



SSCVA Regular Board of Directors Meeting
7770 Corinne Dr. Hammond, IN
March 17, 2025 at 12:00PM

1. WELCOME

a. Roll Call

In attendance: Blackwell, Bushemi, Cash, Espino, Evans, Grisolia, Maloney, Qunell, Segarra, Spencer, Velligan, White

Absent: Bonds, Brashier, Klideris, Holmes, Patena, Roberts, Schuffert

SSCVA staff in attendance: Phil Taillon, Stephanie Smith, Heather Becerra, Kristin Taylor, Nikki Lopez, Nicole Wolverton

b. Pledge of Allegiance

2. REPORTS

a. CEO Report

- i. Reported on the Indiana Tourism Association that he and some staff attended this month. Great presentation and meetings with other CVB's.
- ii. Attending the upcoming international CEO tourism conference in Savannah, GA.
- iii. Introduced and gave a little background on the Optimist Lake Project and the presentation the BOD will hear.

b. CFO Report

i. Innkeepers

1. Decline of about \$24,000 in innkeepers' tax, but we were a little delayed in filling the claim our marketplace facilitators' tax that comes directly from the county. So that was \$57,000 that should have been for the month of January.

ii. Financial Update

c. Approval of Claims #2856-2857, 30024-31559 in the amount of \$864,951.52

- i. Motion made by **MALONEY** to approve claims, seconded by **GRISOLIA**. Approved 11-0-1 (1 abstain)

d. Staff Reports



- i. In board packet

3. OLD BUSINESS

- a. None

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. A motion was made to change the agenda so the Optimist Lake Project Presentation could be heard before voting.
 - i. Motion made by **MALONEY** to change the agenda's order, seconded by **BUSHEMI**. Approved unanimously 12-0
- b. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 20, 2025
 - i. Motion made by **ESPINO** to approve meeting minutes, seconded by **VELLIGAN**. Approved unanimously 12-0
- c. Approval of Gateway Annual Financial Report for 2024
 - i. Motion made by **BUSHEMI** to approve Gateway Annual Financial Report, seconded by **EVANS**. Approved unanimously
- d. Approval of Kingery Printing Contract for \$35,306.00
 - i. Motion made by **CASH** to approve Kingery Printing contract, seconded by **SPENCER**. Approved unanimously
- e. Approval of Tri Electronics Uplighting Contract for \$36,831.00
 - i. Motion made by **GRISOLIA** to approve uplighting contract, seconded by **BONDS**. Approved unanimously
- f. Approval of Optimist Lake Project: Not to exceed \$50,000.00
 - i. Motion made by **BONDS** to approve Optimist Lake Project, seconded by **CASH**. Approved unanimously

5. PRESENTATION

- a. Optimist Lake Project; Catherine Puckett, PLA, ASLA: Landscape Architecture Studio Lead
 - i. The group will conduct survey and geotechnical investigations for the project site.
 - ii. 30% of the engineering plans will be developed by May and 60% plans by August.
 - iii. They will bid out the project in October to align with the Little River Basin Commission's bridge project and will coordinate with the Little River Basin Commission on the design and



engineering process.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Two (2) minutes maximum per person or five (5) minutes for a group spokesperson. Please keep your comments civil and constructive to policy issues. The Chair, at his/her discretion, may recognize individuals wishing to speak on different topics.
- b. Next Regular Meeting Date: Thursday, April 17, 2025

7. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Motion made by **VELLIGAN** to adjourn, seconded by **CASH**.