## **Savannah Georgia Convention Center Authority**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors **Wednesday, November 13, 2024, 11:00am** 

Via onsite Jasper Boardroom and teleconference ~ Savannah Convention Center

Members present: Bert Brantley, Ruth Quattlebaum Edwards, Pat Farrell, Martin Miller, Ben Polote Jr., Anne Scheer, Mark Smith, Ansley Williams Members absent: Trip Tollison, Joe Marinelli, Pritpal Singh Also present: Paul Threlkeld, Frank Poe(GWCCA-via Zoom), Kevin Duvall (GWCCA), Yong Choe (YC Consulting-via zoom), Stephen Hall (via Zoom), Evan Lasseter (Savannah Morning News), Michael Garcia (Matthews Southwest-via Zoom), David Snell (Matthews Southwest-via Zoom), Todd Nocerini (Songy Highroads-via Zoom), Kendall Golightly (via Zoom), Lee Hughes (Hughes Public Affairs), Marc Friday, Michael Kaigler, Jeff Bleam (GSFIC) and SCC staff: Kelvin Moore, Ronnie Hickman, Angela Daniels, Jamie Parks, Holly Jenkins, Gail Terrell, Al Rojas, Jackie Mitchell and Myesha Jones

Chairman Smith convened the meeting at 11:00am.

Chairman Smith asked for approval of the Minutes and Treasurer's report. Motion made by Mr. Williams; seconded by Mr. Martin and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Counsel Report. Mr. Threlkeld stated no report at this time.

External Affairs Report. Mr. Hughes commented on the 10-million-dollar request to the State to include the completion of the Riverwalk currently in consideration at Governor Kemp's office. Mr. Choe commented on recent meetings with Speaker Johnson's senior staff regarding earmarks in addition to comments on the temporary extension of current funding anticipated. To Mr. Smith's comment to Mr. Choe on the cash flow and capital discussion meeting held earlier this morning, Mr. Choe replied that he anticipated continued support from Congressman Carter, Senator's Warnock and Ossoff. Savannah-Chatham Day in Atlanta stated as Wednesday January 29, 2024.

Financial Report. Ms. Jenkins reported a favorable revenue month for the Convention Center and unfavorable operating expenses for the month of October. Ms. Jenkins then continued to report a favorable revenue variance to the Authority budget and unfavorable operating expenses for the month of October. Ms. Jenkins reviewed capital and expendable projects expenses in addition to fiscal year-end after capital forecast.

Hotel Development Report. Mr. Nocerini and the development team of Songy Highroads provided a review of the future Savannah Signia Hotel layout/plans.

Assistant General Manager update. Mr. Rojas provided a review of the FY '24 Savannah Convention Center's Economic Impact Report. Mr. Rojas then continued with an overview of the Customer Survey YTD October 2024 results with an average Customer Survey Rating score of 94.3%. To Mr. Farrell's question with regards to an update on the new Water Ferry, Mr. Moore replied delivery expected in mid-December. Mr. Farrell encouraged more involvement with Chatham Area Transit (CAT) and Chatham County Leadership.

Operations Report. Mr. Hickman provided maintenance and capital project updates as it relates to Water Ferry landing, Riverwalk and Bryan Square repairs. Mr. Hickman continued with an overview of M&N Construction Services fee of \$125,984 for Bulkhead Repair Owners Rep. Motion by Mr. Williams; seconded by Mr. Polote Jr. and approved with a unanimous voice vote.

Chairman Smith stated the December board meeting will start at 10am with the annual holiday luncheon immediately following at 11am. Chairman Smith also acknowledged the 2025 board meeting dates. Mr.

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Moore reminded the board members that the detailed operator's report is available for review in Boardpaq. Chairman Smith then requested a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss potential real estate. Motion by Mr. Miller; seconded by Mr. Polote Jr., and approved by unanimous voice vote. Executive Session convened at 12:00pam and ended at 12:44pm with a motion by Mr. Williams; seconded by Ms. Quattlebaum Edwards and approved with unanimous voice vote. Regular board meeting session reconvened at 12:44pm.

Chairman Smith asked for any other business; hearing none, then adjourned the meeting at 12:44pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bert Brantley, Secretary/Treasurer