

Savannah Georgia Convention Center Authority

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Wednesday, July 9, 2025, 11:00am

Via onsite Jasper Boardroom and teleconference ~ Savannah Convention Center

Members present: Ruth Quattlebaum, Pat Farrell, Martin Miller, Ben Polote Jr., Anne Scheer, Mark Smith, Ansley Williams **Members absent:** Bert Brantley, Joe Marinelli, Pritpal Singh, Trip Tollison **Also present:** Paul Threlkeld (via zoom), Frank Poe (Consultant-via Zoom), Stephen Hall (Consultant-via Zoom), Kevin Duvall (GWCCA), Lee Hughes (via Zoom), Yong Choe (YC Consulting-via zoom), Bobby Knowles (Songy Highroads-via Zoom), Michael Garcia (Matthews Southwest-via Zoom), Todd Nocerini (Songy Highroads-via Zoom), Samuel Collins (Greenberg Traurig LLP), David Jensen (Greenberg Traurig LLP), Adam Van Brimmer (AJC), Jeff Hewitt (Visit Savannah) and SCC staff: Kelvin Moore, Ronnie Hickman, Holly Jenkins, Jackie Mitchell, Al Rojas, Myesha Jones, Gail Terrell, Staci Stover Ben Mallard, Jason Touchberry, Jared Whitehead, Marc McDuffie and Ansley Cribbs.

Chairman Smith convened the meeting at 11:01am.

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

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

External Affairs Report. Mr. Hughes commented on the new Chatham Area Transit (CAT) legislation in effect as of July 1, 2025, which dissolves the previous CAT board and enacts a new CAT board which SCC General Manager, Kelvin Moore and President & CEO of Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce, Bert Brantley, are now board members with Mr. Moore being elected as Vice-Chairman. Mr. Hughes also commented on an ongoing Senate study on how to make Georgia the number one state for tourism. Participants in this study will be at SCC during the month of September. Chief Sales Officer of Visit Savannah, Jeff Hewitt, provided a brief overview of the State Tourism Marketing Program "Explore Georgia" and commented that additional funding is needed to market the State of GA. Mr. Choe commented on the signed tax bill by Congress/Senate and the upcoming review of appropriations in the next few weeks. Mr. Choe also stated the \$4.2 million financial submissions for the riverwalk and infrastructure improvements submitted by Congressman Carter and Senator Warnock on behalf of SCC is included in the appropriations for review.

Financial Report. Ms. Jenkins reported the facility as a favorable month for June and positive variance to the year-end budget. Ms. Jenkins then continued to report a favorable month for the Authority and the preliminary year-end favorable to budget. Mr. Miller expressed gratitude and appreciation with regards to the revised presentation of monthly financials and FY 26 budget.

Hotel Development Report. Mr. Nocerini commented on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) on target and the start of construction is pending the upcoming bond sale. Mr. Poe stated that an update of the financial plan to be provided by Mr. Shai Markowicz of Morgan Stanley is anticipated next week. Mr. Poe provided a brief overview of S&P's site visit to Savannah in mid-June in addition to the successful bond presentation and approval at the GSFIC Board Meeting held on June 21, 2025.

Mr. Farrell commented on Chatham County recently obtaining a triple "A" S&P rating.

Mr. Rojas provided a brief overview of the consultant agreement with Mr. Stephen Hall with a request to extend the agreement by an additional 60 days. Motion by Mr. Williams; seconded by Mr. Polote Jr. and approved with unanimous voice vote.

Operations Update. Mr. Hickman provided capital project updates to include a review of the bulkhead repair. Mr. Hickman then continued with the FY 25 Capital Projects overview and FY 25 Operations Projects. Mr. Hickman reviewed a capital funding request regarding radio repeater replacement at a cost of \$42,300. Motion made by Ms. Scheer; seconded by Mr. Polote Jr., and approved by unanimous voice vote.

General Manager Update. Mr. Moore provided a FY 25 Year in Review which included event highlights, financial 'net income' overview, exhibitor services, event parking, customer satisfaction and staff promotions.

Chairman's Report. Chairman Smith asked for any other business; hearing none, then adjourned the meeting at 12:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bert Brantley, Secretary/Treasurer