



## AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, November 18, 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  
Howie Heaton Martesha Brown

**Board Members Absent:**

**Others Present:** Tim Rollins, Attorney  
Alderman Frank Beach  
Alderman Chad Tuneberg  
Tony Cima, SVP ASM Global  
Beth Howard, Executive Director, Friends of the Coronado  
Zoe Chipalla, Representative, 23 News

**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 12:08 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 September 23, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved.

*MOTION: To approve the September 23, 2020 minutes made by Mike Dunn, second by Tom Walsh. Motion passes unanimously. Roll Call: Craig Thomas, John Phelps, Mike Dunn, Rudy Valdez, Tom Walsh, Martesha Brown, Howie Heaton and Mike Schirger*

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Finance** **Mr. Tom Walsh, Chair**  
Tom Walsh defers to the Treasurer’s report.
- **Executive** **Mr. Craig Thomas, Chair**

Craig Thomas informs the board there was a shooting downtown by the BMO, no one was injured but we did sustain some damage to our windows. Craig Thomas states the freight elevator has stopped working and will need to be replaced. Craig Thomas informs the Board that the affiliation agreement with the Blackhawks is nearing its end and there has been discussion on extending that agreement for a few months. Craig Thomas states after much communication and a tour of the facility he is hopeful this will put us into a position to begin the next agreement with the Blackhawks. Craig Thomas states there may be a few special meetings to discuss the Blackhawks and the Board will be notified accordingly. Craig Thomas informs the Board he has been asked to help facilitate communication between the Park District and members of the Riverview ice community and City to ensure the Riverview Ice House is renovated and can remain downtown.

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

No report at this time.

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

Martasha Brown states there is an initiative to ensure there is inclusivity and diversity at the BMO and Coronado in event recruitment and community members having access to use these facilities. The ultimate desire would be to have a focus group that can give a perception on what barriers they feel as to why they feel they are unable to utilize the facilities. Ideally, this would like to be initiated soon.

- **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**

Tom Walsh states the cost mitigation that we continue to keep in place is helping to keep the facility available. Gretchen Gilmore states the September results, due to cost mitigation, are still trending significantly better than last year however, October's financials when you start comparing to last year's October show that we are up against some significant revenue with 18 events and a record-breaking IceHogs opening night. Gretchen Gilmore states now is even more important to continue the cost mitigation plan. We are continuing to draw on the line of credit with the City of Rockford, which is getting smaller. Gretchen states there is some CURES money coming from the state in the amount of \$512,000. This will help to not draw on the line of credit for a while. These costs were from the furloughs that we had at the start of the stay-at-home order and all the paid time off, as well as any time dedicated to COVID by the staff that remained on during the stay-at-home order. Gretchen Gilmore states Julia Johnson is leaving the company and Mike Peck will be recalled Saturday and will fill the position of Julia as well as be instrumental in facilitating the relationship with BMO Harris Bank. Gretchen Gilmore states there is a mockup being made of the exterior concrete. Gretchen Gilmore states the freight elevator is down and we also received a letter from our elevator company stating all vertical transportation is passed its useful life and is beyond repair. This was included in the capital plan. Gretchen Gilmore states she will be reaching out to the City soon once she receives a quote on a new elevator so we can get the elevator situation resolved. Gretchen Gilmore states, an application was made with FEMA in the amount of \$100,000 that includes our sterilizing and cleaning of the building, air purification and any type of systems such as these. Gretchen Gilmore states she is still working with the state of Illinois on the security

system, which most recently the conversation is that in its entirety the cost would not be covered. There will need to be a reevaluation of this.

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

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

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

Gretchen Gilmore states the AHL return to play committee is still meeting. The current start date is still February 5, 2021. Gretchen Gilmore states she should have confirmation, hopefully in the next month. Gretchen Gilmore feels confident we will have hockey, but patrons will more than likely be based on state guidance. Gretchen Gilmore states we have 2 events planned. Due to the new guidance put in place by the state at the end of the week, this will change the plan for the Thanksgiving meal giveaway from in person to a drive-thru event. Gretchen Gilmore informs the Board of the IceHogs garage sale and the safety precautions in place to make this possible. Craig Thomas states that to keep the organization in compliance is the most important. If a patron refuses to wear a mask they should not be allowed to enter. Gretchen Gilmore states all guidelines and safety precautions will be enforced by staff.

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

None at this time.

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

None at this time.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None at this time.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

None at this time

**ADJOURNMENT** – The Authority Board adjourned at 12:32 p.m.

***MOTION:** To adjourn made by Rudy Valdez, second by Howie Heaton. Motion passes unanimously. Roll Call: Craig Thomas, John Phelps, Mike Dunn, Rudy Valdez, Tom Walsh, Martesha Brown, Howie Heaton and Mike Schirger*

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Hurt, Authority Board Secretary/ FOIA Officer