

**Vermilion County Metropolitan Exposition Auditorium
And Office Building Authority**

Minutes of the Board of Directors
May 2, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.

Present: John Spezia, Chairperson; Tara Auter, Scott Dowers, Carley Fredericks, O. J. Harrison Dylan Haun, Britny Hoag, Kim Hoffman, and Ken Salomon.

Absent: Bill Black, Maruti Seth and Dean Shore.

Attending: Joe Dunagan, Jeremiah Brady and Teri Gaffney.

Guests: None.

Call to Order: John Spezia called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the members.

Roll Call: The roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of March 2, 2022, were reviewed. ***It was moved by Ken Salomon, seconded by Carley Fredericks, and carried to approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of March 2, 2022, as presented.***

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No comments were received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee –The February and March 2021 deposits, debit card expenditures, bills paid and accounts receivable were reviewed. It was noted that the debit card account had recently been hacked and a new card is being provided. ***It was moved by Dylan Haun, seconded by Carley Fredericks and carried to accept the February 2021 and March 2021 deposits, debits, credit card charges and bills paid as presented.***

OLD BUSINESS:

Arena Signage – The board members were reminded that the remaining funds from the Hegeler bequest are being utilized to purchase a sign for the Arena. Maruti Seth provided a written update as to the signage. The original plan was that we could place the sign on the west side of the parking lot but the City of Danville has now decided that the sign should be moved further east and closer to the Arena. The City has stated that it is still waiting for the utility companies to mark the site before final approval can be given.

Board Retreat – Mr. Dunagan stated that as we now have a full roster of Board Members that we would like to again work towards the scheduling of a Board Retreat. We have worked with the Community Foundation of Central Illinois to set a proposed agenda.

The first session for the retreat would include identifying the role and responsibility of Board Members, the roles of committees, identifying 'who does what' – Board or General Manager, and to begin the discussion of the development of the Mission and Vision. Teri Gaffney will obtain available dates from the Foundation and send to the Board members to schedule the first session.

NEW BUSINESS:

Events: Mr. Dunagan reviewed the proposed schedule of events. With regards to the Kiwanis Pancake Day which is traditionally held the third Thursday in October, that would be the day prior to what could possibly be the first game of the Bobcats and October 14th is the first day that the Bobcats could practice on the ice. Thus, moving Pancake Day to October 6th would be the day just prior to the potential Trace Adkins concert. Mr. Dunagan will contact the Kiwanis organization to see if we can find another date.

With regards to Donnie Baker event, he was recently at the *Big Easy* in Danville and the event sold out. He is interested in performing at the Arena on September 10th at a cost of \$7,000 plus two hotel rooms for one night and \$500 in travel expense. It is anticipated that the ticket price may be \$30. More information will be obtained regarding the event and a contract will be sent to Mr. Mudd for review.

2022-23 Bobcats Ticket Prices – Mr. Dunagan stated that he has been advised by a representative of the Bobcat organization that the ticket prices will increase from \$10 a person to \$13 a person for the 2022-23 season. The tickets are sold through the Etix ticketing system which also has a charge which will now increase to \$2.50 per ticket. Once the ticket price is more than \$10, Etix increases its pricing to \$2.50.

It was understood that under the current contract that we are paid \$0.35 per ticket by the Bobcats.

Several members of the Board noted that the Bobcats had stated in its presentation that the ticket prices would only be \$10 and that some of the community may have concerns with the rising prices. The team has not indicated that it would be willing to assume the additional ticketing price so it will be assumed by the consumer. Thus, a ticket will likely cost approximately \$15.50.

Drainage Repair Work - The sewer repair work has been evaluated. It is believed that the source of the issues has been identified and repair work will occur on May 23rd. The repair company will be asked for documentation as to its findings. The Arena will also be asking for information as to the work that may have been done in that area earlier by another company to understand the full scope of the work.

Employee Health Insurance - Health Insurance has been discussed for several months. In the past, the health insurance had been provided for employees and then it the employees had their own policies and were reimbursed for their premiums. Presently, four (4) employees have expressed an interest in participating in an employer-provided plan.

Jim Moore and Travis Mains have met with the Ad Hoc Human Resource committee in the past and recently updated the proposal. The members reviewed two proposals. It was stated that another option is for employees seek plans through the marketplace and be reimbursed by the arena. ***It was moved by Scott Dowers, seconded by Ken Salomon, and carried to table action of the Health Insurance proposal until the Ad Hoc Committee can meet with Jim Moore and Travis Mains.***

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT – Joe Dunagan distributed his General Manager's report. He asked that the members contact him with any questions or comments they may have about the report.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Teri Gaffney distributed evaluations for the Board Members to complete and return to her. One evaluation is the 'Board Evaluation' and the other is the 'General Manager Evaluation'.

Executive Session – ***It was moved by Scott Dowers, seconded by O. J. Harrison, to recess into Executive Session to discuss litigation.*** Joe Dunagan and Jeremiah Brady were excused from the meeting (6:40 p.m.)

The Board Meeting reconvened into regular session at 7:50 p.m.

The Board discussed the potential Trace Adkins concert. It was suggested that more information be received, and a contract be obtained for review by Mr. Mudd. This will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for May 25, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.



John Spezia, Chairperson