

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Spokane Public Facilities District - Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom and  
at the Numerica Veterans Arena Boardroom | Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 12:30 pm

### ITEM #1 TO ORDER

Board Chair Read convened the February 11<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting of the Spokane Public Facilities District at 12:30 PM.

### ITEM #2 ATTENDANCE

In attendance were Board Chair Cami Eakins and Vice Chair Jon Neill, along with Board Member Dan Rey-Bear. Board Member Paul Read was absent/excused for this meeting. District personnel attending in person included CEO Stephanie Curran, Matt Meyer, Paul Christiansen, Steve Marsh, Jennifer Kletke, Melissa Coulter, Nic Lawrence, Jessica Deri, Mike Gaffaney, Shaundra Scott, Ryan Gallagher, and Kaila Jones.

Guests attending in person included PFD Contractor Rick Romero, Aiden Hubbard from CarPark, Dave Pier and Mark Miles from the Spokane Chiefs, Ashley Blake from Spokane Sports, and Chris Varallo from Kutak Rock.

*Chair Eakins opened the PFD Board of Directors' meeting by calling the February 11th meeting to order, discussing the importance of the PFD's partnerships and strategic plan.*

### ITEM #3 CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Eakins presented the Consent Agenda items:

- PFD Board Minutes from January 28th.
  - *Mr. Neill has moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Rey-Bear seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.*

### ITEM #4 DISTRICT BUSINESS

#### Quarter 4 Reports

- Ashley Blake presented the Quarter 4 2025 performance for Spokane Sports, highlighting their partnership with the PFD and their impact on our facilities.
  - Ms. Blake reported that Spokane Sports supported 47 events across PFD facilities in 2025, with 28 being national or international events.
  - Ms. Blake highlighted two major wins:
    1. USA Judo Junior Olympics (715 contracted hotel rooms)
    2. International Table Tennis Federation Championships (1,610 contracted hotel rooms)
  - Ms. Blake noted that unique sports travelers' numbers are up over 50k from 2024.
  - Ms. Blake reported \$6 million in direct business sales to PFD in 2025 (43% increase from \$4.2 million in 2024), with ticket sales being the largest revenue component.
  - Ms. Blake explained that for every \$1 of PFD funding received, Spokane Sports generated \$11 for the PFD or our contracted services.
  - Board Member Mr. Rey-Bear asked about the "cleaning revenue" line item on her report.
    - Ms. Blake explained that it represents cleaning services (by PFD contractor) required by their events.
  - Board Member Mr. Rey-Bear inquired about the geographic distribution of visitors, particularly those from beyond 100 miles.
    - Ms. Blake clarified that the 50-mile radius is an industry standard metric for determining overnight stays.
  - The partnership and strategic collaboration between the PFD and Spokane Sports continue to drive significant economic impact for the region.

#### PFD Board Executive Committee Update

- The Executive Committee reported that they conducted virtual interviews with three candidates recommended by the Spokane Hotel Motel Association (SHMA) for our empty board seat.

- Mr. Neill noted that while all candidates had strong hospitality backgrounds, August Richardson stood out for his enthusiasm, understanding of the PFD's role, and communication skills.
- Ms. Eakins explained that this board seat also represents the PFD on Visit Spokane's board and chairs the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.
- Mr. Rey-Bear asked why August was preferred over SHMA's preferred candidate.
  - Mr. Neill explained that August demonstrated a multi-dimensional understanding of the PFD's mission compared to the other candidate's more finance-focused perspective.
- *Mr. Neill has moved to appoint August Richardson to the PFD Board. Mr. Rey-Bear seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.*

## **ITEM #5      CEO UPDATE**

### **Implementation of Board Training**

- Ms. Curran announced that we are in the process of developing the first-ever PFD Board orientation and training.

### **Numerica Veterans Arena Naming Rights**

- Ms. Curran confirmed that the Numerica naming rights deal has been officially signed after resolving minor contract language issues.

### **Ms. Curran Reported On Several Legislative Bills That Could Impact the PFD**

- House Bill 2733 (limiting PFDs to using only 40% of lodging tax for operations) was introduced but is not moving forward.
- Vancouver's lodging tax bill was amended and is moving to their committee.
- A ticket sales transparency bill (similar to federal guidelines) is not scheduled for a vote at this time.
- House Bill 5053 proposes a 7-member PFD Board, which we've concluded does not affect Spokane's County PFD.
- Senate Bill 6113 regarding taxation on advertising is being monitored.

## **ITEM #6      PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chair Eakins calls for any public comments.

- Ms. Deri reported that the AMCI conference at the Convention Center exceeded attendance expectations with 234 attendees, compared to 175 in Tampa last year.
  - Ms. Deri described the progressive reception through the Convention Center, featuring Spokane Tribe dances, symphony members, and commissioned artwork.
  - Ms. Deri noted positive feedback from attendees, making the event successful in showcasing Spokane's facilities to association management companies that represent 1,800 associations.
- Mr. Rey-Bear inquired about the possibility of hosting curling events.
  - Ms. Coulter explained that curling requires specialized ice that is different from hockey ice, which makes it challenging for the Arena.
  - Ms. Blake mentioned that a previous curling event took place at Eastern Washington University in February 2020 and noted that the spectator turnout for this sport is better suited for smaller venues.

## **ITEM #7      ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Shaundra Scott, Clerk of the Board

Approved by the Board of Directors at the following Board Meeting.