

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

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Timothy Huey  
Director

To: Dee F Bruemmer, County Administrator

From: Timothy Huey, Planning Director

Date: January 10, 2013

**Re: Presentation from Quad Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau on the proposed use of the proceeds from the sale of the Mississippi Valley Welcome Center property.**

In June of 2011 a combined task force of the QCCVB and the MVWC Board recommended that the Mississippi Valley Welcome Center be closed and the property sold. At that time the task force's recommendation on closure stated: "a plan should include how the proceeds from any sale could best be used jointly by the parties to enhance visitor services in the QCA. Ultimately any plan on the disposition of sale proceeds would have to be approved by all the participating local governments."

A year ago on December 31, 2011 the Mississippi Valley Welcome Center was closed and the property offered for sale. Prior to that, in November, 2011, the Cities of Davenport and Bettendorf, assigned their interest in the property to Scott County to facilitate the sale. Scott County held a public hearing on November 22, 2011 to hear comments on that transfer of interest from all three cities, including the City of LeClaire. The City of LeClaire never approved that transfer so therefore the offer to purchase was approved by both the City of LeClaire and Scott County following public hearings on the sale.

The Mississippi Valley Welcome Center Board recommended approval of the purchase agreement from the Markman Peat Corporation to purchase the property for \$550,000 with conditions. The net proceeds from the sale were \$522,413 and following payment of invoices for the nearly one year of holding costs for the maintenance of the building which are estimated to be approximately \$18,000, the resulting final net proceeds should be just over \$500,000.

Joe Taylor, and Margo McInnis from the QCCVB and myself will present the proposed use of those proceeds by the QCCVB for the enhancement of visitor services.