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Jodi Davis  
*General Manager*

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***

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 20, 2023**  
**12:00 PM**

The regular Board Meeting of the Springfield Metropolitan Exposition and Auditorium Authority was called to order at 12:00 PM in the Boardroom of the Bank of Springfield Center by Chairman Mike Coffey, Jr..

A roll call was taken and the following Board Members were present, representing a quorum:

Ms. Goza  
Ms. Grant  
Ms. Lesko  
Mr. Loftus  
Mr. Mills  
Ms. Simpson  
Mr. Smarjesse  
Ms. Squires  
Mr. Taft  
Mr. Young

Also present were Jodi Davis, General Manager; Janet Jennings, Dir. of Finance; Justin Reichert, Legal Counsel; Jim Dickey.

Mr. Coffey asked if there were any statements from visitors or guests.

Mr. Coffey asked for a motion to approve Action Item A & B, which were the Board Meeting Minutes from October 16, 2023 and the Lease Contracts. A motion was made by Mr. Mills, and seconded by Mr. Taft. A voice vote was taken, motion carried.

Mr. Coffey asked for a motion to approve Action Item C, which is for the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding for Emergency use of Facility. Ms. Davis explained that this is for the use of the facility by the Sangamon County jail should there be an emergency situation, they can utilize the lower level for housing the inmates. A motion was made by Mr. Mills, and seconded by Mr. Smarjesse. A voice vote was taken, motion carried. A discussion took place regarding how that would work if The Center has an event in the building. Ms. Davis stated that it would be based on the availability and would not affect events. Mr. Reichert explained how it would be handled and that The Center is not under any obligation to provide the space in the event that the facility is already in use.

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Mr. Coffey called upon Ms. Goza to give the Finance Committee Report. Ms. Goza stated that the Finance Committee met at 11:50 AM.

Ms. Goza stated that the Finance Committee approved the list of bills as presented, but needed full Board approval.

Mr. Coffey asked for a motion to approve the list of bills. A motion was made by Mr. Mills, and seconded by Mr. Taft. A voice vote was taken, motion carried.

Ms. Goza stated that there were two (2) expenditure over \$1,000.00, but needed full Board approval.

1. Johnson Controls - \$3,162.00...replace 4 speaker strobes for fire alarm that failed inspection
2. Clear Talk - \$2,057.90...2 radios and 10 batteries (\$1,431.00 to be paid out of IPRF Safety Grant)

Mr. Coffey asked for a motion to approve the expenditures over \$1,000.00. A motion was made by Mr. Mills, and seconded by Mr. Taft. A voice vote was taken, motion carried.

Mr. Coffey presented the Chairman's report. Mr. Coffey stated that Action Item D is asking for a motion to approve hiring consulting firm to perform updated BOS Center expansion feasibility study. Mr. Coffey explained that the Tourism District has passed the first stage after gaining the required signatures to form it. Now it needs to sit for 30-days and there will be an official meeting on December 19, after a Public Hearing. He explained the hurdles it took to get to this stage of the processes and trying to gain the required signatures from the local hotels. It was determined that a new feasibility study for The Center is required due to the information provided was from the 2008 feasibility study. Mr. Coffey stated that Ms. Davis passed out the BOS Center Expansion Study Update from C.H. Johnson Consulting who did the original 2008 feasibility study. However, the hotels want someone different than C.H. Johnson Consulting to do the new study. A discussion took place regarding meeting the demands of the hotel. Mr. Coffey asked the Board if they wanted to authorize spending roughly \$75,000.00 for a feasibility study and once he gets the other alternative one that they can select to hire or does the Board want to come back for an emergency meeting on November 29<sup>th</sup>? A discussion took place and it was decided to go ahead and authorize spending up to \$75,000.00 on a feasibility study once a firm is selected. A motion was made by Mr. Mills, and seconded by Mr. Taft. A voice vote was taken, 11 Ayes, motion carried.

There was no General Counsel report presented at this meeting.

Ms. Davis presented the General Managers report. Ms. Davis stated has been a busy few weeks with the Ansar Shrine Circus and the Bull Bash, which was the first dirt event in many years. They brought in 44 truckloads of dirt, with only 43 loads leaving the building. So, the maintenance crew will be doing a lot of cleaning.

Ms. Davis stated that office holiday party will be on Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> and any of the Board members are welcomed to stop in to visit.

Ms. Davis wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

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Ms. Grant inquired about the garage elevator and who was responsible for cleaning it. She explained that it was really dirty. Ms. Davis stated that she will reach out to the maintenance staff and have them get it cleaned up.

Mr. Mills stated that he was here for the Eucharistic Congress event and that the event was very nice and very well put together. Hats off to the BOS staff.

Ms. Grant inquired if there is a plan for incase of a natural disaster. Ms. Davis stated that she thinks there is something already in place but she will look it up to make sure.

Mr. Coffey asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Mr. Mills, and seconded by Ms. Goza. A voice vote was taken, motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 12:26 PM.

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Tracy Motter  
Office Manager

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Mr. Mike Coffey, Jr.  
Chairman