

**LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES**  
**FROM THE MEETING OF JULY 20, 2016**

**PRESENT:** Kyle France, Henry Baptiste, Hilary Landry, Renee Lapeyrolerie, and Casey Robin.

**ABSENT:** Kathleen B. Blanco and Gregory A. Morrison

**I. ROLL CALL and WELCOME**

Chairman Kyle France called the July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to order and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and then a moment of silence to remember the slain police officers as well as Commissioner Blanco's young great nephew. Present were Chairman France and Commissioners Landry, Lapeyrolerie, Baptiste, and Robin. Absent: Commissioners Blanco and Morrison. There was a quorum for the meeting.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF June 23, 2016 MEETING**

Chairman France asked if there was a motion for approval of the Minutes of the June 23, 2016 Board Meeting. Commissioner Lapeyrolerie moved for approval of same, seconded by Commissioner Landry, all in favor, and the Minutes of the June 23 Board Meeting were adopted.

Chairman France moved into the Operations Reports commencing with Doug Thornton.

**III. SMG REPORT**

Doug Thornton discusses Capital Outlay as it relates to funding for the Zephyrs and the repairs with respect to the stairwells and elevators that are needed. Mr. Thornton further discusses the process for the selection of a design consultant, with a traditional design-bid-build to take place, which could take 90 days to complete. David Weidler will have the final results of the one-penny hotel tax by August 15, which would determine how much, if any, of a Capital surplus there will be. Evan Holmes will report on the Zephyrs, and Pat Tobler will provide a report on the video boards and other construction projects.

The Saints organization and staff continue to work on programming the end zone boards in anticipation of football season, suite renovations are ongoing, and the sound/audio systems are progressing. All of these improvements were funded with the Saints contribution and dollars set aside from the reserve account. Following the Guns N'Roses concert on July 31, replacement of the turf in the Superdome will begin.

Mr. Thornton turns to Shawn Bridgewater for an update with respect to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Jefferson Parish. Ms. Bridgewater states that she is communicating with, and awaiting a response and comments from, the Jefferson Parish representative with respect to the agreement. The extension of the option to purchase has been executed, and the appraisal should be complete within the next two weeks; the next step will be to determine the price.

Jennifer Cooke is asked to summarize the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod ("LCMS") recently held at the Superdome. The event was last hosted in 2010. A reduced rental rate is offered for the number of days in the building and the set up. The event produces a significant hotel/motel tax. It is not a big food and beverage event.

Mr. Thornton comments that the Guns N'Roses concert will be a three/four-day set-up and load-in; however, it is not currently a sell-out. Mark Waguespack and Jennifer's team are doing what they can to get the word out through social media to increase ticket sales for this event. In cities like New Orleans and Phoenix, population in the summer months is diminished by the high temperatures and vacations.

Evan Holmes begins his report on the Zephyrs facility and ongoing discussions with ownership of the team to strategize long-term capital needs, infrastructure, and the desires of ownership on the amenity side.

Referring to the Equity Program, there has been an increased interest, and Mr. Holmes comments that based on information secured from the website, there appears to be an increase in the exposure that projects are receiving within the local business community. In July, 137 requisitions went out, 15% of the submittals were from DBE firms, and of those firms, 11% were awarded the contract. We are hoping to build on the DBE firm participation as well as increasing the business opportunities.

Mr. Holmes formally introduces Mia Fredricks, who has been working on the Superdome tour program. There have been several discussions with educators and civic groups. There is an interest and the unique characteristics of the Superdome would supplement the curriculum for schools given the engineering and math components to the facility. There is a unique opportunity to incorporate various "critical-thinking" components into the school curriculum utilizing various aspects of the Superdome.

Mr. Holmes states that pursuant to developments in the legislature's Second Special Session, the LSED facilities are now subject to state sales tax – 10% on merchandise, food/beverage, and parking. In addition, 50% of the ticket price for "touring" events, such as concerts, family shows, monster trucks, basically non-sports or tenant-related events, is subject to the 10% sales tax as well. David Weidler has been working with the Department of Revenue to ensure that we are retaining the funds and remitting them to the State. The representatives of SMG have been working with event promoters, who understand the tax as it relates to ticket sales and the ability to generate revenue for artists and promoters.

Alan Freeman begins his report on the Essence Festival that took place over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend; attendance being down about 10% from last year, perhaps because of the talent lineup and the September Beyoncé concert. The LCMS event had approximately 115,000 teens and chaperones in attendance, and the Ringling Brothers Circus in mid-June, consisting of seven performances, had approximately 18,000 attendees. Champions Square had two concerts – Rick Springfield and Loverboy on June 23, with an attendance of about 2,700, and Josh Groban and Sarah McLachlan, with about 2,900 in attendance. Lynyrd Skynyrd and Peter Frampton will perform at Champions Square in August, and Def Leppard will perform at the Smoothie King Center. Lil Wayne & Friends will perform at Champions Square on August 27<sup>th</sup>, Jeff Dunham at the Smoothie King Center on November 20<sup>th</sup>, Dolly Parton at the SKC on November 30<sup>th</sup>, and Amy Schumer will perform at the SKC on New Year's Eve.

Following the Guns N'Roses concert, the Superdome will be prepared for football season, to include painting, systems testing, bringing down the sound gondolas to test for blown speakers/amps. Once that project is complete, turf installation will begin with the expectation that it will be completed before the August 26<sup>th</sup> preseason game against Pittsburgh.

At the Smoothie King Center, the basketball floor will be resurfaced, and shot clocks will be installed and tested.

Mr. Freeman states that this is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Saints coming to New Orleans, and there will be a lot of team branding commemorating this when doors are opened for the first game.

Mr. Freeman asks Austin Sockwell to go through a slide presentation, starting off with Superdome event activities and attendance through an 11-month period, including the Essence Festival, the LCMS youth rally, SKC events, R. Kelly's performance, the Circus, and Champions Square statistical data.

Jennifer Cooke goes through slides of promotional material done through Facebook. They were successful in promoting weddings in the Superdome club lounges, and are booking more events for the facility. Ms. Cooke states that they are promoting the facilities through social media, and are scheduling quite a few private parties through these efforts.

Mr. Freeman comments that promoters appreciate the work we do to promote their events. Through emails, social media campaigns, and advertising, we average a contribution of about \$20,000 per show through the promotional efforts.

Discussions are had with respect to a walk-around prior to one of the Saints games so that the Board can experience an employee briefing and watch the staff being deployed to their posts, etc. This enables the Board to go behind the scenes to see how the network sets up and just how many people it takes to put on a typical football game at the Superdome.

#### **IV. FINANCE REPORT**

David Weidler presents his financial report, stating that all taxes have been collected, except the one-penny tax. The LSED expenses are tracking on budget, with the Superdome, Arena, and Champions Square tracking better than budget. The hotel tax for the next fiscal year came in for the month of May at \$5,000,001, approximately \$23,000 better than budget. Any additional sums that remain at the end of the fiscal year could potentially be used for LSED capital projects.

#### **V. CONSTRUCTION REPORT**

Pat Tobler of The Tobler Company presented his construction report. Consultants are in town to review end zone boards, which are now operational. The 400 Level Suites, west side, were completed for the Essence Festival. Punchlist work is now in progress on the right side, and the east side should be done by August 12<sup>th</sup>. The sound system is considerably ahead of schedule. ESCO is also proceeding quite well; the lights on the access corridor on the ground and plaza levels and garage tops have been replaced, and the interior garage light replacements are under way. Two new chillers are in place but have not been put in line with automation; however, they are functional and have passed all factory testing. The Superdome garage structural repairs contract cancellation with One Construction is on the agenda for approval due to an omission in the bid, so the project date has been extended for two weeks. Mr. Tobler will examine the next lowest bid to make sure they are capable of moving forward with the work.

Mr. Tobler goes through a number of reserved listed in his report. SKC's center-hung scoreboard retrofit is a bit ahead of schedule; everything should be completed and operational by July 23. We have delayed the expansion joints work due to rain and a TV shoot that is scheduled at the SKC. There was a movie shoot at the Alario Center; today, there is a preconstruction conference with respect to the sidewalk at the Alario Center and the kitchen and Hall C foundation so that the work can begin. Durr and the

general contractor will be moving back on site at the TPC to complete the punchlist work at the TPC and work continues on the HVAC retrofits at TPC. Stairs are being monitored at Zephyrs, and SMG representatives are checking the stairwells on a regular basis to make sure there are no increasing problems. With respect to the Westwego Sports Complex, the cooperative endeavor agreement is pending, and we are awaiting input from the Jefferson Parish representative.

## **VI. LEGAL REPORT**

Shawn Bridgewater introduced the LSED Legal Report and presented the following Resolutions, which were approved by the Board of Commissioners as noted below:

On motion of Commissioner Robin, seconded by Commissioner Landry, the LSED authorized and approved the execution of the termination of the Construction Contract with One Construction, LLC pertaining to the bid submitted for the Superdome garage repair project, a release of same from the public records, and a determination of the next lowest responsive bid for the project.

On motion of Commissioner Lapeyrolerie, seconded by Commissioner Baptiste, the LSED authorized and approved Amendment No. 1 to the Energy Savings Performance Project Contract with Siemens Industry. This amendment will amend the contract to allow for an increase in the contract sum of \$70,251 to account for the increase in the wages owed to laborers in accordance with the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements. Siemens will also be required to submit monthly certified payrolls for verification that these wages have been paid.

On motion of Commissioner Robin, seconded by Commissioner Lapeyrolerie, the LSED authorized and approved Amendment No. 2 to the Energy Savings Performance Contract, which provides that the end zone lights will remain in place (installed and operational by existing means) and not demolished as provided for in the original ESCO Project Contract. The energy consumption shall be monitored and recorded by Siemens. This Amendment will result in no change in cost.

On motion of Commissioner Landry, seconded by Commissioner Baptiste, the LSED authorized and approved the Contract for Consulting Services between the LSED and Roedel, Parsons, Koch, Blache, Balhoff & McCollister for the July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 term. The Consulting Agreement fees and expenses will be governed by the State of Louisiana Hourly Fee Schedule as set by the Attorney General's Office.

## **VII. BOARD REPORTS**

None.

## **VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

No Executive Session was needed.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Commissioner Lapeyrolerie to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Baptiste, the July 20, 2016 public meeting of the LSED was adjourned.