



## AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021; 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** Conference Call: 779-774-4672; PIN 0314

### MINUTES

**Board Members Present:** Craig Thomas Martesha Brown  
Rudy Valdez Bobbie Holzwarth  
John Phelps Mike Dunn

**Board Members Absent:** Michael Schirger Tom Walsh  
Howie Heaton

**Others Present:** Alderman Frank Beach  
John Butitta, Winnebago County Liaison  
Harry Cann, Regional Vice President ASM Global  
Gordon Kaye, Consultant Vandalay Enterprises  
Tim Rollins, Attorney  
Beth Howard, Executive Director, Friends of the Coronado  
Paul Nolley, Executive Director, Project First Rate

**Staff Present:** Gretchen Gilmore; Interim General Manager/Director of Finance, BMO Harris Bank Center  
Mike Walsh, Director of operations, BMO Harris Bank Center  
Jackie Powers; Finance Coordinator/RAVE Board Secretary, BMO Harris Bank Center

**Chairman Thomas called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM.**

Craig Thomas states due to the current pandemic we are not able to meet in person. These minutes are being recorded and made available to the public.

**MINUTES** – The minutes from the April 28, 2021, meeting were reviewed and approved.

*MOTION: To approve the April 28, 2021, minutes made by Bobbie Holzwarth, second by Rudy Valdez. Motion passes unanimously. Roll Call: Craig Thomas, Rudy Valdez, John Phelps, Martesha Brown, Bobbie Holzwarth.*

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Finance

**Mr. Tom Walsh, Chair**

No report at this time.

- **Executive** **Mr. Craig Thomas, Chair**

No report at this time.

- **Davis Park** **Mr. Tom Walsh, Chair**

No report at this time.

- **Coronado** **Mr. Craig Thomas, Chair**

Beth Howard updates the board on the restoration and repair of the marquee at the Coronado Performing Arts Center.

- **DEI Advisory Group** **Ms. Martesha Brown, Chair**

Martesha Brown invites Beth Howard to update the board on the progress of the Advisory group. Beth Howard discusses the Mayor’s Taskforce on Belonging, the importance of community communication, and the filming for The Healing Project. Beth shares her optimism that the objectives of the program connecting with the community will be achieved now and in the future. Beth Howard thanks members of the BMO staff for their help.

- **Governance** **Mr. Tim Rollins, Attorney**

No report at this time.

- **Program Advisory Group** **Mr. Michael Schirger, Chair**

No report at this time.

- **Capital Improvement** **Mr. John Phelps, Chair**

John Phelps defers to Gretchen Gilmore who informs the board that BearCom is installing the camera security system at the BMO. She informs the board that the freight elevator project is also nearing completion. Gretchen Gilmore suggests the renovation project also be discussed under Capital Improvement in the future.

#### **TREASURER’S REPORT – Mr. Tom Walsh, Treasurer**

John Phelps defers to Gretchen Gilmore to review April Financials. Gretchen Gilmore explains there was some ancillary income through jersey auctions and store sales. Gretchen Gilmore states the focus will now be on the staffing plan, cash analysis, and the line of credit. Gretchen Gilmore states we are still ahead of last year with the financials due to the CURES funds and informs the board the Finance Committee is working on a budget for the upcoming year. Gretchen Gilmore informs the board that an application has been made for the Shuttered Venue Operators grant and reiterates that bookings at the Coronado Performing Arts Center are picking up and staffing will reflect that activity. Gretchen Gilmore gives updates on renovation and construction plans.

*MOTION: To approve the April 2021 financials made by Rudy Valdez, second by Mike Dunn. Motion passes unanimously. Roll Call: Craig Thomas, Rudy Valdez, John Phelps, Martesha Brown, Bobbie Holzwarth, Mike Dunn.*

#### **GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT – Mrs. Gretchen Gilmore, Interim GM**

None at this time

**COUNSEL’S REPORT – Attorney Tim Rollins**

None at this time.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Mr. Craig Thomas**

Craig Thomas informs the board that he will be interviewed for a news special on reopening the state that will air soon. Craig Thomas discusses upcoming staffing needs and that we are working with ASM for staffing and drafting a renewal agreement. Craig Thomas informs that the contracts with the Chicago Blackhawks are being formalized and a system is being put in place to facilitate communication with all parties during renovations. Mike Dunn requests a report on the current relationship between RAVE and the Rockford Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. Martesha Brown volunteers to facilitate a report, possibly with John Groh, the President/CEO of the RACVB and give a brief overview of how the RACVB is using their funding. Gretchen Gilmore informs the board that Friday Night Flix will be starting again in June and that Martesha Brown was instrumental in securing the sponsors for the movie nights in Davis Park. Gretchen Gilmore updates the board on food truck events at Davis Park. John Phelps asks when the board will meet in person and Craig Thomas invites board members to email with any thoughts or concerns regarding meeting in person in June.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None at this time

**ADJOURNMENT** – The Authority Board adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

*MOTION: To adjourn made by Mike Dunn, second by Bobbie Holzwarth. Motion passes unanimously. Roll Call: Craig Thomas, Rudy Valdez, John Phelps, Martesha Brown, Bobbie Holzwarth, Mike Dunn.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie Powers, Authority Board Secretary/ FOIA Officer