

LUZERNE COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY MEETING

MARCH 9, 2022

Prior to the Regular Meeting, Judge Stephanie Salavantis swore in the following new Board Members:

Guillermo Lara, Frank Orloski Jr., and Lori Spencer, and returning Board Members John Pickering and John Ruckno.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Luzerne County Convention Center Authority was called to order by Chairwoman Donna Cupinski on March 9, 2022 at 12:07 PM. Chairwoman Cupinski asked all those present to please silence their cell phones.

The Pledge of Allegiance, led by John Ruckno, was said by all in attendance.

ROLL CALL – PRESENT: Carmen Ambrosino, Donna Cupinski, Guillermo Lara, Frank Orloski Jr., John Pickering, Eugene Rafalli (via telephone), John Ruckno, Anthony Ryba (via telephone), Lori Spencer, and Tom Woods. Peter Biscontini was absent. Also present were members of ASM Global Administration – General Manager Will Beekman, Assistant General Manager/Director of Finance Carrie Grantuskas, Director of Marketing Steve Poremba, Director of Operations Jeffrey Nealon, Director of Food & Beverage Chuck Kovach, and Director of Box Office and Booking Kevin Eovitch. Mary Jo Kishel of Rosenn, Jenkins & Greenwald, Jerry Lynott from the Times Leader, and Eric Mark from The Citizens' Voice were in attendance.

Chairwoman Cupinski welcomed all to the March 2022 meeting of the Luzerne County Convention Center Authority and added a special welcome to the new members, stating that she hoped that they all had a chance to meet each other and if not, please do so after the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence for this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments for this meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Chairwoman Cupinski asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2022 Regular Meeting as drafted.

A motion was made by John Pickering and seconded by John Ruckno to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2022 Regular Meeting as drafted.

Chairwoman Cupinski asked if there was any discussion and there was none.

ON THE QUESTION: All those in favor of approving the meeting minutes as drafted signified by saying “AYE”. **OPPOSED:** No one opposed the motion. **ABSTAIN:** No one abstained.

The motion carries.

PAYMENT OF BILLS (updated 3-8-2022):

Chairwoman Cupinski asked for a motion to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$18,206.14.

A motion was made by Tom Woods and seconded by Carmen Ambrosino to approve payment of the bills totaling \$18,206.14.

Chairwoman Cupinski asked if there was discussion and there was none.

ON THE QUESTION: All those in favor of the motion to accept the payment of bills totaling \$18,206.14 signified by saying “AYE”. **OPPOSED:** No one opposed the motion. **ABSTAIN:** No one abstained.

The motion carries.

THERE WAS NO EXECUTIVE SESSION TODAY.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

Thanks, Donna! Good afternoon, everyone.

We are in the middle of a very busy week, which is part of a very busy month here at Mohegan Sun Arena. We just wrapped up three days of PIAA D2 High School Basketball Champions, selling more than 12,000 tickets over the three-day span. In terms of attendance, it was the second largest in the 7 years we’ve been hosting that event.

Immediately following, we had to change over from basketball to concert so we could host Blippi: The Musical. That event took place last night, and then Jeff and his team had to work through the night converting the floor back over to hockey for tonight’s Penguins game versus Cleveland. Then, after tonight’s game, we need to convert back a concert set up so we can host the kick-off to John Mulaney’s arena comedy tour this Friday night. And then, Jeff and his team will once again work through the night converting us back over to hockey for Penguins games on Saturday and Sunday.

So, I would clearly be remiss if I didn’t take a second to publicly thank our staff for everything that they do. So much goes on behind the scenes that the public is unaware of, and they do such a great job.

And that just gets us through this week. The remainder of March also include three additional hockey games and an Alice Cooper concert on March 23.

We're excited to announce the continuation of a strong relations with WWE, as they will once again be bringing a Friday Night Smackdown here to the arena on May 13. That event will no doubt sell very well and will be nationally televised on FOX.

And we also have a new concert announcement coming your way one week from today, so keep an eye out for that one.

Lastly, I just want to jump back to John Mulaney for a moment. For those of you who may be attending, I cannot Overstate the importance of arriving as early as possible. John requires an extra level of security which involves all cell phones, Fitbits, smart watches, etc. being locked up in bags upon entry into the building. The patrons will keep their bagged item on them throughout the event, but the bags cannot physically be opened until they are leaving the venue. The company that runs this operation has a specific device that opens the bags upon egress, and we also have a few "phone safe zones" set up throughout the venue where patrons can go to have their bags opened in order to check text messages, call the babysitter, etc. I only bring this up because we will have a capacity crowd that will need to get parked, have their tickets scanned, go through security, and then have their devices locked up, so the ingress is going to take some time. The show starts at 7:00 pm, and we are opening the doors to the venue at 5:30 pm.

We are working closely with WB Township Police on specific traffic patterns that will allow us to use both the Main and Mundy Street entrances into the parking lot, so I certainly thank Chief Will Clark and Lieutenant Kevin Kistler for all of their assistance. This is going to be such a great show for us and for the patrons, but it will be a bit of a bear in terms of logistics, so, again, I cannot stress enough the importance of arriving early this Friday night.

And that concludes my report unless anyone has any questions.

Chairwoman Cupinski asked Will, on behalf of the Board, to thank the Staff. It amazes me how they do a changeover. It is done in the back and no one sees but it is amazing what they do.

Tom Woods stated that he and Donna were here for the press conference and they were very impressed with the basketball court and how it got put down. Tom watched a few times how it was done and it was stressful. They got the job done and it looked beautiful.

Will Beekman thanked Tom.

John Pickering stated that he, Chairwoman Cupinski, and Tom Woods came to see Michelle Reilly sing the National Anthem at the hockey game and the perspective that you get on what the Staff does from being on the Board and being a patron is amazing. There are a million different parts going on before the game. Everyone takes their job so seriously. It's a great team that did an amazing job.

Will added that Steve Poremba goes above and beyond in everything that he does in preparation for game night.

Chairwoman Cupinski asked if there were any other questions for Will and there were none.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chairwoman Cupinski stated that she wants to do them in a way that everyone has something to report. If not, they will go in waiting until there is something to report. She tried to get everyone on something, so that everyone can participate. There is an opening on the Finance Committee if anyone wants to join on to that as well.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE:

Tony Ryba reported that they were going to have a Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting before the regular meeting, but because of the swearing in and the weather, he could not make it. We are now going to hold a quick Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting after the regular meeting.

There are two updates which will be discussed a little deeper in the Committee meeting:

- We entered into the agreement that we discussed last meeting and Chairwoman Cupinski signed it, to do the review and assessment of the HVAC equipment for \$15,000.00, with Smith Miller Associates.
- We made the motion to have Provident Energy look at our energy costs to see if they can get us a better rate than what we are paying for electricity and gas so we should get that going within the next couple of weeks.

Tony asked if anyone else on the Committee has anything else and they did not. Chairwoman Cupinski thanked Tony for his report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Tom Woods reported that he spoke with Carrie Grantuskas yesterday (3-8-2022) and there is really nothing new happening. Tom welcomed the new and returning Board Members. John Ruckno and Frank Orloski Jr. are on that Committee and we are going to try to have a meeting during the first week of April. Tom wants to have a meeting at a time that is convenient to all.

Chairwoman Cupinski reported that she put John Ruckno back on the Finance Committee to have some continuity; she did not want a brand-new Finance Committee.

LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (ad-hoc):

Carmen Ambrosino reported that we are at a stand-still on some of the issues that are unresolved. After several conference calls and meetings, between the last meeting and today, we are still unresolved. There is nothing to report of substance in terms of resolution. We will continue to try to address it until we do have some answers for the Board.

Carmen stated that John Pickering and Lori Spencer have been added to the Committee and he looks forward to working with both of them in the future.

Chairwoman Cupinski added that she will get a copy of where we are right now for John and Lori so they can get caught up.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Chairwoman Cupinski stated that in the packets there are some communications: meeting dates, Committee assignments, and contact information (Board and ASM Management).

Chairwoman Cupinski asked if anyone else had anything else for Good of the Order and they did not.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairwoman Cupinski asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tom Woods and seconded by Frank Orloski Jr. Chairwoman Cupinski asked if there was any discussion and there was not.

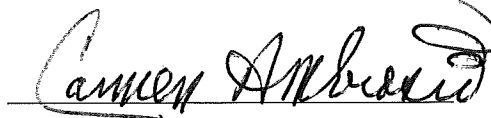
ON THE QUESTION: All those in favor of the motion to adjourn the meeting signified by saying "AYE". **OPPOSED:** No one opposed the motion. **ABSTAIN:** No one abstained.

The motion carries.

Chairwoman Cupinski thanked everyone.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:21PM.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Carmen Ambrosino", written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Carmen Ambrosino, Secretary