

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

Minutes of the Board of Directors
May 3, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.

Present: Tara Auter, O. J. Harrison, Kim Hoffman, Erik O’Kane, Durrell Robison, Ken Salomon, Maruti Seth, Dean Shore, and Matt Sims.

Absent: Bill Black and Dylan Haun.

Attending: Kaylan Huber, Jeremiah Brady, Janet Payne, Dwayne Gaylor, and Teri Gaffney.

Guests: Marlys Sutton

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 March 29, 2023, were reviewed. ***It was moved by Erik O’Kane, seconded by Kim Hoffman, and carried to approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of March 29, 2023, as presented.***

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Events Committee: Ken Salomon reported that the Committee had met on April 5, 2023, with representatives of Grandstand and the Arena has an opportunity to secure Scotty McCreery for a concert. The fee is \$60,000 plus hotel rooms, meals, etc., which will bring the fees to around \$80,000. Ticket prices would begin at \$35, and we would need to sell at least 1,500. We would need to secure approximately \$20,000 in sponsorships. Mr. Salomon met with representatives of the Casino this week and they are willing to be sponsors. We will need to develop a series with the Casino. We typically need to pay one-half up front and then settle the day of the event.

Mr. Salomon reported that the Committee had a good discussion with Grandstand regarding Etix. Our contract is set to be renewed in August and Grandstand has offered to assist us with negotiations with Etix.

Mr. Salomon will work with Jeremiah Brady and Teri Gaffney on the numbers for the concert as well as Etix. ***It was moved by Dean Shore, seconded by Matt Sims, and carried to authorize Ken Salomon to offer up to \$60,000 to Grandstand to secure Scotty McCreery for a concert at the Arena.***

The Events Committee has secured a Midget Wrestling event for February 22, 2024.

Finance Committee: Dean Shore reviewed the current financial report. It was noted that the recent hotel/motel/liquor tax check was again less than anticipated.

It was moved by Dean Shore, seconded by Maruti Seth, and carried to accept the March and April 2023, deposits, debits, credit card charges and bills paid as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

Arena Signage: The City Zoning & Planning Commission has scheduled a hearing on May 8, 2023, to review the Arena's request regarding the placement of the sign.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was reported that bids are being sought for replacement of the HVAC system for the building.

Dwayne Gaylor, Facility Manager, reported that he is working with various electric suppliers to review quotes for the upcoming season.

MANAGEMENT REPORT:

The General Manager, Teri Gaffney, gave an overview of the Management Report that was contained in the Board packet. It was reported that most of the AV equipment was removed over the past week by a company hired by the Bobcats. The two large screens will remain until it can be determined how to properly remove them and repair any damage that may occur due to their removal. The Arena is continuing to work with Lewis Shine to secure the Professional Hoops Association to play games at the Arena in 2024. Mr. Robinson gave an overview of the organization.

OTHER BUSINESS:

It was moved by Dean Shore, seconded by Ken Salomon, and carried unanimously to recess into Executive Session to discuss litigation and potential future lease with a hockey team. (6:00 p.m.) Jeremiah Brady, Dwayne Gaylor and Janet Payne were excused from the meeting.

The Board Meeting reconvened into regular session at 7:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for May 25, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Dean Shore, Chairman