

**SPORTS AUTHORITY OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE
AND DAVIDSON COUNTY**

MINUTES OF JANUARY 21, 2021, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WEBEX VIDEO CONFERENCE
10:30 a.m.

Board Members: Kim Adkins, Margaret Behm, Cathy Bender, Don Deering, Glenn Farner, Melvin Gill, Jon Glassmeyer, Frank Harrison, Dan Hogan, Aaron McGee, Emmett Wynn

Staff: Monica Fawknorton, Quinton Herring, Bob Lackey, Melissa Wells, Margaret Darby (Legal)

Titans/Nissan Stadium: Adolpho Burch, Bob Flynn, Jenneen Kaufman, Daniel Werly

Predators/Ford Ice Center: Kyle Clayton, Keith Hegger, Heidi Bundren, Sean Henry, David Kells, Rebecca King, Chris Mason, Jill Ormandy, Emily Polanowicz

Sounds/First Tennessee Park: Adam Nuse, Doug Scopel

Nashville SC: Ian Ayer

Visitors: Kellen DeCoursey (CAA/ICON), Ron Gobbell (Gobbell Hays Partners), Greg McClarin (Metro Finance Manager), Bill Phillips (Metro Deputy Mayor), Jim Pustejovsky (Capital Project Solutions), Matt Toulouisani (Bell Construction)

Chair Kim Adkins called the meeting of the Sports Authority Board of Directors to order at 10:30 a.m. and welcomed all in attendance. She then reviewed the appeals process and stated that the meeting was being held electronically (via WebEx) to protect the health, safety and welfare of Tennesseans during the COVID-19 outbreak and is being live streamed by Metro ITS on Metro Network 1. There were no objections.

Chair Adkins shared the news of the recent passing of former Sports Authority Board Meeting Judge Steve North; he served from 2002 until 2013.

Chair Adkins provided a roll call of the Board Members; all were present except for Jad Duncan and Anna Page. A motion was made by Glenn Farner to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2020, Board of Directors meeting, it was seconded by Emmett Wynn, and the Board unanimously voted to approve.

Executive Director's Report

Chair Adkins recognized Monica Fawknorton to give the Executive Director's Report. Ms. Fawknorton thanked everyone for being on the call. She shared that Women's Professional Sports Ad Hoc Committee Chair Cathy Bender would give her committee report and that a report on the debt obligations related to the MLS Stadium revenue bonds would follow. Facility updates and annual Board Elections as required by the Sports Authority's By Laws would conclude the agenda.

Ms. Fawknorton noted that the FY22 budget season has started, and budget submission are due on February 1. The next Board Meeting is February 18 and the budget will be presented to the Finance Committee and the Board at that time for ratification.

Women's Professional Sports Ad Hoc Committee Report

Committee Chair Bender presented the Women's Professional Sports Ad Hoc Committee report. The Committee met prior to the Board Meeting. Invitations for bids went out in November and three responses were received from CAA/ICON, Sports Value Consulting, and CSL International. The Committee voted to move forward on the market survey and the economic fiscal analysis, noting that both can be addressed together or separately. Margaret Darby and Michelle Lane provided guidance on the Procurement procedures.

Presentation of State Form CT-0253: Report on Debt Obligations

Vice Chair Bender recognized Monica Fawknottson who presented State Form CT-02503, which is a report on MLS soccer stadium debt obligations. She explained that the purpose of the form is to provide clear and concise information on the debt obligations that were recently released. The report was prepared by Metro Law Department's bond counsel and is to be presented to the issuing entity, the Sports Authority, and filed with the Comptroller of the Treasury of the State of Tennessee. Margaret Darby also confirmed the Form CT-0253 has been filed with the Comptroller's Office, and is now being presented to the local issuing authority.

Nashville SC/MLS Stadium Update

Chair Adkins recognized Ian Ayre who presented an update on the Soccer Stadium. He reviewed the community work that Nashville Soccer Club has been involved in. The day of its inaugural match Nashville SC launched the planting of 100 trees around Nissan Stadium. Nashville SC has been involved in several community relief efforts including: raising \$37,000 for tornado relief, providing \$100,000+ for COVID relief, donating 10,000 NSC masks to local community organizations with other partner teams and organizations for COVID 19, and donating over \$50,000 for food for displaced workers working with city partners and MLS sponsors. Nashville SC, in partnership with PENCIL Foundation, launched a literacy initiative targeting third graders in Metro Nashville Public Schools. Nashville SC, in partnership with the Metro Police Department, also delivered Thanksgiving meals to families in the Edgehill community. The soccer club has also launched "2nd Mini Pitch" in partnership with the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition at their new headquarters in Antioch. Over \$250,000 has been raised to support the Nashville community in the inaugural year of the team, as well as over five hundred hours of community service, in partnership with over fifty community organizations.

Mr. Ayre reported that Nashville SC is awaiting an official start date and schedule. He noted there has been a ten percent growth in season ticket sales to-date, that loge boxes for the new stadium sold out in forty-eight hours, and only a handful of new stadium suites remain for sale.

Mr. Kellen DeCoursey provided an update on the stadium construction, reporting that the stadium is still on schedule, 250 craft workers are on site, the site has been injury free after six months of construction, and there have only been ten COVID-19 cases in the last six months.

Ms. Carol Greenlee provided an update on DBE participation in the construction of the stadium. She shared that the DBE participation is currently at 37% (the contractual goal is 30%), that of the eighty total DBE subcontractors and vendors, fifty-four are Tennessee based, and

twenty-one Davidson County based. Additionally, Women Owned Businesses total 50% of DBE subs, Minority Business Enterprises total is 42%, and Small Business enterprises comprise 8%. Director Gill asked for clarification on the women-owned business participation, including the length of time the company has been in business. Director Farner asked that the stadium report in the future include DBE participation for the subcontractors, employees, and any independent contractors. Ms. Greenlee will provide the information in the future

Ron Gobbell provided an update on infrastructure. The project is currently in the permitting phase and Bell Construction is working through the contracting phase. The project includes the extension of Wedgewood to Craighead and the Benton Avenue extension. Work currently includes: permitting, getting job trailers set up, and coordinating with contractors. Director Gill asked for an update on the timeline on the permitting. Mr. Gobbell explained that it is a complicated project because a bridge is involved; but that mid-March is the goal for the completion of the permitting process.

Tennessee Titans/Nissan Stadium Update

Burke Nihill provided an update on the Tennessee Titans. During 2020 the Titans' year included the following: first divisional championship since 2008, first playoff home game in twelve years, Derrick Henry was the eighth running back in NFL history with 2,000 rushing yards, and the Titans were one of only three NFL teams with five consecutive winning seasons. Titans community participation included \$1 million donated to tornado relief and hands-on tornado cleanup, and a COVID response included: amplifying government safety messaging, supporting frontline heroes, using the stadium for testing and PPE drive, and modifying the youth sports initiative. Additionally, the Titans honoring first responders after the Christmas Day bombing with 12th Titans recognition (six first-line responders), and supported the community with contributions for affected residents and businesses. The Titans 2020 Social Justice efforts included: "We Stand For" resource guide supporting black-owned businesses, "Real Conversations with a Titan," (connecting with students), and "I Am A Voter" registration. In addition, the Titans connected with fans and the community through digital channels with world-class digital storytelling content and safely hosted 8,000-12,000 fans for eight Titans games.

Mr. Nihill also provided an update on Nissan Stadium, reporting that on December 18, 2020, the Titans announced that formal discussions had begun with the Mayor's Office on the future of Nissan Stadium. The discussions are centered around: (1) vibrant neighborhoods--catalyzing the redevelopment of the East Bank into a vibrant, community-centric new neighborhood; (2) Titans Commitment to TN--securing the Titans long-term future in Nashville; and (3) Modernizing Nashville's stadium--renovating Nissan Stadium to keep pace with comparable sports and entertainment venues. The 100-acre project could create thousands of jobs and neighborhood activity is expected to generate millions of dollars in new tax revenue annually. Current concepts under consideration include: mixed use of housing, offices, and local businesses and restaurants, Riverfront Park and community "place making," with connections between downtown and East Nashville, Cayce, Edgefield and other neighborhoods.

Concepts being explored are: (1) an activity-rich plaza which may include a concert stage and dining options (South-end Zone); (2) Field-Level Club with high end experiences; (3) Corner Premium Club with the building extending up into the air, a covered outdoor bar and premium loge seats; and (4) Corner Club including an upper deck SRO Club providing a fan box, standing room only and general seating (300-level).

The next steps in 2021 include the following: Campus and facility studies, community and fan outreach, and conversations with city and state officials.

Nashville Predators/Bridgestone Arena

Mr. Kyle Clayton provided an updated on the Nashville Predators and Bridgestone Arena. The Predators are concentrating on two primary areas: (1) Keeping fans safe by promoting mask initiatives, partnering with State and local governments, and exploring how to get fans back in and (2) Giving back to the community.

Ms. Rebecca King provided an update on what the team has done to give back to the community. In January 2020 the Team launched a long-term partnership with Tennessee State University, raising more than \$1.8M. In February 2020 the Team recognized congenital heart defects (Luke Bryan provided support with the Team), Pride night, and Hockey Cancer Night. They also continued their partnership with Smile Direct Club and raised more than \$250k in grants, which will continue over the next five years. In March 2020 the Team sponsored Ford Military Salute Week-partnering with MTSU. They raised more than \$2.7M to help address tornadoes and COVID relief and \$250K for the Community Fund of Middle Tennessee. In Bridgestone Arena and the Ford Ice Centers also served as collection sites for tornado relief.

In addition to COVID relief, the Predators launched a program called "Feeding the Frontline" for police, fire, and local hospitals and earmarked \$250k for tornado relief. All payment requests were suspended for fans and they hosted a virtual fan appreciation night to thank the fans. Ms. King also reported that the Predators Foundation distributed \$700k to 168 organizations. The Foundation also hosted three events outdoors this fall which raised additional funds: a golf tournament which provided \$100k for the Foundation, a fishing tournament, significant dollars were raised, and a Clay Shoot which raised \$80k. In November 2020 they raised over \$100k, which included highlighting children that had received treatment at Children's Hospital. Following the Christmas Day bombing, the Arena became a command center for police, FBI, etc. The Predators/Bridgestone Arena hosted multi-blood drives, which resulted in over 3,400 pints of blood and helped over 10,000 people. The Nashville Predators was named, "One of the Best Employers in Sports" in 2020.

Nashville Sounds/First Horizon Park Update

Mr. Adam Nuse provided an update on the Nashville Sounds. It has been five hundred days since the last home game and the 2021 season is scheduled to start in April. New safety initiatives becoming cashless and eliminating contact points. The season will include 144 games, 72 of which will be at the ballpark. The Sounds have transitioned back to an affiliate of the Milwaukee Brewers. The Sounds new initiative, "work from home plate," which allows organizations to rent out a suite for the day and work from there-- almost sold out immediately.

Mr. Doug Scopel provided updates on the tornado damage and the Health Department. The Sounds are working through protocols with the Health Department and Major League Baseball. The tornado damage has been fully repaired and payment is complete. Mr. Scopel ended the report by announcing that in November 2020 the Metro Council passed a resolution to rename 5th Avenue North after John Lewis. First Horizon Park is now on the corner of Representative John Lewis Way and Junior Gilliam Way.

2021 Board Elections

Chair Adkins explained the annual election process as required by the Sports Authority's By Laws. She shared the history of the time she has served as Chair and nominated the following slate of officers: Chair-Cathy Bender, Vice Chair-Frank Harrison, and Secretary/Treasurer-Emmett Wynn. Glenn Farner asked for clarification of the process, is it by slate or by individual office. Margaret Darby explained that nominations could be by slate and also by individual office. Chair Adkins asked if there are any nominations from the floor and for comments. Margaret Behm moved that the nominations be accepted, Glen Farner seconded, and the slate of nominations was approved unanimously.

Several Board Members thanked Chair Adkins for her years of service.

The next Board and Finance Committee meetings are scheduled for February 18, 2021.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.