

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

Minutes of the Board of Directors
March 1, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.

- Present:** Tara Auter, O. J. Harrison*, Kim Hoffman, Erik O’Kane, Durrell Robison, Ken Salomon, Dean Shore, and Matt Sims.
- Absent:** Bill Black, Dylan Haun, and Maruti Seth.
- Attending:** Andrew Mudd, Jeremiah Brady, Janet Payne, Dwayne Gaylor, Lindsey Kuemmerle, and Teri Gaffney.
- Guests:** Diane Short, John Montgomery, Rich Haase, Wendi, William & Samantha Sapp, Robby Swider, and Jenna Wirth. .
- Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.
- 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 February 1, 2023, were reviewed. ***It was moved by Kim Hoffman, seconded by Ken Salomon, and carried to approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of February 1, 2023, as presented.***

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Several members of the community were present to show their support for the former Dashers hockey team. Members that spoke to support the Danville Dashers, owner Barry Soskin and hockey in Danville included: John Montgomery, Diane Short, Rich Haase, Wendi & Samantha Sapp, Robby Swider and Jenna Wirth.

(*O. J. Harrison entered the meeting at 5:40 p.m.)

Ms. Short noted that over the past ten years that it is her belief that Mr. Soskin has proven to have a very successful organization and increased the attendance through the years. Ms. Wirth stated that the Dashers had always been very supportive of the sponsors and the community and was hopeful that the Board of Directors would focus on that in its decision for the future.

Chairman Shore thanked everyone for their comments and stated that the Arena has received interest from a number of owners that would like to bring hockey back to Danville. The General Manager and the Attorney will be working on a vetting process and lease to learn from past mistakes and make sure we have a team that is a good fit for the Arena and residents of Vermilion County. The Board of Directors is committed to doing everything in its power to have professional hockey back for the 2023/2024 season and hope to be able to send out a request for proposal in the coming months.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Events Committee: Ken Salomon reported that the Committee had met the week before to review the past events that had been held at the Arena as well as discuss a number of ideas for new events. The Committee members are continuing to evaluate the opportunities.

Finance Committee: Dean Shore reviewed the current financial report. It has been confirmed that the Arena does not have to provide an audit to the State for the years of 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 as we did not have more than \$300,000 in grant monies expended in those years. It was noted, however, that our Bylaws stated that we need an annual audit. ***It was moved by Dean Shore, seconded by Ken Salomon, and carried to amend the Bylaws of the Board of Directors to no longer require an audit.*** Annual financial statements will continue to be required.

With regards to the ERT monies, it has been recommended that we return the \$45,000 to the IRS as it appears that we continue to incur penalties until the monies are returned although we have yet to receive a response to our most recent inquiry. ***It was moved by Kim Hoffman, seconded by Matt Sims, and carried to return the ERT monies to the IRS.***

It was reported that the two accounts that are held at First Financial will be closed and the remaining monies will be moved to our account at Iroquois Federal.

It was moved by Dean Shore, seconded by Kim Hoffman and carried to accept the January deposits, debits, credit card charges and bills paid as presented.

Total Mechanical Proposal: The Preventative Maintenance Agreement proposal by Total Mechanical was reviewed. The proposal includes four (4) operational inspections during the year as well as emergency and trouble call coverage, refrigerant containment service, service documentation and customer assurance review evaluation. All travel expenses will be a part of this agreement. It was noted that the review of the past year's bills with the company indicate that this proposal will save the arena monies. ***It was moved by Dean Shore, seconded by Kim Hoffman, and carried to enter into a Preventative Maintenance Agreement with Total Mechanical as presented.***

General Manager Committee Report – Deferred.

OLD BUSINESS:

Arena Signage Update: Dwayne Gaylor has been corresponding with United Signs and Logan Cronk with a new plan for placement of the sign.

Lighting Proposal: Dwayne Gaylor is working with various companies to obtain lighting proposals for the Arena. It was stated that we should plan to allocate approximately \$10,000 for the project and we may need to apply for grants to complete the project.

NEW BUSINESS:

Job Description: The job description for *Events Manager* was reviewed. ***It was moved by Dean Shore, seconded by Ken Salomon, and carried to approve the Job Description of Events Manager as presented.***

Human Resource Policies: The Policy for *Inclement Weather* was reviewed. ***It was moved by Dean Shore, seconded by Kim Hoffman, and carried to accept the Inclement Weather Policy as presented.***

MANAGEMENT REPORT – Teri Gaffney highlighted the Management Report that was contained in the Board packet for the members' information.

OTHER BUSINESS:

It was moved by Dean Shore, seconded by Ken Salomon, and carried unanimously to recess into Executive Session to discuss personnel and litigation. (6:00 p.m.) Jeremiah Brady, Teri Gaffney, Dwayne Gaylor, Lindsey Kuemmerle and Janet Payne were excused from the meeting.

The Board Meeting reconvened into regular session at 6:27 p.m.

It was moved by Dean Shore, seconded by Kim Hoffman, and unanimously passed to appoint Teri Gaffney as the General Manager with an increase in salary of increase of 4% effective immediately.

Appointment of Officers: ***It was moved by Dean Shore, seconded by Ken Salomon, and passed to appoint Kim Hoffman as the Vice Chairperson of the Board of Directors. (Ayes – Auter, Harrison, O'Kane, Robinson, Salomon, Shore, Sims; Nays – none; Abstain - Hoffman).***

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for March 22, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Dean Shore, Chairman