

LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
FROM THE MEETING OF JUNE 18, 2014 MEETING

PRESENT: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Dave Roberts

ABSENT: Gregg Patterson, Bill Windham

I. ROLL CALL and WELCOME

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Forman and there was a quorum for the meeting.

Chairman Forman advised the public of its right to speak between each agenda item and at the end of the meeting.

On motion of Commissioner Melara, seconded by Commissioner Bruno, the Minutes of the May 21, 2014 Board Meeting were adopted. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Dave Roberts. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Gregg Patterson, Bill Windham.

II. SMG REPORT

Doug Thornton began the monthly SMG Report. He covered the following important topics: A Capital Outlay Fund Report for the Superdome and Zephyr Stadium; planned capital upgrades for Superdome and Zephyr Stadium; an update on fiscal projections for year end; a Smoothie King Center construction update; and a summary of Champions Square capital needs.

In response to comments by Commissioner Bruno concerning major events such as the World Cup, Mr. Thornton provided historical information concerning past soccer events and possible options for soccer events leading up to the 2018 World Cup.

Evan Holmes then provided his report including: a summary of the Capital Outlay efforts in the 2014 Legislature; the remaining available funds for Zephyr Stadium; the next round of capital enhancements at TPC-Louisiana; and the status of the Centerplate Concession Agreement.

Alan Freeman then provided the SMG Report concerning event activity on the campus including: New Orleans VooDoo games; the Tulane Commencement Ceremony; the Bruno Mars Concert; the rescheduling of the Paul McCartney Concert; the hosting of the Jehovah's Witness Convention and the immediate planning for the 2014 Essence Festival. Upcoming events include: the completion of the VooDoo football schedule; 8 shows by Ringling Brothers Circus; the Justin Moore Concert; the Essence Festival and Marvel Universe Live.

On the long term horizon, bid preparation for future NCAA Final Fours (both Men's and Women's) are underway. Negotiations with the Department of Justice continue regarding the impact of the Consent Decree for off duty police officer work. SMG is taking ownership of the Wi-Fi system installed prior to the 2013 Super Bowl at a very reasonable price of \$300,000 to acquire that system. The streets around the Superdome have now been restriped.

To conclude his report, Mr. Freeman introduced the new Communications Director, Ricky Zeller who returns to New Orleans from the Green Bay Packers. Mr. Zeller also spent several years on the New Orleans Saints' staff.

Following comments from Commissioner Bruno concerning efforts to re-energize the Bayou Classic, Mr. Thornton provided a quick history on the Bayou Classic including its general attendance figures for the past several years. Mr. Freeman then highlighted steps that have been taken by the two universities to promote the event and add creative options to enhance the Bayou Classic experience. Also, there has been some discussion about moving the game to the beginning of the season rather than Thanksgiving weekend as that might enhance interest and help attendance.

III. FINANCE REPORT

David Weidler then provided the Financial Report as follows: The Hotel/Motel Tax finished the year up 12% at a record \$46.9M. The slot revenue is slightly below budget. The license plate revenue is slightly above budget. He is waiting on the player tax information, but that is a pass through number to the Saints and Pelicans. Regarding the facilities themselves, the Superdome is tracking on budget as is the Smoothie King Center. Champions Square is a bit below budget but several events are on the calendar. The Capital Reserve Fund is at \$2.7M, with several projects being approved by the LSED at today's meeting.

IV. CONSTRUCTION REPORT

Pat Tobler then provided a Construction Report for the LSED including: Phase II work is on budget and on schedule at the Smoothie King Center and an anticipated completion date of early October. Due to its age and condition, the Plaza Level flooring of the Superdome needs replacement with terrazzo tile and a non-skid surface. The Smoothie King Center exterior will receive an industrial coating/painting that will lighten the color; LED lighting will be added to the exterior of the building; the carpet on the 200 of the Superdome is being replaced after the Essence Festival.

At Champions Square, work is underway with the palm tree project.

At the Alario Center, Hall "A", the roofing and air-conditioning work is essentially complete. There are a few small warranty items. At Hall "B", the barrel roof has been replaced along with the air-conditioning system. The flooring work on Hall "C" will resume soon. The Marquee work is nearly complete with only punchlist items remaining.

At Zephyr Field, the strategic plan is progressing. Negotiations continue with the Zephyrs concerning capital outlay and lease extension issues. There is ongoing roof work at this time. The LSED has approximately \$500,000 of capital outlay dedicated to portions of the strategic plan and that work will begin in the off season.

At TPC-Louisiana, there is no current work underway, but Even Holmes is working with Luke Farabaugh to prioritize a \$1M capital outlay project for the next year.

V. LEGAL REPORT

Mr. Roedel then handled the Legal Report as follows:

Following discussion by the Commissioners, Pat Tobler and Doug Thornton, on motion of Commissioner Bruno, seconded by Commissioner Melara, the LSED authorized and approved a Contract with Brazos Industries, L.L.C., as the successful low bidder for the Superdome Roof Recoating Project, for the Base Bid, plus Alternates 1 and 3, totaling \$1,323,849, with \$25,000 to be paid by the New Orleans Louisiana Saints, L.L.C., and with the LSED total being \$1,298,849. Chairman Forman is authorized to sign the Contract once it is in final form and it will be ratified thereafter. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Dave Roberts. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Gregg Patterson, Bill Windham. The **motion 14-44** passed.

After explanations by Doug Thornton and David Weidler, on motion of Commissioner Brignac, seconded by Commissioner Bruno, the LSED authorized and approved a Capital Reserve Account appropriation of \$3,408,499 to cover projects and equipment purchases at the Superdome, the Smoothie King Center and Champions Square. Where required, competitive proposals, through the procurement process, will be obtained. Where necessary, any contracts or amendments that require LSED approval will be brought back to the LSED at a public meeting for approval and ratification. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Dave Roberts. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Gregg Patterson, Bill Windham. The **motion 14-45** passed.

On motion of Commissioner Melara, seconded by Commissioner Bruno, the LSED authorized and approved ASR No. 17 as part of the close out process with the Contract between the LSED and AECOM Louisiana for the New Orleans Arena 2012 Enhancement Project, Phase I. The signature of Pat Tobler is hereby ratified. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Dave Roberts. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Gregg Patterson, Bill Windham. The **motion 14-46** passed.

On motion of Commissioner Brignac, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, the LSED authorized and approved the Letter Engagement Agreement with LaPorte CPAs to compile and finalize the Annual Fiscal Report for the LSED for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. Chairman Forman is hereby authorized to sign the Letter Engagement Agreement for the LSED. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Dave Roberts. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Gregg Patterson, Bill Windham. The **motion 14-47** passed.

On motion of Commissioner Melara, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, the LSED authorized and approved the Letter Engagement Agreement with LaPorte CPAs to provide the Annual Basic Financial Statements for the LSED for the year ending June 30, 2014. Chairman Forman is hereby authorized to sign the Letter Engagement Agreement on behalf of the LSED. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Dave Roberts. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Gregg Patterson, Bill Windham. The **motion 14-48** passed.

On motion of Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Bruno, the LSED authorized and approved the Contract for Professional Services between the LSED and LaPorte CPAs for general accounting services to cover the fiscal year of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. Chairman Forman is hereby authorized to sign that Contract for the LSED. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Dave Roberts. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Gregg Patterson, Bill Windham. The **motion 14-49** passed.

Following discussion by the Commissioners, on motion of Commissioner Brignac, seconded by Commissioner Bruno, the LSED authorized and approved the renewal of the Contract for Professional Legal Services between the LSED and Roedel Parsons Koch Blache Balhoff & McCollister for July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 at rates to be set by the Attorney General's Fee Schedule. Chairman Forman is hereby authorized to sign the Contract on behalf of the LSED. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Dave Roberts. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Gregg Patterson, Bill Windham. The **motion 14-50** passed.

VI. BOARD REPORTS

None.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no need for an Executive Session today. The Louisiana Sports and Entertainment District meeting was cancelled.

Thereafter Lydia Folse spoke on behalf of the Alario Center to thank the Board, SMG and Pat Tobler for their combined efforts to bring capital improvements to the Alario Center. She also reported on upcoming events at the Alario Center and welcomed and invited our attendance.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Forman then adjourned the meeting upon motion of Commissioner Bruno and unanimous consent of all Commissioners.