

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE &  
DAVIDSON COUNTY

Minutes of August 20, 2020 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, Dan Hogan, Aaron McGee, Anna Page, Emmett Wynn

**Staff:** Monica Fawknotson, Ilesha Montesrin, Quinton Herring, Melissa Wells, Margaret Darby (Legal)

**Titans/ Nissan Stadium:** Jenneen Kaufman, Bob Flynn, Burke Nihill, Dan Werly, Gil Beverly, Adolpho Birch

**Predators/ Ford Ice Center:** Sean Henry, Kyle Clayton, Keith Hegger

**Sounds/ First Tennessee Park:** Doug Scopel

**Nashville SC:** Mary Cavarra

**Visitors:** Ron Gobbell (Gobbell Hays Partners), Jim Pustejovsky (Capital Project Solutions), Allen Troshinsky (Mortenson), Kellen DeCoursey (CAA/ICON), Lora Fox (Metro Legal), Tom Cross (Metro Legal), Nick Hormich (CAA/ICON), Bill Phillips, Tim DeBuse (Gobbell Hays Partners), Tim Prow (Powell Building Group)

Chairwoman 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 citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic. Chairwoman Adkins performed roll call and then announced the following member appointments:

- Finance Committee: Glenn Farner and Dan Hogan
- Nissan Stadium Liaison: Melvin Gill
- Bridgestone Arena Liaison: Jad Duncun
- First Horizon Park Liaison: Don Deering
- MLS Stadium Liaison: Frank Harrison
- Women's Sports Ad Hoc Committee: Margaret Behm, Anna Page, and Dan Hogan

**Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Authority unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2020 Board of Directors meeting.**

### ***Executive Director's Report***

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Ms. Monica Fawknorton to give the Executive Director's Report. Ms. Fawknorton announced that Metro's contract with Gobbell Hays Partners (GHP) was extended an additional twenty-eight months by the Metro Council. GHP serves as the Authority's Program Manager for the MLS Stadium and the extension will allow for the completion of the project. Ms. Fawknorton stated that the new office space is nearing completion and currently waiting on furniture and audio/visual equipment. The hope is to be in the new space by the end of September.

### ***Finance Committee Report - Consider approval of a Resolution Approving the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Amendment to the Construction Management Agreement between the Sports Authority and Mortenson|Messer Construction for construction of a Major League Soccer Stadium***

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Finance Committee Chair Jon Glassmeyer to give the Finance Committee report. Mr. Glassmeyer stated that the Finance Committee met prior to this meeting and unanimously voted to recommend approval of the GMP Amendment to the full board. **Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously voted to approve a Resolution Approving the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Amendment to the Construction Management Agreement between the Sports Authority and Mortenson|Messer Construction for construction of a Major League Soccer Stadium.**

### ***MLS Stadium Update***

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Ms. Mary Cavarra to begin the MLS Stadium Update. Ms. Cavarra stated that to date, the Team has spent \$6 million towards the MLS Stadium. The facility is scheduled to be completed in May 2022. Mr. Ian Ayre a brief update on Nashville SC noting that Safe Practice began in June and that the team's tournament in Orlando had been cancelled when 11 players tested positive for COVID-19. Mr. Ayre additionally reported that the team got its first win in league history on August 12, 2020 against FC Dallas. Finally, Nashville SC has been busy in the community working with Metro Schools' PENCIL program to provide 6,000 bags of school supplies to Napier Elementary. They have also provided over 300,000 free face masks (available in four languages) and partnered with Soles for Souls.

Mr. Kellen DeCoursey continued the report with an update on DBE participation related to the MLS Stadium. Populous is required to achieve 20% total DBE participation and to-date, has 21.3%

participation. Mortenson/Messer has a 30% requirement and to-date, has achieved 35% participation. Mr. DeCoursey reported that 37 of the DBE participants are located within Tennessee and 13 within Davidson County. In response to a question from Ms. Margaret Behm, Mr. DeCoursey stated that monthly reports will be provided to the Board.

With regards to the stadium infrastructure project, Sports Authority Project Manager Ron Gobbell reported that most of the work remaining is currently out for bid. He reminded the Authority that the infrastructure project is separate from the stadium and funded by Metro's \$25 million in General Obligation bonds. Metro Purchasing is currently soliciting proposals for a Construction Manager and staff hope to present an Intent to Award at the next meeting. Mr. Gobbell noted that his firm, Gobbell Hays Partners is a woman-owned firm and briefly reviewed a document including other DBE firms on the Sports Authority's project management team, including:

- Capital Project Solutions – Small Business
- Pillars – Minority Owned and Small Business (GHP & CPS Teams)
- Alliance – Minority Owned, Woman Owned & Small Business (GHP & CPS Team)
- Hawkins – Woman Owned & Small Business (GHP Team)
- Barge, Wagoner – Small Business (GHP Team)
- DuGard Communication - Minority Owned & Small Business (GHP Team)

In response to a question from Ms. Cathy Bender, Mr. Gobbell stated that he would include clarification regarding businesses that are female owned and African American owned, at the next meeting. Mr. Melvin Gill asked what kind of unforeseen costs may arise with this project? Mr. Gobbell stated that the sewer was the biggest issue and resulted in a large upgrade to what was originally proposed. Mr. Gobbell also noted that the area surrounding the Speedway is much larger than anticipated and requires additional work which has not yet been funded.

### ***Facility Updates***

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Mr. Adam Nuse to give an update on First Horizon Park. Mr. Scopel stated that the team is currently using its 12<sup>th</sup> business plan since the start of COVID. Upon reopening of the ballpark, the facility will operate at a maximum of 3,500 people (per CDC guidelines). First Horizon Park is now hosting private batting practice sessions with local Pro pitchers and the cost is

\$35/hour. 3<sup>rd</sup> & Home, a sports bar, is the newest addition to the ballpark and has been open for over a week. Mr. Doug Scopel stated that with the Sounds' season being cancelled, the facility is ready to host other events upon approval of the Health Department and the Mayor's Office. Historically, the Sounds release their upcoming schedule around this time, but because the contract between MLB and minor league baseball is due for renewal, the Sounds' schedule may not be finalized until the Fall. In response to a question from Mr. Don Deering, Mr. Scopel stated that all damage from the March 3<sup>rd</sup> tornados has been repaired, other than the roof.

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Mr. Kyle Clayton, Vice President of Operations, Nashville Predators, to give an update on Bridgestone Arena. Mr. Clayton reported that both Ford Ice center locations are now open. The Team just completed playing a tournament in Edmonton, Canada. There has been coordination with the Metro Nashville Health Department to maintain a safe environment. The Team has continued to be very actively involved with the community.

Mr. Clayton recognized Mr. Danny Butler, Vice President and General Manager of Ford Ice Centers, for additional information on the Ford Ice Centers (FIC). Mr. Butler reported FIC has hosted three tournaments over the summer which included ten teams (half of the normal participation) and a high- level recruitment hockey camp. In September, additional programming is being planned, including high school hockey. A 40-page document outlining safety measures was provided to the Metro Health Department. Margaret Behm asked if participation is being limited. Mr. Butler explained that it has been limited, and they are being very cautious about safety. Ms. Behm also asked about the status of female participation. Mr. Butler explained that they currently have about 300-350 females involved in figure skating (about 90% are female) and about 15% are involved in hockey. An additional female team has been added to the hockey league. They are currently working on a grant application for a girls' program and they hope to be able to update the progress of that at the next meeting.

Mr. Butler introduced Mr. Brooks Bratten, Senior Communications and Content Coordinator, Nashville Predators, for an update on the Team. Mr. Bratten reported that the team just finished a month of NHL hockey. Training started July 13, 2020, at Bridgestone Arena (protocol was established by working with both the NHL and the Metro Health Department), and a bubble was

created within the Arena to maintain the safety of the players. COVID-19 testing was required every day. On July 26 the Team left for Edmonton for a tournament. Testing was provided on a daily basis and there was not one positive case in Edmonton. The Team lost in the qualifying round to Arizona. Mr. Bratten announced that the NHL draft will be on October 9-10, 2020. Margaret Behm asked if Bridgestone Arena events have been rescheduled. Mr. Clayton explained that they hope to have events restart by January 2021, or possibly sooner.

Mr. Clayton introduced Rebecca King, Vice President-Community Relations, Nashville Predators, for an update on community involvement. Ms. King reported that the Predators were able to provide tornado relief to frontline workers with support from corporate sponsors. In addition, the Predators Foundation has provided additional grants and college scholarships. The players are very active in charity work, as are the owners. Blood drives have been provided at 29 locations, with over 1,000 pints donated. The team remains committed to being involved in the community. Chairwoman Adkins then recognized Mr. Burke Nihill, President & CEO of the Tennessee Titans) to give an update on Nissan Stadium. Mr. Nihill announced that the first Titans game will be held on September 20, 2020 and will not have any fans in attendance. Training Camp started two weeks ago and trailers have been implemented for daily testing for COVID-19. Mr. Nihill congratulated Mr. Mike Keith for being selected as a member of the Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame. Mr. Keith provided the following update on the Team:

- Started testing on July 28, 2020 - The Team put on pads this past Monday
- One of only four teams with four straight winning seasons
- Resigned Ryan Tannehill (was the highest ranked League Quarterback in 2019)
- Resigned 2019's Leading Rusher - Derrick Henry
- Returned entire offensive staff and 10 of 11 offensive starters
- Excited also about a great defensive team and the incoming rookies
- Season Ticket members – providing several live “Look Ins”
- NFL Radio (Channel 88) coming in next week for their Titans Training Camp
- Titans “All Access” returning next week

Chairwoman Adkins announced that the Women's Sports Initiative will meet next week, August 25, 2020. The next Board meeting will be September 17, 2020.

***There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.***