there are no corrections to these minutes, and no discussion is needed, the Board could proceed to a vote, without going into Executive Session.

Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2021 Safety & Security Committee, Special Meeting, Executive Session, as presented, as a closed record. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Windmiller.

The poll of the Board being:

Rose Windmiller – Yea
Vernal Brown – Yea
Fred Pestello – Yea
Nate Johnson – Yea

Herbert Simmons – Yea
Derrick Cox – Yea
Terry Beach – Yea
Justin Zimmerman – Yea

The motion passed.

14. Adjournment

9:23 a.m. Chair Simmons asked if there was any further business; being none, Commissioner Pestello made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Windmiller. Unanimous vote in favor was taken. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:23 a.m.


Deputy Secretary to the Board of Commissioners
Bi-State Development