Vermilion County Metropolitan Exposition Auditorium
And Office Building Authority

Minutes of the Board of Directors
January 24, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.

Present: Tara Auter, Nate Byram, Kim Hoffman, Erik O'Kane, Maruti Seth, Dean Shore and Matt Sims.

Absent: Ryan Brumfield, O. J. Harrison, Dylan Haun, and Durrel Robinson.

Attending: Andrew Mudd, Dwayne Gaylor, and Teri Gaffney.

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 meetings of the Board of Directors of November 1, 2023, and November 21, 2023, were reviewed. It was recommended that the Minutes of the November 21, 2023, meeting be amended to reflect that Erik O'Kane and O. J. Harrison were present at the meeting. ***It was moved by Nate Byram, seconded by Erik O'Kane, and carried to approve the Minutes of the meeting of the November 1, 2023, Board meeting as presented and that the Minutes of the meeting of the November 21, 2023, Board meetings be approved as amended.***

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No comments received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – Dean Shore reviewed the current financial report. It was reported that the Arena is seeing a reduction in the monies received for the city hotel/motel tax for the first few months. ***It was moved by Kim Hoffman, seconded by Matt Sims, and carried to unanimously accept the November and December of 2023 deposits, debit card expenditures, bills paid, and accounts receivable as presented.***

OLD BUSINESS:

Hockey Team Update – Diane Short, the General Manager for the Danville Dashers, was present. Ms. Short acknowledged that there are still some points to the agreement to be resolved and, on behalf of Barry Soskin, requested that a meeting with the decision makers of the Arena Board be scheduled. She indicated that the team is set and ready to go. Some of the items that still need resolved include advertising, facility fee, and game day costs. Mr. Shore stated that he and Attorney Mudd will schedule a meeting to occur with Mr. Soskin in the near future to resolve the remaining issues of the agreement.

NEW BUSINESS:

HVAC Bids – At the November 21, 2023, meeting of the Board of Directors, it was agreed to seek bids for the replacement of the HVAC systems of the David S. Palmer Arena. The bids has to be received by 4 p.m. on January 19, 2024. Three (3) bids were received and opened at the meeting:

Johnson Controls
Blackie's
Reliable

The original bids will be on file in Administration.

It was noted that the Hegeler Foundation has committed $750,000 towards the project with the understanding that matching funds should be received from the City and County. The Arena has asked the City that this project be placed on its agenda for further discussion and is awaiting a response. At the request of the City of Danville, the Arena hired a third-party group to assist the Arena in the HVAC project and a preliminary report. No further correspondence has been received from the County.

The members discussed the three bids and the varying scope of the project. It was noted that the bids received were for the replacement of the existing system and did not allow for variations. Mr. Shore will contact the Mayor again to ask that our request be brought before the City Council as soon as possible. It was suggested that the engineering group assist the Arena in the development of a new project scope for the bidding process.

It was moved by Kim Hoffman, seconded by Tara Auter, and carried to unanimously reject all bids and seek new bids for the replacement of HVAC systems of the David S. Palmer Arena. Mr. Mudd will provide the appropriate publication in the newspaper for the bids.

MANAGEMENT REPORT – Teri Gaffney highlighted the Management report that was contained in the meeting material.

OTHER BUSINESS – Dean Shore reported that the Mayor will be making an appointment to the Arena's Board of Directors in February. This appointment will complete the full complement of the Board.

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Dean Shore, Chairperson