



AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

Date/Time: Wednesday, August 3, 2026; 12:00 P.M.

Location: BMO Center Board Room—Lower Level
300 Elm Street, Rockford, IL 61101

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Bobbie Holzwarth Kevin Schwitters Megan McCoy
Tom Walsh Craig Thomas John Phelps
Staci Brown

Board Members Absent: Miles Nielsen Rudy Valdez

Others Present: Tim Rollins, Attorney
Alderman Chad Tuneberg
Alderman Frank Beach
Brandon Berry, Legends Global (via Teams)

Staff Present: Gretchen Gilmore, General Manager, Legends Global
Doug Johnson, Assistant General Manager, Legends Global
Jackie Powers, Finance Coordinator/RAVE Board Secretary, Legends Global

Bobbie Holzwarth calls the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

MINUTES – The minutes from the June 17, 2026, meeting are approved.

MOTION: To approve June 17, 2026, minutes made by Megan McCoy, second by Kevin Schwitters. Motion passes unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Finance Committee**

Mr. Tom Walsh, Chair

John Phelps defers to the Treasurer's Report.

- **Executive Committee**

Ms. Bobbie Holzwarth, Chair

No report at this time.

- **Belonging & Community Partnerships Committee**

Mr. Rudy Valdez, Chair

Gretchen Gilmore reviews the DEIB Scorecard highlighting the Coronado Summer Cinema series and a recent staff volunteering opportunity.

- **Content Creation & Programming Committee**

Mr. Kevin Schwitters, Chair

Kevin Schwitters reports the committee is conducting ongoing discussions regarding upcoming event opportunities and will continue to update the board.

- **Marketing & Social Media Committee**

Ms. Megan McCoy, Chair

Gretchen Gilmore informs the board that the Legends Global Marketing network was rolled out, the Klaviyo email platform linked to TicketMaster has gone live, and interviews are ongoing for a sales manager.

- **Hockey Advisory Committee**

Mr. Craig Thomas, Chair

No report at this time.

- **Capital Planning & Infrastructure Working Group**

Mr. John Phelps, Chair

No report at this time.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Mr. Tom Walsh, Treasurer

Gretchen Gilmore reviews the May financials, including event income and year-to-date comparisons.

Gretchen Gilmore reviews the June financials and discusses the variances between budgeted expectations and actual financial outcomes, including a “catch-up” utility expense. Gretchen Gilmore highlights positive outcomes from cost-controlling efforts to offset other expenses such as insurance and wages and benefits. Gretchen Gilmore reviews the upcoming IceHogs schedule and the challenges it will present for the season along with a possible need to re-structure the budget. Gretchen Gilmore informs the board that work has begun on the audit process.

MOTION: To approve May 2026, financials made by Tom Walsh, second by Craig Thomas. Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: To approve June 2026, financials made by Tom Walsh, second by Craig Thomas. Motion passes unanimously.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT – Ms. Gretchen Gilmore, GM

Gretchen Gilmore informs the board that the Coronado Theatre is currently closed while the City of Rockford completes the Streetscape project on Main Street and it will re-open on August 16, 2026. Gretchen Gilmore states the lighting project at the Coronado will proceed “in house” with a more extensive portion of the project going out to bid in the future. Gretchen Gilmore informs the board that Friends of the Coronado are conducting a search for a new Executive Director, and we continue to foster a successful partnership with their organization.

Gretchen Gilmore updates that a partnership agreement with Go Rockford and the City of Rockford regarding Davis Park is being discussed and will keep the board up to date as the situation develops. Gretchen Gilmore discusses an upcoming event by Go Rockford at Davis Park and clarifies that it will be a free event that we are helping to market, but we are not directly involved in the production or planning of the event. Bobbie Holzwarth points out the event is a good example of the expected division of responsibilities among area groups regarding how different types of events at Davis Park will be produced once the venue is completed.

Gretchen Gilmore updates the board on the exterior concrete project at BMO Center and states the need to extend the Chair’s ability to approve the concrete project from 60 to 90 days.

MOTION: To provide an additional 30 days to the authority previously granted to Bobbie Holzwarth at the June 17, 2026, RAVE Board meeting on the Alternate I of Phase II of the BMO Center Elevated Concourse and Curtain Wall Repair project by Craig Thomas, second by Tom Walsh. Motion passes unanimously.

Gretchen Gilmore informs the board that the generator project is nearing completion and Amendment 3 has been issued to our contract with Exergy, by which we will pay Rush Power directly, on behalf of Exergy, which essentially prepays our commitment to Exergy for the next year. Tim Rollins adds that the amended agreement allows us to have a security interest in the generators.

Gretchen Gilmore explains that the new equipment for the cooling tower will be installed next week as that project also nears completion.

Gretchen Gilmore states she and Bobbie Holzwarth will be participating in a Legends Global quarterly business review in September. The annual report is being developed and will be presented at an upcoming meeting.

Gretchen Gilmore reviews an analysis of the effects of the Hard Rock Casino on our ability to book and retain shows, including our additional expense of the entertainment tax that the casino does not have. A discussion follows regarding industry standards, the competitive impact of the casino, the impact of the entertainment tax on our bookings, and a list of redirected event bookings.

Doug Johnson provides a Fall concert market report and discusses promoter trends regarding bookings and sales. Doug Johnson states the need to be strategic about our bookings and using our venues to our best benefit.

MOTION: To approve the bid submitted by Rock River Door Company for the Stage Door Rollup Replacement Project in the amount of \$45,132.00 by John Phelps, second by Tom Walsh. Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: To approve the bid submitted by Scandrol for the Personnel Door Replacement Project Base Bid and Alternate 1 only in the amount of \$36,350.00 by John Phelps, second by Megan McCoy. Motion passes with 6 Ayes and 1 abstention (Mr. Craig Thomas).

COUNSEL'S REPORT – Attorney Tim Rollins

No report at this time.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Bobbie Holzwarth states a Fall Board Retreat is being considered, and the board will be updated as more information becomes available.

OLD BUSINESS:

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT – The Authority Board adjourned at 1:05 P.M.

MOTION: To adjourn made by Craig Thomas, second by Megan McCoy. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie Powers, Authority Board Secretary/ FOIA Officer