

MINUTES
Spokane Public Facilities District
Board of Directors - Via Webinar
Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 12:30 PM

ITEM #1 TO ORDER

Board Chair Larry Soehren convened the 791st Meeting of the Spokane Public Facilities District at 12:30 PM.

ITEM #2 ATTENDANCE

In attendance via webinar was Board Chair Larry Soehren along with members Marty Dickinson, Travis Tramp, Nate Greene and Mick McDowell. District personnel included CEO Stephanie Curran, Mike Gaffaney, Monte Koch, Stephanie Huff, Brittany Garwood, Jessica Deri, Matt Meyer, Ryan Wilson, Andrew Dolan, Holly Williams, Kay Riplinger, and Nicole Foley-Litz. Guests included Andrew Brenner with Lydig Construction, Dave Pier with Brett Sports and Entertainment, Ryan Nackers with Levy, Justin Kobluk with West Coast Entertainment, Eric Sawyer and Ashley Blake from the Spokane Sports Commission, Tom McBride and Intisar Surur from McBride Public Affairs, Karen Corkins from Spokane County, Stuart Boylan with Lilac City Decorators, Tobby Hatley with Hatley and Associates, and Dan McDowell.

ITEM #3 CONSENT AGENDA

Board Chair Soehren presented the Consent Agenda items.

- Approval of Minutes from December 9, 2020
- Approval of Expenditures - November 2020
PAYROLL VOUCHERS: #3949-3953, #3955-3957, #3960-3962, #3964, #3965-3969, #3971-3972, #3977, #3979 + 2 WIRE TRANSFERS; ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VOUCHERS: #108538-108586, #108590-108592, #108594-108600, #108602-108604, #108606-108695, #108697, #108715-108720, #108736-108738
- Approval of Witherspoon-Kelley Invoices – October/November 2020
- Approval of Innovative Law Invoices – December 2020

Mr. Tramp moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Ms. Dickinson seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. Mr. Tramp expressed appreciation to District for expense efficiencies.

ITEM #4 DISTRICT BUSINESS

Finance Committee

Mr. Greene reviewed Financials. For November 2020, the District was -\$57,000, and YTD -\$2.5 million. The District has been proactive with expense control.

Ms. Garwood there will be a call this afternoon to review the bond refinance presentation.

Final Sales Tax for 2020 was +1.7% over 2019, hotel/motel tax was -47% over 2019 with an overall -7.6% over 2019.

Operations Committee

No report.

Project Committee

Sportsplex/The Podium:

Mr. Koch reviewed Lydig Pay App #26 for November 2020 in the amount of \$ 2,370,873.59 previously approved by the Project Committee. The majority of this Pay App is framing, waterproofing, roofing, and MEP Trades.

Mr. McDowell moved to approve Lydig Pay App #26 for November 2020, Mr. Tramp seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Project Update:

Mr. Brenner presented a slideshow of ongoing work at The Podium. The project is 70% complete.

Exterior wall work is wrapping up.

The spine along the west side is progressing with vertical panels complete.

Mechanical and plumbing coordination has been smooth and drywall to install in the next few days.

On the lower level, painting and ceramic tile work has begun.

The mechanical room has been a large strategic effort and is almost complete.

Bleachers and railing are nearing completion.

Track: Work is ongoing on the pit areas. The north pit stores all of the hydraulics.

Field house floor is ready for concrete.

A few of the orange panel liners sustained minor damage in recent high winds.

CEO Update:

2021: Focus on recovery, re-opening plans and a strong 3rd and 4th quarter.

CARES: CARES was set to expire at the end of 2020 and two days prior to the deadline, it was extended a year.

The District is allowed to apply 2020 April-December labor attributed to Covid to CARES.

LEVY: In final negotiations. Harold Froewiss has been hired as Levy interim Chef and will transition to Assistant GM when we open.

COVID MANDATES: The recent mandates allow occupancy at 25% in Phase 2 with a maximum of (200).

CHAS:

CHAS, SHRD, and local hospitals are coordinating Covid vaccinations at the Arena starting next week as well as across the area. Vaccinations require prior approval and registration, are approved in Phases, beginning with certain age groups, job functions, and other categories. CHAS will continue to operate the drive-thru/drive-up Covid testing site at least through the end of the month.

HEROES ACT: This Act is geared towards live entertainment such as in the Arena and FICA. The formula to determine relief is a comparison of April – December 2019 revenue with April – December 2020 revenue resulting in eligibility of 45% of 2019 revenue with a maximum of \$10 million. The Act has passed and application process is forthcoming.

HOUSE BILL 1069: On the House floor this morning and is legislation re-directing lodging tax revenues to fund homeless shelters. The District is protected except the first \$100,000 that is kept by the city. The District lobbyists are monitoring and communicating the progression.

TPA: Visit Spokane and Spokane Sports Commission lobbied last year to raise the TPA from to \$2 to \$4. The two have had to re-visit this process, as not all hotels were listed with the DOH, over 60% of hoteliers are needed to be in agreement, and a few have signed. Visit Spokane uses these funds to market Spokane as a destination and the Spokane Sports Commission uses funds to market The Podium.

CHIEFS: There was a recent article regarding Spokane games in the bubble. The District and Spokane Chiefs agreed that fan-less games would be difficult.

SHOCK: The team is planning on a May start, however, there are challenges without ancillary revenues.

ITEM #6 PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Soehren opened the Board Meeting for Public Discussion.

Mr. Pier concurred that the Chiefs are in agreement in regards to games in the bubble.

The WHL is awaiting local and state return-to-play protocols. The WHL is having discussions regarding a hybrid-bubble/protected environments such as all US Division teams gather in Everett, play in their youth hockey building, and utilize the adjacent practice rink.

Mr. Pier added the Chiefs have several players that are in other areas in order to have the opportunity to play.

Mr. Meyer noted working with CHAS, SRHD, and local hospitals on plan for Spokane as well as Arena for vaccinations. The set-up will look like November 2020 Election.

Heroes Act: Working with Venue Coalition and State Coalition. The Convention Center does not qualify but will look at PPP and Shuttered Venues Act. The District is pulling financials and preparing for the application process.

The next SPFD Board Meeting is scheduled Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 12:30p.m. via Webinar and not held at the Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena.

ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 1:03 PM per RCW 42.30.110 (i) Real Estate for approximately 45 minutes. No action is expected.

Mr. Soehren returned to the Board Room at 1:30 PM to check on any remaining attendees; there were none.

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Michelle McIntyre
Clerk of the Board

Approved by the
Board of Directors