

LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
FROM THE MEETING OF MARCH 24, 2016

PRESENT: Kyle France, Henry Baptiste, Kathleen Blanco, Hilary Landry, Renee Lapeyrolerie, Gregory Morrison, and Casey Robin

ABSENT: None

I. ROLL CALL and WELCOME

The Chairman Kyle France called the meeting to order and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silent prayer. Present were Commissioners France, Baptiste, Blanco, Landry, Lapeyrolerie, Morrison, and Robin. There was a quorum for the meeting.

Chairman France asked if anyone wished to address the Commission, and no one did so. Chairman France noted that the Minutes of the February 17, 2016 meeting had been placed on iPads via the Director's Desk icon.

Chairman France moved to approve the Minutes of the February 17, 2016 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Morrison, all in favor, and the Minutes of the February Board Meeting were adopted.

Chairman France then asked Doug Thornton to begin SMG's monthly report.

II. SMG REPORT

Doug Thornton reported on the following topics: the outcome of the 2016 Special Legislative Session, particularly HB122, which related to budget cuts with State agencies and which impacts the LSED. HB122 would require the LSED to reduce its current fiscal year budget by \$3.0M by June 30, 2016. Mr. Thornton stated that David Weidler and the staff were exploring areas where cuts could be made, which included suspension of capital work, maintenance and repair inside the building, reduction of utilities, and a hiring freeze. Mr. Thornton stated that his staff believes that the \$3.0M could be absorbed between now and at the end of this fiscal year. As a result of HB122 and budget cuts, all capital planning has been re-prioritized.

Mr. Thornton discussed progress with respect to the LSED Equity Plan (or Diversity Plan) to achieve certain goals/percentages for disadvantaged businesses following a meeting with Commissioner Lapeyrolerie. The Sewerage and Water Board, New Orleans Aviation Board, City of New Orleans, and DOTD were looked at for guidance with respect to the development of such a plan, which could include (i) the establishment of percentage goals for the operating and capital construction accounts, (ii) the grading of proposals based on a respondent's application, and (iii) the upgrading of the LSED's website. Pat Tobler is to report to the Commission on progress with video boards, suite renovations, and other on-going work.

Evan Holmes discussed the use of the Director's Desk at the meeting and thanked Elizabeth York for the training she provided to SMG and the Commission. Mr. Holmes then briefly discussed House Bill 1 that will be introduced in the Regular Legislative Session. He anticipates that his team will be

meeting with the Appropriation Committee to discuss the Capital Outlay Bills (HB1 and HB2). The LSED would benefit by HB1 and HB2 (known as the Capital Outlay Bills) to supplement the \$3.0M budget reduction.

Mr. Holmes discussed Chairman France and Commissioner Landry's meeting with representatives of Jefferson Parish, the Zephyr's, and Jefferson Parish Performing Arts Center ("JPAC") with respect to parking at Zephyr Stadium and the JPAC. Several parking alternatives were discussed at the meeting, and everyone is working together to facilitate event parking at Zephyr Stadium and the JPAC.

Mr. Holmes discussed ongoing projects: (i) work continues on the TPC Louisiana Golf Course in anticipation of the upcoming Zurich Classic, and (ii) Zephyr Stadium projects (including clean-up, painting, and other repairs) are proceeding.

Discussions were had with Commissioner Robin with respect to the Superdome being placed on the National Register of Historic Places and the fact that tours could potentially be an opportunity to generate revenue. The SMG and LSED representatives will explore the establishment of a program to conduct tours of the Superdome that tell the story of the facility and provide visitors with a unique experience.

Alan Freeman provided an event report, which included attendance at the Pelican games, information regarding food and beverage revenues, other events, such as the Monster Truck Show, concerts, the Boat Show, Home and Garden Show, the Semi-Annual Offshore Lease Sale sponsored by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and the World of Wheels Car Show. Mr. Freeman discussed upcoming events, including the NBA, Winter Jam, the Harlem Globetrotters, Chris Stapleton (Champions Square), Joe Walsh, and Bad Company (Champions Square). Commissioner Blanco and Mr. Freeman discussed rescheduling of the Rihanna Concert.

Mr. Freeman turns the discussion over to Jennifer Cooke regarding non-traditional events and conventions and her department's role in facilitating these events. Ms. Cooke introduces her team—Sabrina Trahan, Event Marketing/Media Coordinator; Nine Suleiman, Sales/Marketing Manager; Emma Stasi, Sales Coordinator; Elizabeth Binnicker, Sales Coordinator; and Mark Waguespack, Graphic Design/Interactive Marketing Specialist. Through a slide presentation by Evan Holmes, Ms. Cooke elaborates on what her team focuses on, *i.e.*, non-traditional events, convention-related events, general sessions, smaller events, advertising, and marketing, and goes through all LSED facilities as to events and the facilities' performance.

III. FINANCE REPORT

David Weidler then provided the financial report: the hotel tax continues to trend upward, and that number could be somewhere between \$49-\$50M. The one-penny tax would be substantially higher than the statutory, and Mr. Weidler has submitted documentation to capture additional revenues can come from the one-penny tax. The rest of the taxes are tracking close to budget. LSED expenses are tracking on budget; the Superdome and the Arena are now better than budgeted projections. Champions Square is slightly behind, but should end up at the budgeted projections. Mr. Weidler indicates that presentations to the House Appropriations and then to the Senate will be made during the upcoming Legislative Session.

IV. CONSTRUCTION REPORT

The Construction Report was presented by Pat Tobler of The Tobler Company, L.L.C. Evan Holmes presents slides of ongoing projects:

At the Dome, the video board project is going well and progressing ahead of schedule. There have been no issues with deliveries or manpower. The Dome Suite Renovation Project is underway, and no events are affecting this Project. Bids went out for Superdome garage structural repairs, and they are working on the ESCO II Project with Siemens, first set of work to start in late April or early May. They are also putting together the Capital Reserve, Capital Outlay, and ESCO II Projects for next year.

At the Alario Center, there was a successful door replacement project of about 250 doors, along with a sidewalk project bid awarded to LLJ Environmental Construction.

At the TPC, the Period II civil work included work primarily associated with the Zurich Tournament, including enlargement of the tournament service area, improvements to various areas on the course, widening of the cart path, installation of pavers, and path curb work. Construction is being handled by Durr Heavy Construction.

At Zephyr Field, approximately \$280,000 of miscellaneous repairs around the building were conducted.

With respect to the Westwego Sports Complex, proposals were received for the due diligence consultants, and the responsive low bidder was selected.

At the Smoothie King Center, ongoing work included: envelope and waterproofing and the center-hung video board is operational, with some punch list work that needs to be completed.

Following a question by Commissioner Lapeyrolerie concerning drainage work at the golf course, Mr. Tobler discusses the benefits enjoyed by the course having its own water ponds to allow for retention of excess water that accumulates at the facility.

V. 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 Landry, seconded by Commissioner Morrison, the LSED authorized and approved a Resolution with respect to selection of Trahan Architect Group to perform due diligence at the proposed Westwego Sports Complex and accepted the recommendation to enter into negotiations with Trahan Architects to finalize a contract for the due diligence in connection with the Proposed Sports Complex. Voting in favor: Kyle France, Henry Baptiste, Kathleen Blanco, Hilary Landry, Renee Lapeyrolerie, Greg Morrison, and Casey Robin. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. The **motion 16-12** passed.

On motion by Commissioner Landry, seconded by Commissioner Baptiste, the LSED authorized and approved a Capital Reserve Account appropriation of an amount not to exceed the sum of \$84,765.12 to purchase and install equipment necessary to operate and maintain the Mercedes Benz Superdome, including the specific items described on the SMG Capital Reserve Request. The funding source is the

LSED Capital Reserve Account, and sufficient funds were available to support the Resolution. Voting in favor: Kyle France, Henry Baptiste, Kathleen Blanco, Hilary Landry, Renee Lapeyrolerie, Greg Morrison, and Casey Robin. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. The **motion 16-13** passed.

On motion by Commissioner Morrison, seconded by Commissioner Robin, the LSED authorized and approved a Resolution to re-advertise and re-publicize solicitation of bids for the Superdome Garage Structural Repair Project. The re-bid was necessary due to an error in the original bid specifications. This Resolution ratifies the re-advertisement and re-publication of these bids, and sufficient funds existed to support the Resolution, which had the staff analysis support of The Tobler Company. Voting in favor: Kyle France, Henry Baptiste, Kathleen Blanco, Hilary Landry, Renee Lapeyrolerie, Greg Morrison, and Casey Robin. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. The **motion 16-14** passed.

On motion of Commissioner Blanco, seconded by Commissioner Morrison, the LSED authorized and approved four Change Orders to the existing contract between the LSED and Durr Heavy Construction for the Capital Improvements Project at the TPC Louisiana Golf Course, all of which result in a net deduction in the original Contract Sum. The signatures of Chairman France and Pat Tobler were authorized and ratified. The Change Orders will be filed in the public records of Jefferson Parish. Voting in favor: Kyle France, Henry Baptiste, Kathleen Blanco, Hilary Landry, Renee Lapeyrolerie, Greg Morrison, and Casey Robin. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. The **motion 16-15** passed.

On motion of Commissioner Morrison, seconded by Commissioner Landry, the LSED authorized and approved a Resolution for the procurement of a design consultant to examine and provide professional design services with respect to certain foundation settlement issues in the kitchen addition and Hall C Expansion at the Alario Center. A settlement was reached as a result of litigation with the Contractor over the foundation settlement issues. The LSED publicly advertised and selected Lourie Consultants to perform the design services at a fee of \$29,000. The source of the funding will come from the litigation settlement proceeds and Capital Outlay, and it has the staff recommendation and support of The Tobler Company. Voting in favor were: Kyle France, Henry Baptiste, Kathleen Blanco, Hilary Landry, Renee Lapeyrolerie, Greg Morrison, and Casey Robin. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. The **motion 16-16** passed.

On motion of Commissioner Robin, seconded by Commissioner Baptiste, the LSED authorized and approved a Resolution to enter into negotiations with LLJ Environmental and Construction with respect to bids on the Alario Center Sidewalk Improvements Project, LSED Project No. ALR-SDWLK-2015-AFC500K; the LSED accepted and approved the bid submitted by LLJ as the qualified low bidder. The Resolution had the support of The Tobler Company, and the source of funding is the Capital Outlay. There are sufficient funds to support the Resolution. Voting in favor: Kyle France, Henry Baptiste, Kathleen Blanco, Hilary Landry, Renee Lapeyrolerie, Greg Morrison, and Casey Robin. Voting Against: None. Abstaining: None. The **motion 16-17** passed.

VI. BOARD REPORTS

None.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Landry makes note that Eat-Fit NOLA is working in conjunction with Steve Trotter and Centerplate to explore the expansion of healthy food alternatives at the various LSED facilities.

No Executive Session was needed.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Chairman France to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Landry, the public meeting of the LSED was adjourned.