



Upper Mississippi River International Port District

3651 Crim Drive, Savanna, IL

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 5th, 2026

Time: 13:00 CDT

Location: Board Room
3651 Crim Drive
Savanna, IL 61074

I. Call to Order

A roll call was held. Commissioners Steve Keeffer, Jeff Doran, Tim Wand, and Susan Jacobs were present.

A quorum was met.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

Guests in attendance were Sara Renkes (Carroll County Engineer), Aimee Martelle (Riverport Railroad), Ed Britton (USFWS), Linda Balcom (Balcom Environmental), Alan Meyers (WSP), Scott Sigman (EASE), and Chris Faulk (Public), Hendrica Regez (Public), Robert Walton (Public), Sandra Walton (Public), Lynn Werner (Public), Jim (Public) Michele (Public), Mary (Public).

UMRIPD staff member, Rob Davies, was present.

II. Approval of the Agenda –

- a. “Riverview Campus Lots 1 and 2” mentioned under New Business should instead read “Riverview Campus Lots 2 and 3”.

Commissioner Jacobs motioned to approve the meeting agenda, seconded by Commissioner Doran, approved by voice vote unanimously.

III. Approval of January Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Doran motioned to approve the January minutes, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs, approved by voice vote unanimously.

IV. On-going Business

- a. **Port Master Plan:** Mr. Meyers gave a presentation on the Port Master Plan. Commissioner Jacobs requested a copy of the plan. Ms. Roche advised that the presentation would be available to the public in the coming weeks.

Commissioner Jacobs motioned to adopt the Port Master Plan, seconded by Commissioner Wand. Motion passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

- b. **Capital Improvement Program:** Commissioner Keeffer provided an update.

IV. New Business

A. Bills over \$2500 –

Chastain & Associates – \$2,952.60 – Invoice 9427-06 – CIP Funds
Valu Pros – \$9,000 – Invoice VP-25-210 – CIP Funds
Valu Pros – \$9,000 – Invoice VP-25-211 – CIP Funds

Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to approve all bills totaling \$20,952.60. Commissioner Wand seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

B. Resolution 2025/2: Signatory Authorization for Property Purchases

Commissioner Wand made a motion to approve the authorization allowing Steve Keeffer to sign on behalf of the Port District. Commissioner Jacobs seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

C. Purchase of Riverview Campus Lots 2 & 3 from JCDLRA

Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to approve the purchase of Riverview Campus Lots 2 & 3 from the JCDLRA for \$112,400. Commissioner Doran seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

D. Purchase of 3077 School Lane from Camille Rangel

Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to approve the purchase of 3077 School Lane and 3231 McIntyre Road from Camille Rangel for \$141,000. Commissioner Wand seconded the motion. Motion passed

unanimously by roll-call vote.

E. Purchase of 3231 McIntyre Road from Camille Rangel

Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to approve the purchase of 3077 School Lane and 3231 McIntyre Road from Camille Rangel for \$141,000. Commissioner Wand seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

- F. UMRIPD Website** – Mr. Davies noted that the UMRIPD required a new, dedicated website. Mr. Davies noted that the current arrangement where UMRIPD agendas, minutes and notices were shared on the LRA website was not feasible any longer, as there is a large amount of data. As public interest in UMRIPD activities continues to grow, a dedicated website would be the best option. Mr. Davies received a quote from the service provider that manages the current JCDLRA website, stating that that service provider would be able to build a website for UMRIPD at an estimated cost of \$4,500 with an annual administrative fee of \$600. These funds would have to come from the UMRIPD’s development account, as CIP grant funds cannot be used for the website.

Commissioner Wand made a motion to approve the development of an UMRIPD website up to the cost of \$4,500 with an annual administrative fee of up to \$600. Commissioner Jacobs seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

VI. Reports

- a. Secretary.** Nothing to report.

- b. Treasurer.**

Citizens State Bank:

Previous Balance: \$828,552.35

Interest Earned 1/31/26: \$1,864.07

Interest Earned 2/28/26: \$1,687.05

Current Balance: \$831,570.47

Checks Cleared:

#1009 – Chastain & Associates \$533.00

Checks written since 2/28/26:

Check #1010 – Camille Rangel - \$119,700 for 3077 School Drive

Check #1011 – Camille Rangel - \$21,300 for 3231 McIntyre Road

Apple River State Bank

Previous Balance: \$31,145.48

Checks Cleared & Fees:

#1002 – Jo-Carroll Depot LRA - \$24,708.20

Annual Debit Card Fee - \$12.00

Current Balance: \$6,425.28

- c. Jo-Carroll Local Redevelopment Authority.** The LRA board meeting was held 3/4/2026 at 15:00.

VII. Public Comment –

- Mr. Falk asked Ms. Balcom if there was any info on the mortality rate of the mussels in Option 1 of the Port Master plan. Ms. Balcom stated that while there was no data on the mortality rate, thorough monitoring would be done with both USFWS and IDNR on mussels and mussel beds, regardless of what Master Plan option realizes.
- Mr. Falk stated that through his own research he found that relocating the mussels could cause a mortality rate of 50%, and asked Mr. Meyers if he thought that was acceptable. Mr. Meyers responded that he believes it is an issue to be studied in the future of the project by organizations that are equipped to make such studies. Mr. Meyers and Ms. Balcom stated that IDNR and USFWS would be the parties handling such studies. Mr. Davies informed Mr. Falk that it would be the federal and state agencies deciding what acceptable mortality levels would be, not UMRIPD.
- Mr. Sigman asked Mr. Meyers if there were any estimated costs for Variation One in the Port Master Plan. Mr. Meyers stated that there is not a formal cost associated with Variation One but noted that the much shorter conveyance system in that option would likely be significantly less expensive.
- Mr. Falk asked Mr. Meyers who served on the technical advisory committee for the Port Master Plan. Mr. Meyers stated that the Army C.O.E., the Army, USFWS, IDNR, Illinois DCEO, Jo Daviess and Carroll Counties, and the Illinois and US EPA were all part of the committee, whether formally or informally. Mr. Falk was concerned that there were no barge operators on the committee, as he is concerned about the currents and the wing dams. Mr. Meyers stated that private industries and barge operators were discussed with separately on the viability of the port options, and that all parties contacted advised that barge operations were viable in the area.
- Mr. Falk asked if revenue projections included a winter shut-down period, to

which Mr. Meyers stated a shut-down was factored into the projections.

- Mr. Falk asked if any modifications would be done to Apple River Island based on Option One. Mr. Meyers stated that there would be some modification to the island. Mr. Falk asked if USFWS had been made aware of the possibility of modification done to Apple River Island. Mr. Meyers stated that USFWS had made their position clear, and many discussions have been made so that both UMRIPD and USFWS can accomplish their missions.
- Ms. Regez asked how the terminal location would be decided on and what the next steps are. Mr. Meyers stated that next steps would be to acquire funding for future analyses, continued discussions with the regulatory authorities, and preapplication for permitting.
- Ms. Regez asked if another contract would be needed with the consultants. Mr. Meyers informed Ms. Regez the IDOT funded work had concluded with the delivery of the Port Master Plan, and how UMRIPD wanted to continue is at the Port Authority's discretion.
- Ms. Regez asked Commissioner Keeffer what UMRIPD's next step would be since the IDOT funded work was completed. Commissioner Keeffer stated the next step would be to locate grants and funding for the next steps in the permitting process. Mr. Davies stated that this is also an excellent time to contact private entities for public-private partnerships, as the future port provides many economic opportunities to a variety of industries.
- Mr. Falk asked if there would be another public meeting on the Port Master Plan. Mr. Meyers stated that there would be another meeting via Zoom or Teams and the date was to be decided. Mr. Falk asked if there would more in-person public meetings. Mr. Meyers, Ms. Balcom, and Commissioner Keeffer all advised that there would be no more in-person meetings for the Port Master Plan, but that there is the possibility of in-person meetings throughout the permitting process. Commissioner Keeffer advised that there will be future opportunities for public feedback to the Regulatory Committees as the project moves forward. Ms. Balcom advised that the Army COE would be the ones providing any meetings and would be the main agency soliciting public feedback.

VIII. Adjournment

Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Doran, to adjourn at 2:39 pm CDT, unanimously approved by voice vote.