Savannah Georgia Convention Center Authority

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, October 8, 2025, 10:00am

Via onsite Governor's Boardroom and teleconference ~ Savannah Convention Center

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Members present: Bert Brantley, Pat Farrell, Joe Marinelli, Martin Miller, Ben Polote Jr., Anne Scheer (via zoom), Pritpal Singh, Mark Smith, Trip Tollison, Ruth Quattlebaum and Ansley Williams **Members absent**: N/A. Also present: Paul Threlkeld, Frank Poe (Consultant), Kevin Duvall (GWCCA), Lindsay Strickland (GWCC), Janet Finlayson (GWCC), Lee Hughes, Yong Choe (YC Consulting-via zoom), Franklin Jones, Jeff Hewitt (Visit Savannah), Gary Steffen (Hilton), Michael Owens, Maggie Harney, Stephanie Dammen-Morrell (Hussey, Gay, Bell), Blake Stephenson (Field Representative – Congressman Buddy Carter) and SCC staff: Kelvin Moore, Ronnie Hickman, Holly Jenkins, Al Rojas, Fredia Brady, Jamie Parks, Marc McDuffie and Gail Terrell

Chairman Smith convened the meeting at 10:03am.

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

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

External Affairs Report. Mr. Hughes commented on the September visit to Savannah by the study committee created by the local Senate on 'How to Make Georgia the Number One State in Tourism'. Mr. Choe stated that he anticipates post-government shutdown that the SGCCA earmarks will continue to be in a strong position of consideration.

Financial Report. Ms. Jenkins reported the facility net income and non-event revenue to be favorable for the month of September compared to budget. Ms. Jenkins then continued to report favorable revenue, operating income and expenses compared to budget for the Authority.

Hotel Development Update. Mr. Poe introduced Mr. Gary Steffen, SVP/Global Strategy Head of Hilton who provided brief remarks on the Signia Savannah Hilton hotel project.

Operations Update. Mr. Hickman provided a review of capital projects update which included a Mother's Room Buildout, Forklift replacement, Exhibitor/Customer Service Desk, Deferred FFE, 40ft Scissor Lift, Exterior Door Upgrades and Meeting Room Door Replacements totaling $988,746. Motion made by Mr. Marinelli; seconded by Mr. Williams and approved by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Hickman then provided an update to the Bulkhead project funded by a federal grant. Mr. Hickman also provided a punch list update.

Chairman's Report. Chairman Smith commented on a preliminary draft received from the City of Savannah pertaining to International Drive, Bryan Square and Tomochichi Square and Slip 3. Future meeting to be held with the city to discuss. The discussion will also include the road work needed at the north end of Slip 3.

Chairman Smith asked for any other business; hearing none, then adjourned the meeting to the hotel groundbreaking at 10:34am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bert Brantley, Secretary/Treasurer