

Savannah Georgia Convention Center Authority

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, March 12, 2025, 11:00am

Via onsite Jasper Boardroom and teleconference ~ Savannah Convention Center

Members present: Bert Brantley, Ruth Quattlebaum Edwards, Pat Farrell, Joe Marinelli, Martin Miller, Mark Smith, Ansley Williams **Members absent:** Ben Polote Jr., Anne Scheer, Pritpal Singh, Trip Tollison **Also present:** Paul Threlkeld, Frank Poe(Consultant-via Zoom), Stephen Hall (Consultant-via Zoom), Kevin Duvall (GWCCA), Yong Choe (YC Consulting-via zoom), Bobby Knowles (Songy Highroads-via Zoom), Michael Garcia (Matthews Southwest-via Zoom), Todd Nocerini (Songy Highroads-via Zoom), Lee Hughes (Hughes Public Affairs-via Zoom), Jeff Bleam, and SCC staff: Kelvin Moore, Ronnie Hickman, Staci Stover, Holly Jenkins, Jamie Parks, Jackie Mitchell, Al Rojas, Gail Terrell and Marc McDuffie.

Chairman Smith convened the meeting at 11:01am.

Chairman Smith asked for approval of the Minutes and Treasurer's report. Motion made by Ms. Quattlebaum Edwards; seconded by Mr. Farrell and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Counsel Report. Mr. Threlkeld stated no report at this time.

External Affairs Report. Mr. Hughes reported on the ongoing collection of delegation letters with regard to requested monies for the upcoming federal budget. Mr. Choe confirmed that the House recently passed the funding bill. Mr. Choe commented that specific funding requests will be made to Senators Ossoff and Warnock as well as Congressman Carter. Mr. Hughes commented that grants are being pursued as well.

Financial Report. Ms. Jenkins reported favorable gross event income, unfavorable direct and indirect expenses for February to the Convention Center. Ms. Jenkins then continued to report unfavorable income and expenses to the Authority budget.

Hotel Development Report. Mr. Nocerini stated that the hotel plans were released to Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) this week with final drawings expected in the first week of May. Mr. Garcia stated that the term sheets are currently under review by the Attorneys. Mr. Nocerini also stated that GW Power is currently onsite reviewing power lines and determining the scheduled date to relocate the transformers. Chairman Smith commented that the City of Savannah's Chief of Planning and Economic Development, Faye DiMassimo, agreed to be the Point of Contact with any changes to the hotel/motel tax agreements with the city.

General Manager's Report. Mr. Moore introduced the Assistant Director of Food & Beverage, Marc McDuffie and the Interim Director of Sales, Staci Stover to the board. Mr. Moore then commented on a successful opening to the expansion which began with a preview media tour, followed by NIKE Savannah Showdown, Tourism Leadership Council (TLC) Tourism Awards and the State of the Port luncheon. Mr. Moore reviewed the Public Relations report which included Earned Media and Industry Features. Mr. Moore also commented on a potential expansion ribbon cutting date on April 30 with Familiarization (FAM) tours scheduled at SCC on April 29 and May 1.

Operations Update. Mr. Hickman provided maintenance and capital updates. To Chairman Smith's question regarding the bulkhead repair completion date, Mr. Hickman replied at the end of June 2025 to early July 2025.

Parking Update. Mr. Rojas provided an update on the new parking operations system, Metropolis which included kick off and results, successes and lessons learned. To Vice-Chairman Marinelli's question with regard to parking information to be provided to applicable future groups and events, Mr. Rojas affirmed.

Chairman Report. Chairman Smith requested a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss potential real estate. Motion by Mr. Miller; seconded by Mr. Williams and approved by unanimous voice vote. Executive Session convened at 12:00pm and ended at 12:40 pm with a motion by Mr. Brantley; seconded by Mr. Marinelli. and approved with unanimous voice vote. Regular board meeting session reconvened at 12:40 pm.

Chairman Smith asked for any other business; hearing none, then adjourned the meeting at 12:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bert Brantley, Secretary/Treasurer