

WILL COUNTY METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION AND AUDITORIUM AUTHORITY

Date: June 23, 2021

Authority Memo Number **067-2021 June 23, 2021 Regular Meeting**

The June 23, 2021 regular meeting of the Will County Metropolitan Exposition and Auditorium Authority Board was held at 15 E. Van Buren Street, Joliet, Illinois 60432. Board Chairman Bob Filotto called the meeting to order at 4:00pm with a quorum present. Board members and staff were invited to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present: Bob Filotto, Tim Broderick (via phone), Donnie Chestnutt, Jane Condon, Bill Kent, Jeff Pierson, Kathy Trizna and City Liaison, Pat Mudron.

Staff: Val Devine, Christine Sturm, Mike Piehl (via phone)

Absent: Legal Counsel David Silverman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Authority Memo Number **0062-2021 May 26, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Discussion and Vote:**

The Chairman asked if there were any changes to be made to the May 26, 2021 minutes. He noted that the numbering of the agenda items was incorrect and asked that that be corrected. He asked if there were any other changes. He invited further discussion and, hearing none, he directed roll be called. Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** D. Chestnutt moved and J. Condon seconded approval of May 26, 2021 minutes.

AYES: Members Filotto, Broderick, Chestnutt, Condon and Trizna

Nays: None

Abstained: Kent, Pierson

Public to be Heard Re: Agenda Items – No response.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Authority Memo Number **063-2021 Operational Bills Paid, and Payable Age Listing**

**Discussion and Vote:**

Chairman Filotto opened up the meeting by saying it was good to finally see everyone in person. He noted that there were five large bills paid in the month of May for approximately \$26,000. The charges were for wedding refunds, ticket refunds, utilities and insurance. B. Filotto asked if there were any other questions on bills paid. J. Condon asked about the VenuWorks AmericanExpress bill. V. Devine explained that those were charges she made on her company credit card and since it is a company card, it shows up as VenuWorks and not in her name. J. Condon asked about the past due rents listed. D. Chestnutt asked if the Accounts Receivable list of past due rent payments could be cleaned up since they went back 2-4 years. B. Filotto agreed and said the Board should take formal action during the next session to formally write off the unpaid past due rents.

The Chair invited further discussion and, hearing none, he directed roll to be called. Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** J. Condon moved and J. Pierson seconded approval of accounts received in the amount of \$36,954.30 and payables in the amount of \$63,514.73.

AYES: Members Filotto, Broderick, Chestnutt, Condon, Pierson and Trizna  
Nays: NONE  
Abstained: Kent

Authority Memo Number **064-2021 May 2021 Financial Statements**

**Discussion and Vote:**

B. Filotto noted that on the P&L statement that for 11 months of operation, the theater will have a loss of \$88,000 but still have a positive cash flow. The biggest difference in the cash flow statement for this month compared to last month was the reopening of the theater with projected income of \$645,000. He asked how the numbers were figured. V. Devine said that the total was calculated conservatively, based on the shows that were scheduled and their projected income.

B. Filotto also asked if staff were being brought back early enough to deal with the upcoming schedule. V. Devine said that three staff were coming back full-time on July 6<sup>th</sup> with the others returning soon after. B. Filotto said that the board wants to make sure everyone comes back at full salary. D. Chestnutt asked if V. Devine's salary would be brought back to full pay on July 1<sup>st</sup>. B. Filotto said it would and D. Chestnutt commented, "Bob is expressing our gratitude toward you. In the leadership you have taken, it's not just leadership. You have put your heart and soul into making sure that we are good. I don't think that anyone on this Board can take away from what you have given. We want you restored to what you are owed. We owe you this. We want you to be justly compensated for the work that you've done. Like I commented to you this morning, 20 years ago when you started your career, if someone told you you were going to be an executive director cleaning toilets, you probably would have looked at them and said, 'huh?' But you did. You stepped up. You did not say 'I'm too good for it.' Your whole goal was to make sure this Rialto is just what we as a community say we want. And that's a gem in our community. You did not waiver and we cannot allow you to continue to let us undercut what is due you."

The Board next discussed the 2021/22 budget. B. Filotto said that it is hard to draw up a budget for the upcoming year since 2020/21 fell apart. Insurance, repairs/maintenance, utilities and management fees were all expected to increase. Overall, it looked like the budget would break even.

P. Mudron gave an update on the city of Joliet budget pre-meeting on June 30<sup>th</sup> to discuss how the pandemic relief money would be spent. He said there were many organizations asking to be funded. The city has no way to currently vet an organization and will need to find a way to do that. He believes that the city will use a majority of the relief money to fund 26 city job positions that need to be filled. He encouraged the board members to attend the meeting if they were available.

The Chairman asked for any questions or comments. The Chair invited further discussion and, hearing none, he directed roll be called.

**Motion:** J. Pierson moved and J. Condon seconded approval of the May 2021 Financial Statements

AYES: Members Filotto, Broderick, Chestnutt, Condon, Kent, Pierson and Trizna.

Nays: NONE

Authority Memo Number **065-2021 Recognition of T. Osterberger**

**Discussion:** B. Filotto took a moment to publically recognize and thank former board member, Tom Osterberger, for his service. Osterberger was a part of the original board after the restructure and was to be commended for his dedication to the Rialto.

Authority Memo Number **066-2021 Welcome to new Board member, William Kent**

**Discussion:** B. Filotto welcomed new Board member, William Kent. Bill is married and has two children. He co-owns three SERVPROs in the area: Joliet, Lockport and Aurora. Bill's company was very helpful to the Rialto several years ago when their property at 2 Rialto Square flooded.

**EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

**RSTF Report:** J. Condon reported that the Foundation Board did not meet in June but was planning to meet in July. Sue Gulas was hired as a consultant for Home for the Holidays and would start on July 1st. The two main things that the Foundation Board were discussing were the murals to be painted on the Chicago Street windows and having a bust made of Dorothy Mavrigh. The Foundation Board estimates the cost of both projects to be about \$25,000 of which they received \$12,000 from the Jim Smith and Lynn Lichtenauer memorial donations. B. Filotto also suggested recognizing Chris Dragatsis for his part in helping Dorothy Mavrigh save the Rialto.

**Executive Director's Report:** V. Devine reported that she had a webinar scheduled with U.S. Rep. Lauren Underwood and a meeting with Senator Dick Durban's representative, Greg Blakely, that Steve Randich had organized. She said that she, J. Condon, D. Chestnutt and B. Filotto had also met with new Joliet City Councilmen, Joe Clement and Cesar Guerrero and that she felt the meeting went well. She said that there are currently 53 shows scheduled and possibly 11 more. She also told the Board that she is planning to take two weeks of vacation and she will be gone from July 26<sup>th</sup> thru August 6<sup>th</sup>. She thanked everyone for their support during the shut-down and said that she can't wait for the staff to come back.

**Chairman's Report:** B. Filotto had no news to report. He said there probably will not be a meeting in July since V. Devine will be on vacation.

**Committee Reports:** No reports.

**PUBLIC TO BE HEARD** – No response.

**Motion:** Board Chairman B. Filotto requested a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. D. Chestnut moved and J. Condon seconded the motion.

AYES: Members Filotto, Broderick, Chestnutt, Condon, Kent, Pierson and Trizna.

NAYS: NONE

The meeting adjourned at 4:59 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Christine Sturm, Recording Secretary.

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Kathy Trizna, Board Secretary

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