

LUZERNE COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY MEETING

FEBRUARY 10, 2021

An Executive Session was held prior to the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Luzerne County Convention Center Authority on February 10, 2021. Also prior to the Regular Meeting, Judge Tina Gartley swore in (via Zoom) Eugene Rafalli and Tom Woods for 5-year terms as Directors. Judge Gartley stated that she was honored to do this and thanked the Directors for their service.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Luzerne County Convention Center Authority was called to order by Chairman Gary Zingaretti on February 10, 2021.

The Pledge of Allegiance, led by Chairman Zingaretti, was said by all in attendance.

ROLL CALL – PRESENT: Carmen Ambrosino, Donna Cupinski, Neal DeAngelo (via telephone) John Pickering, Eugene Rafalli, Michelle Reilly, John Ruckno, Tom Woods, and Gary Zingaretti. Peter Biscontinini and Tony Ryba were absent. Also present were members of ASM Global Administration - General Manager Will Beekman, Assistant General Manager/Director of Finance Carrie Grantuskas, Director of Marketing Stephen Poremba, and Director of Operations Michael Wilczynski, Mary Jo Kishel of Rosenn, Jenkins & Greenwald, and Jerry Lynott from the Times Leader and Eric Mark from the Citizens' Voice were also in attendance.

Chairman Zingaretti thanked everyone for coming and officially welcomed back Gene Rafalli and Tom Woods for their new terms.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence for this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments for this meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Chairman Zingaretti asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2021 Regular Meeting as drafted.

A motion was made by Gene Rafalli and seconded by Carmen Ambrosino to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2021 Regular Meeting.

ON THE QUESTION: All those in favor of approving the meeting minutes signified by saying "AYE". **OPPOSED:** No one opposed the motion. **ABSTAIN:** No one abstained. The motion carries.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Chairman Zingaretti asked for a motion to approve the invoices totaling \$201,164.48. Most of the invoices are for projects that were previously approved by the Board, but we need to approve the payment.

A motion was made by John Ruckno and seconded by Michelle Reilly to approve the payment of bills.

ON THE QUESTION: All those in favor of the motion to accept the payment of bills signified by saying “AYE”. **OPPOSED:** No one opposed the motion. **ABSTAIN:** No one abstained. The motion carries.

Chairman Zingaretti stated that the Executive Session was held prior to the start of the Regular meeting rather than at this point.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT:

Will Beekman reported the following:

Good afternoon, everyone!

We’ve had a few busy weeks getting the ice and building ready for the return of Penguins hockey. The team’s first game was held this past Monday evening, and it was pretty smooth sailing – sort of like riding a bike. Obviously, we didn’t have any fans in the building, but in addition to the players and officials on the ice, we did welcome approximately 50-60 other individuals into the seating area – including scouts, media, off-ice officials, and a few staff members from both teams.

As per AHL protocols, all teams are testing their players regularly, and all players and staff are subject to temperature screenings and must fill out health questionnaires upon entering the building. Of course, putting these protocols on paper is one thing, but executing them is another, so I want to publicly commend our staff for the doing the great job that they always do. Game #2 is tomorrow night against the Hershey Bears.

Also, I mentioned at our last meeting that we are excited to be hosting a limited number of fans for the PIAA District 2 Basketball Championships on March 11, 12 & 13, and now we have some more exciting news to share today regarding the PIAA District 2 Wrestling Championships. To that end, PIAA will be hosting a 3pm press conference today in the arena to go over the details of these upcoming events. I realize that’s still nearly three hours from now, but please feel to join us later today for that press conference if you are so inclined. Everyone will be entering the building through the East Gate beginning at 2:45 pm.

That really sums up what we've been working on over the three weeks since our last meeting, so I will conclude my report at this time.

Carmen Ambrosino asked Will about Governor Wolf's plan to have 1,500 people in the Arena and asked whose decision it was not to have fans in the building. Will stated that it was 15% of the (10,000) capacity and that number was reduced to 5% (500) a few months ago when the COVID 19 cases started to spike again. The decision was made on our end, as it did not make sense financially for us or for the Penguins. We are waiting until they get the number back up, hopefully to 15%. Once we get to that number, the Penguins are offering their season ticket holders first right of refusal. A discussion followed. Carmen Ambrosino also asked if the Arena was approached by the Commonwealth in regard to using the Arena as a COVID 19 vaccination site. Will responded that we have not as of this point.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS & STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Donna Cupinski stated that the Committee has not had any big projects going on. ASM has been doing a great job taking care of everything. She reminded everyone that if they had a few minutes after the meeting to go on a tour to see the work that has been done.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

There is nothing new to report at this time.

LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Michelle Reilly had nothing new to report. Chairman Zingaretti stated that the Board is waiting for a revised draft of the proposed agreement for joint use of Arena Drive. A firm commitment was made three weeks ago that it was done and, on its way, but it has not been received yet.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE:

Carmen Ambrosino had nothing new to report.

SUITES COMMITTEE:

Tom Woods had nothing new to report.

RIGHT TO KNOW REQUESTS:

There were no new Right to Know requests.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chairman Zingaretti stated that a signed copy of the Addendum to the Penguins' contract will be emailed to all Board Members. Copies were made available to reporters from both newspapers. Chairman Zingaretti then spoke about the grants that we have received, including the 1.5 Million Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP), a state grant that is going to assist with meeting the construction requirements for the projects that are required under the Penguins' contract. We were also able to secure a \$250,000.00 grant, which is through the Marketing to Attract Tourists fund which was brought to us by Senator Yudichak and Chairman Zingaretti thanked him for that. With both of the grants comes paperwork, and having to execute contracts with the agencies. We have put together, and this is in your folder, a proposed resolution which addresses both grants. Chairman Zingaretti read sections of both resolutions. The Board has received paperwork which needs to be signed.

Chairman Zingaretti asked for a motion to approve the Resolution.

A motion was made by John Pickering and seconded by Michelle Reilly to approve the Resolution.

Chairman Zingaretti asked if there were any questions on the Resolution and there were none.

ON THE QUESTION: All those in favor of the motion to accept the payment of bills signified by saying "AYE". **OPPOSED:** No one opposed the motion. **ABSTAIN:** No one abstained. The motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Statements of Financial Interest are due by May 1, 2021 (they are in the folder) and Chairman Zingaretti asked that they be returned to Carrie Grantuskas.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Donna Cupinski informed the Board that former State Representative George Hasay recently passed away. He was instrumental in helping to get the Arena here.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Zingaretti called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Tom Woods and seconded by Michelle Reilly.

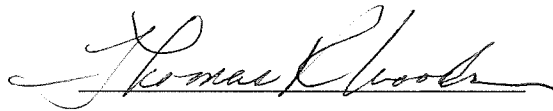
ON THE QUESTION: All those in favor of the motion signified by saying "AYE".

OPPOSED: No one opposed. **ABSTAIN:** No one abstained. The motion carries.

Chairman Zingaretti thanked everyone for attending.

APPROVED

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas K. Woods", written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Tom Woods, Secretary

LUZERNE COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY

The following resolutions were adopted at a duly convened meeting of the Board of Directors of the Luzerne County Convention Center Authority, a Pennsylvania municipal authority (the "Authority") on February 10, 2021, at which a quorum was present and voting throughout:

WHEREAS, the Authority has been awarded \$1,500,000.00 in Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program ("RACP") Funding for the Mohegan Sun Arena Capital Improvement Project described in the application therefore previously submitted by the Authority to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (the "RACP Grant") by Governor Wolf on behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Department of Community and Economic Development ("DCED"), which grant will be administered by the Greater Wilkes-Barre Industrial Fund, Inc. (the "Fund"); and

WHEREAS, the Authority has also been awarded a \$250,000.00 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the DCED, for the upgrade of premium seating and resurfacing of the club seating floor at the Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza (the "DCED Grant" and, together with the RACP Grant, the "Grants"); and

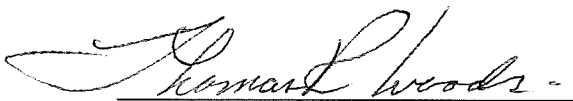
WHEREAS, the Authority desires to accept the Grants;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Authority is hereby authorized and directed to accept the RACP Grant and the appropriate officers of the Authority are hereby authorized and directed to enter into the corresponding Cooperation Agreement by and between the Authority and the Fund, a consulting agreement with a consultant referred to the Authority by the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce to assist with compliance with all RACP program and agreement requirements as set forth in such agreement and in the program guidelines established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania therefore, and otherwise comply with all such program and agreement requirements; and further

RESOLVED, that the Authority is hereby authorized and directed to accept the DCED Grant and the appropriate officers of the Authority are hereby authorized and directed to enter into the corresponding Marketing to Attract Tourists Grant Contract by and between the Authority and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and comply with all DCED program and agreement requirements set forth in such agreement and in the program guidelines established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania therefore; and further

RESOLVED, that the appropriate officers of the Authority are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all further actions, including, without limitation, the execution, delivery and/or filing, as appropriate, of such other agreements, documents, certificates and instruments as they may deem necessary and/or desirable in order to effectuate the foregoing resolutions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolutions adopted by the Authority on the date hereof.


Thomas Woods, Secretary