

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE &  
DAVIDSON COUNTY

Minutes of April 16, 2020 Meeting of the Board of Directors  
WebEx Video Conference  
10:30 a.m.

**Board Members:** Kim Adkins, Margaret Behm, Jad Duncan, Melvin Gill, Jon Glassmeyer, Frank Harrison, Dan Hogan, Anna Page, Dudley West, Emmett Wynn

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

**Titans/ Nissan Stadium:** Jenneen Kaufman, Bob Flynn

**Predators/ Ford Ice Center:** Sean Henry, Kyle Clayton, Keith Hegger, Danny Butler, Michelle Kennedy

**Sounds/ First Tennessee Park:** Adam Nuse, Doug Scopel

**Nashville SC:** Mary Cavarra

**Visitors:** Ron Gobbell (Gobbell Hays Partners), Jim Pustejovsky (Capital Project Solutions),

Chairwoman Adkins called the meeting of the Sports Authority Board of Directors to order at 10:30 a.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Chairwoman Adkins reviewed the appeals process and stated that the meeting was being held electronically via WebEx due to protect citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic. She thanked Ms. Stephanie Judd from Metro ITS for her assistance with coordinating the electronic meeting. **Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Authority unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2020 Board of Directors meeting.**

***Executive Director's Report***

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Ms. Monica Fawknorton to give the Executive Director's Report. Ms. Fawknorton reviewed the agenda and welcomed Ms. Melissa Wells, the Sports Authority's new Finance Manager. Ms. Wells is a Nashville native and previously worked with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) and as Chief Financial Officer of an aviation consulting firm. Ms. Fawknorton recognized Ms. Margaret Behm, Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee, for an update on the Women's Sports Initiative. Ms. Behm reported that the Advisory Committee will meet on April 29, 2020; CAAICON will present its report.

***Finance Committee Report – Consideration of a request to authorize an expenditure from the Arena Revenue Fund to support the closeout of Ford Ice Center Bellevue***

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Finance Committee Chair, Mr. Jon Glassmeyer, to report on the Finance Committee’s recommendation to authorize an expenditure from the Arena Revenue Fund to support the closeout of Ford Ice Center Bellevue. Mr. Glassmeyer stated that the Finance Committee met prior to the Board meeting to vet this request. Approximately \$900,000 is needed for final close-out of the construction and furnishing of the project. Ms. Margaret Darby noted that the Finance Committee recommended additional language to the resolution clarifying that the Sports Authority is providing funding at the request of General Services and that funding will come from the Arena Revenue Fund. Mr. Glassmeyer reported that the Finance Committee voted to recommend approval of the revised resolution and, **upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted to approve the request to authorize an expenditure from the Arena Revenue Fund to support the closeout of Ford Ice Center Bellevue.**

***MLS Stadium Update - Appointment of Sports Authority’s MLS Development Committee Members***

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Ms. Mary Cavarra for an update on Nashville SC. Ms. Cavarra stated that the first game was on February 29<sup>th</sup> at Nissan Stadium and had roughly 60,000 in attendance. She thanked the Titans for the use of their facility and help with making the first game a success. Ms. Cavarra noted that the league has delayed its season due to COVID-19. She stated that the players and staff are in town and involved in community outreach related to the tornado recovery efforts. With regards to the MLS Stadium, Ms. Cavarra reported that demolition of the Fairgrounds’ old expo buildings started in March and should be finished by June. Ms. Cavarra also reported that updates are being made to several of the MLS Stadium Agreements. She noted that the Board will be asked to consider these agreements upon completion. Section 2(b) of the Development Agreement calls for the creation of a five-member Development Committee, including two members from the Sports Authority, two members from Nashville Soccer Holdings, and one member from the Fair Board.

Ms. Cavarra then recognized Mr. Ron Gobbell for an update on the infrastructure. Mr. Gobbell stated that the project is now remobilized, with the bridge as a high priority. A Request for Proposal (RFP) for the infrastructure’s Construction Manager is being drafted and the goal is

to have them selected by the start of stadium construction. Ms. Fawknotsen recommended that she and Mr. Ron Gobbell serve as the Authority's representatives to the Development Committee, and that Mr. Jim Pustejovsky of CPS attend all meetings. She noted that the (unexecuted) Development Agreement does provide for representatives to change if needed. **Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted to select Ms. Monica Fawknotsen and Mr. Ron Gobbell as the Development Committee members.**

### *Facility Questions*

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Mr. Bob Flynn, Vice President of Facilities and Game Day Operations, to give an update on Nissan Stadium. Mr. Flynn reported that nine magnetometers and bike racks were damaged in the recent tornadoes. The Titans Organization donated \$1 million to the Community Foundation, to assist with tornado recovery in Nashville. Mr. Flynn reported that the season has been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Nissan Stadium hosted a PPE Drive and collected five pallets of gear which was donated to United Way. Mr. Flynn announced the need to replace the sports lighting, which is now obsolete and fails intermittently. The lighting is being replaced with LED lights, which are projected to be more energy efficient and reliable field lighting. Mr. Flynn noted that the Facility Assessment did address the need for replacement.

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Mr. Kyle Clayton from the Predators to give a Bridgestone Arena update. Mr. Clayton reported that the National Hockey League has currently paused its season. Additionally, three events have been cancelled and others have been postponed as a result of COVID-19. Members of the Predators employees, owners and players donated \$1 million for event staff that are missing work due to the pandemic. The team also donated \$2.7 million to assist with tornado relief and served lunches to those affected by the tornadoes. They have also donated to the Mayor's Relief Fund and provided \$700,000 in grants to over 68 non-profits in Middle Tennessee. The Team launched the "Eat with Us Campaign," which provides food for first responders and hospital staff.

### *First Horizon Park Report*

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Mr. Doug Scopel from the Nashville Sounds to provide the First Horizon Park Report. Mr. Scopel reported that the ballpark suffered tornado damage to the roof, Band

Box and to the scoreboard. The damage is estimated around \$1 - \$1.5 million and staff is working with insurance providers to recover all loses. The Team has decided to update the neck of the scoreboard to include a versatile LED strip and will pay for the upgrade. The Sounds have donated over \$100k to the Music City Fund for tornado recovery. They also opened the Ballpark for supply distribution and dispatch for first responders, immediately after the tornado. They hope to resume their season June 1, 2020.

Mr. Scopel recognized Mr. Adam Nuse to continue the report. Mr. Nuse stated that the Nashville Sounds' season has been suspended indefinitely, noting that they follow orders from the Major League Baseball. The League hopes to start in June and plans to extend the season through September. Mr. Nuse announced the Team's "Safe and Sounds at Home" campaign which includes virtual entertainment to keep the fans engaged. During regularly scheduled home games, the team participates in a virtual game and provides fans with the recipes to some of their favorite Ballpark refreshments. While the Safer at Home order is in place, upgrades are expected to be made at the Ballpark, including: 3<sup>rd</sup> & Home bar, new entrance and a new airconditioned tent for events on the concourse. Mr. Nuse concluded the report with a video recapping the "Safe and Sounds at Home" campaign.

Chairwoman Adkins thanked the teams for their continued support with tornado recovery and COVID-19 as Nashville is faced with such trying times. She concluded by stating that the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. ***There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.***