



## AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, September 23, 2020; 12:00 p.m.

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

### MINUTES

**Board Members Present:** Craig Thomas Rudy Valdez  
John Phelps Michael Schirger  
Mike Dunn Tom Walsh

**Board Members Absent:** Howie Heaton  
Martesha Brown

**Others Present:** Tim Rollins, Attorney  
John Butitta, Winnebago County Liaison  
Tony Cima, SVP ASM Global  
Beth Howard, Executive Director, Friends of the Coronado

**Staff Present:** Lauren Hurt; Staff Accountant/RAVE Board Secretary, BMO Harris Bank Center  
Gretchen Gilmore; Interim General Manager/Director of Finance, BMO Harris Bank Center  
Mike Walsh; Director of Operations, BMO Harris Bank Center

**Chairman Thomas called the meeting to order at 12:00 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 August 26, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved.

*MOTION: To approve the August 26, 2020 minutes made by Rudy Valdez, second by Mike Dunn. Motion passes unanimously. Roll Call: Craig Thomas, John Phelps, Mike Dunn, Rudy Valdez, Tom Walsh and Mike Schirger*

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Finance** **Mr. Tom Walsh, Chair**  
Tom Walsh defers to the Treasurer's report.
- **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**

No report at this time.

- **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 the General Manager's report.

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

Gretchen Gilmore states this August looks better than August 2019 with the continuation of the cost mitigation plan. Gretchen Gilmore states the financials have a budget that reflects the way we are currently operating. Later, there will be two other budgets included in this which will reflect hockey with no fans and cost mitigation with revenue from small capacity shows. Gretchen Gilmore states the recent cash analysis shows the line of credit from the City should last us through the end of the year, especially with the naming rights being paid in October. Gretchen Gilmore states that she has received the approval of the finance department to bring back another finance employee. Craig Thomas states after further discussion it was decided that Gretchen should focus on the requests and demands of the RFP, budget, grants and any information the Blackhawks may need and designate another finance employee to take over the day-to-day tasks.

*MOTION: To approve the August 2020 financials made by Tom Walsh, second by Rudy Valdez. Motion passes unanimously. Roll Call: Craig Thomas, John Phelps, Mike Dunn, Martesha Brown and Tom Walsh*

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

Gretchen Gilmore states the City notified her that RAVE was able to apply for some grants related to the CARES Act. This grant application was approved for over \$1.7 million. The next step will be to submit COVID-19 related costs from March through August and then costs that we are going to expect to incur in the next several months. One of these future costs will be the equipment and expenses RAVE will incur to make the facility clean and up to standards for reopening. Gretchen Gilmore states through August she can request \$560,000, although she is not sure we will be submitting expenses for all of those. Craig Thomas states this preliminary approval is great, but we will have to see how the process works and what we can be reimbursed for. Gretchen Gilmore states she has done an application walk through with IEMA and they were able to provide some insight into the deep cleanings, air purification, etc. that will be needed in the facility. Gretchen Gilmore states she is going to try and get 75% of these costs covered by FEMA and submit the remaining amount through the CARES grant. Gretchen Gilmore states she looked into the business interruption grant program and after participating in a couple of webinars it isn't looking too promising because RAVE is a municipality. Gretchen Gilmore states at the next board of governors meeting with the AHL there will be a decision made on whether December is an appropriate start date, and if not then it will be pushed back. Gretchen Gilmore states we had a successful back to school initiative with BMO Harris Bank. BMO provided gift cards, 60 - \$100 gift cards, to teachers in the area who could reach out and request a gift card for supplies needed. The exterior concrete is scheduled to continue in the spring for the large part. A detailed cost analysis has been sent to the City.

Gretchen Gilmore states the VenueShield is still being worked on and should be concluded soon. Gretchen Gilmore states there are two providers that are looking at using the facility to install a distributed antenna system to provide wireless service to the surrounding area. This will bring in revenue and have no expenses associated with it.

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

None at this time.

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

Craig Thomas states he recommends we continue to hold off on an RFP for a management company until we make more progress on our extension and restructuring discussions with the Blackhawks.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None at this time

**ADJOURNMENT** – The Authority Board adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

**MOTION:** *To adjourn made by Mike Dunn, second by Tom Walsh*

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Hurt, Authority Board Secretary/ FOIA Officer