

LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
FROM THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2014 MEETING

PRESENT: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Gregg Patterson

ABSENT: Dave Roberts, 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.

Chairman Forman recognized Ed Daniels with WGNO TV who spoke concerning the January 2015 High School Basketball Tournament scheduled for the Alario Center. The Tournament attracts outstanding teams from Louisiana and nationally. The Alario Center is in need of a working scoreboard for the Tournament. Mr. Daniels is asking for the LSED's cooperation to assist in that effort. Doug Thornton and Pat Tobler then provided updated information concerning this subject as did Evan Holmes. It is possible that alternative rental scoreboards are available. The SMG Staff will work with the Alario Center to determine how best to address the situation.

On motion of Commissioner Melara, seconded by Commissioner Brignac, the Minutes of the October 28, 2014 Board Meeting were adopted. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Gregg Patterson. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Dave Roberts, Bill Windham.

II. SMG REPORT

Doug Thornton then provided the SMG Report including: the reopening of the newly renovated Smoothie King Center; the Capital Outlay request made by the November 1st date; the excellent growth of the Hotel/Motel Tax revenue stream; and infrastructure improvements at Zephyr Field.

Evan Holmes then supplemented the SMG Report by providing an update concerning: the Capital Outlay process; plans for Zephyr Field improvements; an update on the new Centerplate Agreement; capital projects at TPC-Louisiana and the Alario Center; and lastly the departure of Nick Shatz who is taking a new position in New York. The Commission congratulated Nick Shatz on his service to SMG and the LSED.

Doug Thornton then provided additional information concerning proposals submitted to host NCAA Final Four events (both Men's and Women's) and the efforts by Alan Freeman's team in Indianapolis to accomplish those goals. By history, New Orleans hosts a Men's Final Four every 8-10 years, which is a tremendous track record compared to other major cities. The competition for major events is steep with other cities being well funded in terms of Host Committee responsibilities. Chairman Forman and Commissioner Bruno then provided input concerning this general subject. New Orleans remains a viable competitor on the national stage and its proposals were excellent with help from Tulane, UNO, the Sun Belt Conference, the Sugar Bowl, the Saints and the Pelicans, the New Orleans Sports Foundation, the Convention & Visitor's Bureau and SMG.

Alan Freeman then provided a report on event activity including: recent Saints home games including attendance and per cap expenditure information; home games for the Pelicans at the Smoothie King Center; charity events at Champions Square and on the Superdome floor; upcoming performances by Cirque du Soleil; the Bayou Classic; Joel Osteen; the LHSAA Football Championship games; the Trans-Siberian Orchestra event; Chris Brown concert; Steve Miller concert; WrestleMania; and the Bette Midler event.

Jennifer Cooke provided an update concerning the Boudin, Bourbon and Beer event at Champions Square with 50+ of the country's best chefs; and the Moonlight and Miracles event sponsored by Ochsner Hospital with a seated dinner for 1,600 people on the Superdome field.

III. FINANCE REPORT

David Weidler provided the Financial Report including: the excellent performance of the Hotel/Motel Tax being \$2M above last year at this time; below budget expenses for the LSED in terms of risk management premiums; the Superdome is out performing its budget as is the Smoothie King Center. The Legislative Auditor is concluding its work and we can expect a clean audit report.

IV. CONSTRUCTION REPORT

Pat Tobler provided the Construction Report including updates on the following: the completion of the Superdome Roof Project; the completion of the Lot 4 Chemical Storage Building; the punch list work underway at the Smoothie King Center; the Strategic Plan at Zephyr Stadium; the TPC Clubhouse renovations; the Alario Center Envelope Repairs and Lighting Retro-Fit Projects; and related project information.

V. FINANCE REPORT

Commissioner Brignac and Brian Huvall then reported concerning the Legislative Auditor's Exit Conference and an unqualified audit again this year. We can expect a good report from that Agency which is a tribute to David Weidler and his staff at SMG.

VI. LEGAL REPORT

Larry Roedel then provided the Legal Report including 5 Resolutions that required action at the LSED meeting.

On motion of Commissioner Brignac, seconded by Commissioner Patterson, the LSED authorized and approved a Capital Reserve Account appropriation of \$57,515 to pay for the review and design of upgrades to the Centerplate office space under a Purchase Order from Olde Tyme Interiors. The Resolution has the Staff Recommendation of SMG with the source of funding being the Capital Reserve Account. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Gregg Patterson. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Dave Roberts, Bill Windham. The **motion 14-80** passed.

On motion of Commissioner Bruno, seconded by Commissioner Melara, the LSED authorized and approved a review and evaluation by WJHW for the audio system in the amount of \$3,650. The Proposal has the support of The Tobler Company and SMG, with the source of funding being the Capital Reserve Account. Pat Tobler's signature will be authorized and ratified. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Gregg Patterson. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Dave Roberts, Bill Windham. The **motion 14-81** passed.

On motion of Commissioner Melara, seconded by Commissioner Bruno, the LSED authorized and approved Change Order No. 002 for \$15,851 under the Contract between the LSED and Cuzan Services, Inc. to compensate the Contractor for repairing 1,200 LF of roof cap work at the Alario Center. The Tobler Company recommendation supports the Resolution with funding from Capital Outlay. Chairman Forman and/or Pat Tobler will be authorized to sign the Change Order, after which recordation will take place in the public records of Jefferson Parish. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Gregg Patterson. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Dave Roberts, Bill Windham. The **motion 14-82** passed.

On motion of Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Bruno, the LSED authorized and approved the WJHW Proposal to design specifications and procurement of a new scoreboard and new video display system at the Alario Center for \$30,400 in fee, plus out-of-pocket expenses. The Proposal has the Staff Analysis support of The Tobler Company, with funding from Capital Outlay. Pat Tobler's signature will be authorized and ratified. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Gregg Patterson. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Dave Roberts, Bill Windham. The **motion 14-83** passed.

On motion of Commissioner Melara, seconded by Commissioner Brignac, the LSED authorized and approved the Agreement/Contract between the LSED and Billes + Ballpark Design Associates for \$50,659 as a not to exceed fee, with funding from Capital Outlay, and Chairman Forman will be authorized to sign the Agreement/Contract for the LSED. Voting in Favor: Ron Forman, J.E. Brignac, Robert Bruno, Julio Melara, Gregg Patterson. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: Dave Roberts, Bill Windham. The **motion 14-84** passed.

VII. BOARD REPORTS

None.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

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

There were no additional speakers from the general public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Patterson, and unanimously adopted, the public meeting was adjourned.