

**MINUTES**  
**Spokane Public Facilities District**  
**Board of Directors – Via Webinar**  
**Wednesday, August 10 2022 at 12:30pm**

**ITEM #1 TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Read convened 826<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Spokane Public Facilities District at 12:30 PM.

**ITEM #2 ATTENDANCE**

In attendance was Vice Chair Paul Read, and Board Members Nate Greene, and Harry Sladich. Ed Bruya attended virtually. Board Chair Marty Dickinson was excused. District personnel attending in-person included CEO Stephanie Curran, Paul Christiansen, Matt Meyer, Holly Williams, Ryan Gallagher, Jeni Daniel, and Andrew Dolan. Guests attending in-person included Ashley Blake and TJ Crater with the Sports Commission, Ruth Fitzgerald with Visit Spokane. District Personnel attending virtually included Kay Riplinger, Antwone Whaley, Nic Lawrence, Tina Gallegos, and Melissa Coulter. Guests attending virtually included Meg Winchester with Visit Spokane, Dave Pier with Brett Sports and Entertainment, Ryan Nackers with Levy, and Eric Sawyer with the Sports Commission.

**ITEM #3 CONSENT AGENDA**

Board Chair Dickinson presented the Consent Agenda items.

- **Approval of Minutes from July 13, 2022**
- **Approval of Witherspoon-Kelley Invoices for December 2021**

Mr. Greene moved approve the Consent Agenda as presented, Mr. Sladich seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

**ITEM #4 DISTRICT BUSINESS**

**Finance Committee**

Mr. Greene and Ms. Curran provided an overview of the exit audit with the PFD and Washington State Auditors for 2020.

**Operations Committee**

Mr. Sladich provided history and reported continued discussions regarding pricing adding, he will be meeting next week with Ms. Curran, Ms. Deri, and Ms. Fitzgerald.

**Project Committee:**

No Report.

**Convention Center and The Podium 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report:**

Ms. Deri detailed a report of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter for 2022 with highlights including a Paul McCartney FAM resulting in (3) RFP's with (2) in contract. There were (24) site visits, (17) graduations between The Podium, Arena and FICA. In addition, the CC/Podium events resulted in \$19m in economic impact and close to 17,000 room nights. And, there was (52) events at the CC and (9) at The Podium in Q2. The sales team is at 53% of goal for 2022, and on target.

**Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena and First Interstate Center for the Arts 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report:**

Mr. Meyer reviewed 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2022 for the Arena with highlights including Paul McIntyre in April. Ms. Williams reviewed elements surrounding Paul McCartney with a city campaign including (50) street pole banners and internal/backstage/back-of-house campaign with (30) posters in the Arena including an Abbey Road mural on the concourse. The Mayor wrote a proclamation and it was delivered yesterday. Mr. Meyer Paul McCartney was the Arena's largest grossing one-day show. In Pollstar, the Arena ranked (82) of top (200) Arena's worldwide. The Arena booked in Q2 it's first Hip Hop show in years adding to creating a more diverse entertainment schedule.

The First Interstate Center for the Arts (FICA) brought family shows, Bob Dylan and rehearsal, ZZ Top, and several shows announced for Q3.

Mr. Meyer added acoustical additions are ongoing at The Podium. Vice Chair Read inquired to the acquisition of motors for The Podium. Mr. Christiansen reported there is a shipping delay, however, a back-up plan is in place.

**Visit Spokane 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report:**

Ms. Fitzgerald recounted 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter for 2022 noting in 2022 rooms nights are at 63% of the same time in 2019 YTD. Ms. Fitzgerald reviewed 2022 and beyond business noting in 2023, SAE is projected at 4,750 room nights.

At the Convention Center, this 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and November is strong. The team is also busy with travel and tradeshow the next few months.

**Spokane Sports Commission 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report:**

Ms. Blake introduced TJ Crater as a new member of the Spokane Sports team and presented a video of the successful Karate event held over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend at The Podium including in-depth media coverage with over 5,000 guests.

Ms. Blake detailed 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter for 2022 and reviewed current award submissions, development travel, and 2023 event scouting with Spokane Sports/The Podium currently in the top (3) finalists for the 2023 US Gymnastics Championship Congress and Tradeshow. CEO Eric Sawyer is retiring and the goal is to have a new CEO in place in the fall with Mr. Sawyer staying though the end of the year.

**ITEM #5**

**CEO Update**

Paciolan: Ms. Curran is on a Paciolan Advisory Committee which was held this morning. Items reviewed included upcoming technology, and focusing on group sales.

SVOG (Shuttered Venues Operators Grant): We are supplying recently posted 2020 audited financials and the process will proceed.

The Department of Commerce announced yesterday a new grant program for Convention Centers and Theaters. No information is available as of yet.

Strategic Planning: Partnered with Sports Commission and Visit Spokane to work with FreshVue on a strategic plan.

Parks Concerts: Met with the Parks department last week regarding concert coordination. Parks has an exclusive with AEG. There was discussion about bidding as it may occur both entities unknowingly bid on the same business.

Civic Theater Easement: Meeting last week and Civic Theater agreed.

Value Village: Meeting last week to review bus stop locations on Howard.

**ITEM #6 PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Board Chair Dickinson opened the Board Meeting for Public Discussion.

The next SPFD Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 12:30PM at the Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena.

**ITEM #7 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 1:58PM.

Michelle McIntyre, Clerk of the Board

Approved by the Board of Directors