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Jodi Davis  
*General Manager*

**DECENNIAL COMMITTEE ON LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT  
MEETING AGENDA**

**December 16, 2024**

**Immediately Following the Monthly SMEAA Board  
Meeting Which Begins at 12:00 p.m.**

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call – Mr. Coffey**
- II. ACTION ITEMS:**
  - A. Motion for approval of the Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency Act Minutes of November 18, 2024 – Mr. Coffey**
- III. Discussion on Decennial Committee and Report Requirements**
- IV. Public Comment**
- V. Motion for approval of the Decennial Committee’s Report**
- VI. MOTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF THE COMMITTEE AND ADJOURNMENT**

**SMEAA OFFICERS**

Mike Coffey, Jr.  
*Chairman*  
Mary Frances Squires  
*Vice-Chairman*  
Brad Mills  
*Secretary*  
Jeanette Goza  
*Treasurer*

**SMEAA MEMBERS**

Deborah Grant  
Marissa Lesko  
Jason Loftus  
Gail Simpson  
Tony Smarjesse  
Bill Taft  
Terry Young

***Springfield  
Metropolitan  
Exposition &  
Auditorium  
Authority***

**SPRINGFIELD METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION AND AUDITORIUM AUTHORITY**  
**Decennial Committee Report on Local Government Efficiency Act**

I. Unit of government submitting this report:

Springfield Metropolitan Exposition & Auditorium Authority  
d/b/a the Bank of Springfield Center, or the BOS Center

The Authority was organized following legislation approved and effective on August 9, 1965. The enabling legislation for the Authority is the Springfield Metropolitan Exposition And Auditorium Authority Act.

II. Information about our area of service

A. The population of the area we serve is approximately 152,000 as of the 2020 census.

B. The District serves the following Metropolitan area:

Springfield Township  
Woodside Township  
Capital Township

C. We have 27 regular employees and 200 on-call employees (not including elected officials).

D. We have 11 elected officials.

E. Our annual General Fund Budget for FY 2025 is approximately \$ 3,899,243.00.

F. Revenue sources for our entity include property taxes, rental fees, parking, and concessions.

III. Information about Our Committee

A. Membership:

Mike Coffey, Jr. (Chairman) – Board Officer  
Mary Frances Squires – (Vice Chairman) Board Officer  
Brad Mills (Secretary) – Board Officer  
Jeanette Goza (Treasurer) – Board Officer  
Deborah Grant – Board Member  
Marissa Lesko – Board Member  
Jason Loftus – Board Member  
Gail Simpson – Board Member  
Tony Smarjesse – Board Member  
Bill Taft – Board Member  
Terry Young – Board Member

Jodi Davis – General Manager  
Scott Dahl – District Resident Member  
Rich Sherwood – District Resident Member.

B. Dates that our Organization Met (50 ILCS 70/20)

First (Organizational) Meeting: October 21, 2024  
Second Meeting: November 18, 2024  
Third Meeting: December 16, 2024

IV. Programs Offered by our governmental unit.

A. Our governmental unit offers the following services and programs:

The Authority operates the Bank of Springfield Center, a multi-purpose convention center, that opened in November 1979 in Downtown Springfield, IL. With approximately 62,000 square feet of event space, the BOS Center is used for events ranging from conventions and tradeshow to family entertainment and nationally recognized touring events. The Authority also rents out meeting rooms of various sizes to individuals or organization for holding public or private meetings and small events.

B. Other services/programs we could possibly provide:

The County of Sangamon has passed an ordinance creating a Tourism Improvement District, that is created, would add funding for the Authority's erection of expanded facilities. Over the next several years, the Authority will be regularly revisiting the question of what additional services it can provide if or when a plan for expanded facilities comes to fruition. Any plan would be dependent on the TID Ordinance providing for a sufficient funding source for such expansion.

V. Intergovernmental Agreements

A. We partner with, or have Intergovernmental Agreements, with the following other Governments:

The Authority management coordinates on an as needed basis with the City of Springfield's Visitor and Convention Bureau, whose role it is to attract visitors and tourism into the City while the Authority offers entertainment, tradeshow, conventions, and rental space for meetings or events that attract visitors into the City.

B. Our entity's efficiency has increased through intergovernmental cooperation in the following ways:

While the Authority largely manages its own marketing, including the marketing of its events by event promoters, the presence of our convention center in the downtown area allow the City of Springfield's Visitor and Convention Bureau to promote the BOS Center as a draw for visitors and tourists.

VI. Review of Laws, Policies, Rules and Procedures, Training Materials, and other Documents

We have reviewed the following, non-exhaustive list of laws, policies, training materials, and other documents applicable to the entity to evaluate our compliance and to determine if any of the foregoing should be amended.

Springfield Metropolitan Exposition And Auditorium Authority (70 ILCS 200/Art. 255)

Standard Civic Center Provisions (70 ILCS 200/Art. 2)

SMEAA By-Laws

Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120)

Illinois Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140)

All of our Appointed Officials have filed statement of economic interests (5 ILCS 420/4A-101; 5 ILCS 420/4A-101.5)

Our Budget, Tax Levy and current Audit

State Ethics Laws, including, but not limited to the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/1-1)

SMEAA Employee Policies Handbook

Event Promoter/Attraction Agreements

VII. What Have We Done Well?

The Authority is the sole provider for the Springfield Metropolitan Area of a convention center. It has attracted numerous repeat renters for conventions and meetings, and has attracted reasonably successful entertainment events given that pre-booked conventions frequently conflict with concert tour dates that are offered.

VIII. What Inefficiencies Did We Identify/What Are our Next Steps?

No specific inefficiencies were identified. However, the General Manager and Director of Operations will continue to regularly monitor for opportunities for efficiency, from items as large as marketing or promoting large concerts, to items as small as maintaining conservative lighting and electricity practices.

IX. What Can We Do Better or More Efficiently?

It is unclear that anything can be done better or more efficiently. However, the General Manager and Director of Operations will occasionally discuss opportunities for efficiencies or improvement of offering of services with related or comparable agencies within Illinois or other comparable cities in

the United States. Also, possibly conducting semi-annual meetings between the Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau Sales Team and the BOS Center Staff, prior to convention seasons, to make communication for our clients more efficient.

#### X. Studies on Governmental Efficiencies

In preparing this report, we reviewed the information and report prepared a consultant to SMEAA and the County of Sangamon to explore the potential benefits of a Tourism Improvement District, the TID legislation for Sangamon County passed by the Illinois General Assembly, and the TID Ordinance passed by the Sangamon County Board, Sangamon County, Illinois. These documents showed that:

If there was proper funding, accomplished most likely via hotel tax or fee, for an expansion of the meeting and event spaces of the BOS Center, the Center should be able to develop an expansion plan to attract more visitors and tourists and build more facilities or facility space to accomplish said goal. This idea is still very early in the concept stage, and the Committee cannot make any predictions presently about whether a plan will move forward.

#### XI. Our committee's recommendations regarding increased accountability and efficiency:

The SMEAA Board and management will continue to explore ways to accomplish improvements and efficiencies within the facility as well as what types of services could be improved or expanded, with or without a TID expansion, through its regular staff reviews and external communications and relationships by the General Manager, or other appropriate staff, with other agencies or comparable institutions.

Submitted by: Mike Coffey, Jr., Chairman

Decennial Efficiency Committee of the Springfield Metropolitan Exposition And Auditorium Authority

Date: December 16, 2024