

**MINUTES**  
**Spokane Public Facilities District**  
**Board of Directors – Convention Center Rooms 302AB and via Webinar**  
**Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 12:30 PM**

**ITEM #1 TO ORDER**

Board Chair Larry Soehren convened 801<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Spokane Public Facilities District at 12:30 PM.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 12:30pm per RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g) Litigation for approximately (20) minutes. No action was expected. Mr. Soehren returned to the Board Room at 12:50pm to reconvene the Board Meeting.

**ITEM #2 ATTENDANCE**

In attendance in rooms 302AB was Board Chair Larry Soehren along with board members, Nate Greene, Mick McDowell and Travis Tramp. Marty Dickinson attended virtually. District personnel in-person included CEO Stephanie Curran, Monte Koch, Ryan Wilson, Jessica Deri, Matt Meyer, Ryan Eagon, and Tye Compogno. District staff attending virtually included, Mike Gaffaney, Stephanie Huff, Brittany Garwood, Jene Iceberg, Kay Riplinger, Andrew Dolan, and Nic Lawrence. Guests attending in-person included Andrew Brenner with Lydig Construction, and Eric Sawyer and Ashley Blake from the Spokane Sports Commission. Guests attending virtually included Marc Greenough with Foster Garvey, Sean Keatts with Barclays, Scott Bauer with NW Municipal Advisors, Meg Winchester and Ruth Fitzgerald with Visit Spokane, Ryan Nackers with Levy, Dave Pier with Brett Sports and Entertainment, Dusty Kurtz with TicketsWest, Justin Kobluk with West Coast Entertainment, Colin Anderson with Integrus Architecture, Intisar Surur from McBride Public Affairs, Sheryl Brandt with Enduris, Tobby Hatley with Hatley and Associates, and Patti Dickinson with LCD Expo.

**ITEM #3 CONSENT AGENDA**

Board Chair Soehren presented the Consent Agenda items.

- **Approval of Minutes from April 28, 2021**
- **Approval of Minutes from April 30, 2021**

Mr. Tramp moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, Mr. McDowell seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

**ITEM #4 DISTRICT BUSINESS**

**Finance Committee**

Mr. Greene introduced Mr. Greenough, Mr. Keatts, and Mr. Bauer to explain the Credit Enhancement Agreement and the Joint Resolution with the County. Mr. Greenough reviewed the bond refinance process from December 2020 to now regarding the PFD outstanding 2013 A and B bonds. This has been reviewed by both Moody's and S & P and the Finance Committee.

Mr. Greene moved to approve the Joint Resolution as presented, Mr. Tramp seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Greenough noted that the board may sign documents today, if preferred, and documents will be held in escrow.

**Operations Committee**

**Levy:** Both the F & B Interim and Final Agreements have been fully executed.

**Project Committee/Sportsplex/The Podium:**

**GMP #8 Change Order #7:**

Mr. Koch reviewed GMP #8 Change Order #7 in the amount of \$ 533,252.00 which includes operational enhancements, a credit for lighting design, power for exterior signage, and life safety systems. This has been reviewed and approved by the Project Committee.

Mr. McDowell moved to approve GMP #8 Change Order #7 as presented. Mr. Greene seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Project Update:**

Mr. Brenner presented a slideshow of ongoing work at The Podium.

The Park Playground Grand Opening is Friday, May 21.

Finishes and carpet in hospitality and meet management rooms as well as the entire lower level is coming along.

The scoreboard in the fieldhouse is installed and covered. It is the approximate size and quality of the Arena scoreboard and is composed of 18"x18" squares assembled to make a 55' x 13' scoreboard.

Terrace wall features along the west side are in place.

Dean Avenue is closed between Howard Street and Washington Street and the job site entrance is via Boy Scout Way.

The project is on schedule, and on budget.

**Sports Commission/Q1 2021 Report:**

Mr. Sawyer detailed the state of the Sports Commission noting they have sustained staff and added a staff member. Mr. Sawyer reviewed their new board, and explained work with Visit Spokane on an ARP Grant (American Recovery Plan).

Ms. Blake announced the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) Indoor Track & Field Championships at The Podium in February 2022, 2023, 2024. She discussed the Sports Commission participation in industry travel and trade shows, upcoming site visits, and the selection of a timing company out of Eugene, Oregon.

**Visit Spokane/Q1 2021 Report:**

Ms. Fitzgerald presented Visit Spokane updates, 2021 room nights, and reviewed 2021 cancelled, lost, and re-scheduled business. Ms. Fitzgerald further chronicled Future Pace in 2022-2024 with 2022 looking similar to 2019, and noted the addition of two staff (for Midwest/Chicago and Washington DC) focusing on national markets.

**Spokane Convention Center/Q1 2021 Report:**

Ms. Deri recounted Spokane Convention Center business including gymnastics in March, and reviewed newly booked events and events currently booked through September 2021. She highlighted the strategic partnership with Visit Spokane with membership to PCMA (Professional Convention Management Association), the largest network of event industry strategists.

**Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena/First Interstate Center for the Arts (FICA):**

Mr. Meyer reported that (65,000) people have been vaccinated as of last week and over (14,000) tested for Covid through March at the Arena. The vaccination site is planning to move outside mid-late June.

2022 is looking to be one of the strongest booked years at the First Interstate Center for the Arts (FICA) and partnership with West Coast Entertainment has strengthened.

2021 CARES Act purchases include the second phase of HVAC upgrades (bi-polar ionization), a re-opening marketing campaign, and building simulations of Covid restrictions.

Shuttered Venues Operators Grant (SVOG): The Arena and FICA applied the day the portal opened; April 26. Over (15,000) venues across the nation have started the process with (8,000) fully submitted. The first phase of allocation starts next week, and the District is in the third phase due to government status. Convention Centers are not eligible. Other government entities received CARES funding for which the District did not qualify.

**CEO Update/Ms. Curran:**

Levy: Final and Interim agreements are fully executed after nine months of efforts from the Board, Levy, Selection Committee, and the District.

Bond Refinance: Ms. Curran expressed appreciation for the Districts partnership with the County, as well as thanks to the Board, financial advisors, and Ms. Garwood for all of the efforts to coordinate these documents and meetings.

Stadium: The Spokane Public School Board voted to move forward with Stadium plans and discussions.

Diamond: In discussions with Diamond and the DoubleTree.

Governor: Expecting an announcement regarding re-opening of Washington State. Ms. Curran described discussions with District legal regarding events and spectator vaccination legalities. District legal will follow-up with the Governor's office. The Governor may tour The Podium in late May.

**ITEM #6 PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Soehren opened the Board Meeting for Public Discussion.

Board Chair Soehren welcomed public attendance at board meetings noting there is limited seating due to social distancing. Instructions will be provided on [spokanepfd.org](http://spokanepfd.org) regarding public seating at future meetings.

The next SPFD Board Meeting is a Special Meeting scheduled Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 11:00 am to sign bond resolutions.

**ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 1:11 pm.

Michelle McIntyre  
Clerk of the Board

Approved by the  
Board of Directors

---

The SPFD Board's minutes are intended to be a reasonable summary of the Board's deliberations and actions. The minutes are not a verbatim record of everything said at the meeting. The minutes include all actions taken by the Board.