

**Lake County Convention and Visitors Bureau  
D/B/A South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority  
Minutes of October 21, 2021**

Board of Directors of the Lake County Convention and Visitors Bureau  
Met in a **REGULAR MEETING**  
Indiana Welcome Center  
7770 Corinne Drive, Hammond, IN 46323  
Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 12:00 PM (CST)

PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BYLAWS AND  
STANDING RULES

**MEETING MINUTES**

**I. REPORTS**

**A. Roll Call**

Chairman Andy Qunell called the October 21, 2021, meeting of the Lake County Convention and Visitors Bureau to order at 12:01 P.M. (CST). Interim President/CEO Cathy Svetanoff called the roll.

The roll call was as follows:

**Board Members Present:** Christine Cash, Sal Espino, Pete Klideris, Fred Koegel, Nikki Lopez, Darnail Lyles, Matt Maloney, Pete Schroeder, Doug Spencer, Larry Tucker, Terry Velligan, and Andy Qunell

Taryl Bonds arrived at 12:10 P.M. after the roll call but before any voting took place.

**Board Members Absent:** Brent Brashier, Tom Dabertin, Bernie Grisolia, Patrick Reardon, Matthew Schuffert, and Chareice White

**Staff Present:** Interim President/CEO & CFO Cathy Svetanoff, Chief Marketing Officer Heather Becerra, Manager of Accounting Megan Grezovski, and Manager of Housing & Digital Content Candace Nowak.

**Also Present:** Attorney Scott McClure

**B. Pledge Of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**C. Report of the Executive Committee**

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None to Present.

**D. Report of the Standing Committee**

None to Present.

**E. Staff Reports**

Interim President/CEO & CFO Cathy Svetanoff recapped the 2021 R.O.S.E. Awards Dinner and Midwest Crossover Volleyball Tournament, as well as upcoming events including Indiana Society of Chicago, Legends and the 2021 Tourism Jumpstart Grants.

Chief Marketing Officer Heather Becerra provided an update around marketing efforts and the sporting events scheduled for fall 2021 and those events that would be upcoming.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Conflict of Interest Forms**

Chairman Andy Qunell asked board members to complete and submit these forms to Attorney Scott McClure.

**B. Dillinger Collection**

No report was given.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Addition of New Items to the Agenda**

1. No new items were presented.

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**B. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**1. Regular Meeting Minutes from September 16, 2021**

Chairman Andy Qunell requested a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from September 16, 2021. Member Terry Velligan motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes, and Member Sal Espino seconded the motion.

Motion carried by voice vote 13-0-0.

**C. Finance Report**

Chairman Qunell sought approval for vouchers #25588 through #25697 in the amount of \$1,028,369.75 for October 21, 2021.

Hearing no further questions, Member Darnail Lyles moved to approve for payment vouchers #25588 through #25697 in the amount of \$1,028,369.75. Member Terry Velligan seconded the motion.

Motion carried by a roll call vote of 13-0-0.

**Ayes:** Taryl Bonds, Christine Cash, Sal Espino, Pete Klideris, Fred Koegel, Nikki Lopez, Darnail Lyles, Matt Maloney, Pete Schroeder, Doug Spencer, Larry Tucker, Terry Velligan, and Andy Qunell

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Brent Brashier, Tom Dabertin, Bernie Grisolia, Patrick Reardon, Matthew Schuffert, and Chareice White

**D. Resolutions**

**1. Resolution No. 2021-10-12: A Resolution Adopting Policies For Gift Shop Sales, Rental Fees, And Other Miscellaneous Fees For The Year 2022.**

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Interim President/CEO Cathy Svetanoff explained that this resolution is the same as last year, with only one minor reduction in kitchen rental fees.

Chairman Andy Qunell asked for a motion to approve Resolution no. 2021-10-12. Hearing no further questions, Treasurer Matt Maloney made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-10-12, and the motion was seconded by Member Darnail Lyles.

Motion carried by a roll call vote of 13-0-0.

**Ayes:** Taryl Bonds, Christine Cash, Sal Espino, Pete Klideris, Fred Koegel, Nikki Lopez, Darnail Lyles, Matt Maloney, Pete Schroeder, Doug Spencer, Larry Tucker, Terry Velligan, and Andy Qunell

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Brent Brashier, Tom Dabertin, Bernie Grisolia, Patrick Reardon, Matthew Schuffert, and Chareice White

**2. Resolution 2021-10-10: A Resolution To Adopt Association Membership Dues and Subscriptions That May Be Paid From Bureau Funds For The Budget Year 2022**

Interim President/CEO Cathy Svetanoff explained that this listing has been updated, and is more comprehensive than the actual dues and memberships which will be undertaken by the SSCVA.

Chairman Andy Qunell asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-10-10. Hearing no further questions, Member Christine Cash made the motion to approve the resolution and it was seconded by Member Terry Velligan.

Motion carried by a roll call vote of 13-0-0.

**Ayes:** Taryl Bonds, Christine Cash, Sal Espino, Pete Klideris, Fred Koegel, Nikki Lopez, Darnail Lyles, Matt Maloney, Pete Schroeder, Doug Spencer, Larry Tucker, Terry Velligan, and Andy Qunell

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**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Brent Brashier, Tom Dabertin, Bernie Grisolia, Patrick Reardon, Matthew Schuffert, and Chareice White

**3. Resolution No. 2021-10-11: A Resolution Authorizing A Transfer From The Promotion, Alternate Revenue And Partnership Funds To The Capital Improvement Fund**

Hearing no further questions, Chairman Qunell asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-10-11. A motion to approve was made by Member Taryl Bonds and seconded by Member Sal Espino.

Motion carried by a roll call vote of 13-0-0.

**Ayes:** Taryl Bonds, Christine Cash, Sal Espino, Pete Klideris, Fred Koegel, Nikki Lopez, Darnail Lyles, Matt Maloney, Pete Schroeder, Doug Spencer, Larry Tucker, Terry Velligan, and Andy Qunell

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Brent Brashier, Tom Dabertin, Bernie Grisolia, Patrick Reardon, Matthew Schuffert, and Chareice White

**Other New Business**

**E. 2021 Tourism Promotion Grants**

**1. Town of Dyer - \$20,000**

Chairman Qunell sought approval for 2021 Tourism Jumpstart Grant application for the Town of Dyer for \$20,000.

Hearing no further questions, Member Larry Tucker moved to approve the application. Member Nikki Lopez seconded the motion.

Motion carried by a roll call vote of 13-0-0.

**Ayes:** Taryl Bonds, Christine Cash, Sal Espino, Pete Klideris, Fred Koegel, Nikki Lopez, Darnail Lyles, Matt Maloney, Pete

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Schroeder, Doug Spencer, Larry Tucker, Terry Velligan, and  
Andy Qunell

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Brent Brashier, Tom Dabertin, Bernie Grisolia, Patrick Reardon, Matthew Schuffert, and Chareice White

**F. Optimist Lake**

Attorney Scott McClure advised the board of a legal technicality related to Optimist Lake. At the request of the Little Calumet River Basin Development the SSCVA Board accepted ownership of the lake at its May 15, 2014 meeting. However, the ownership of the lake was never recorded with Lake County to show the SSCVA as owner. Executive Director Dan Repay of the Little Calumet River Basin Development was open to maintaining the ownership as this organization is in the waterway business.

Chairman Qunell sought approval to rescind the board's acceptance of Optimist Lake from its May 15, 2014 meeting. Optimist Lake will remain in the Little Calumet River Basin Development's possession.

Hearing no further questions, Vice-Chairman Brent Brashier moved to rescind the board's prior approval to accept ownership of Optimist Lake. Member Terry Velligan seconded the motion.

Motion carried by a roll call vote of 13-0-0.

**Ayes:** Taryl Bonds, Christine Cash, Sal Espino, Pete Klideris, Fred Koegel, Nikki Lopez, Darnail Lyles, Matt Maloney, Pete Schroeder, Doug Spencer, Larry Tucker, Terry Velligan, and Andy Qunell

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Brent Brashier, Tom Dabertin, Bernie Grisolia, Patrick Reardon, Matthew Schuffert, and Chareice White

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**G. Shive-Hattery, Inc. - Professional Services Agreement: IWC Roof Condition Study - \$11,000**

There was a brief discussion about the roof at the Indiana Welcome Center and the need for its repair. Shive-Hattery will conduct a roof study and prepare the specifications that can be sent to potential contractors for bid. This is a complex project and this study is required in order to ensure proper repair.

Chairman Qunell sought approval for the approval of the professional services contract with Shive-Hattery. Hearing no further questions, Member Darnail Lyles moved to approve the contract. Member Nikki Lopez seconded the motion.

Motion carried by a roll call vote of 13-0-0.

**Ayes:** Taryl Bonds, Christine Cash, Sal Espino, Pete Klideris, Fred Koegel, Nikki Lopez, Darnail Lyles, Matt Maloney, Pete Schroeder, Doug Spencer, Larry Tucker, Terry Velligan, and Andy Qunell

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Brent Brashier, Tom Dabertin, Bernie Grisolia, Patrick Reardon, Matthew Schuffert, and Chareice White

**H. Indiana Welcome Center - Repairs**

**1. E.C. Babilla, Inc. - IWC Exhibit Hall Roof Leak - Quote Pending**

Cathy Svetanoff provided information about the roof leaking in the Exhibit Hall and the need for immediate repair. We are awaiting additional information and pricing for this repair.

**2. EDCO Environmental Services, Inc. - Walk-In Freezer - \$6,481.55**

The walk-in refrigerator was installed in conjunction with the Indiana Welcome Center opening in 1999. The mechanical system needs to be replaced in order to be functional.

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Hearing no further questions, Member Darnail Lyles motioned to approve to replacement of the mechanical system of the walk-in freezer. Member Terry Velligan seconded the motion.

Motion carried by a roll call vote of 13-0-0.

**Ayes:** Taryl Bonds, Christine Cash, Sal Espino, Pete Klideris, Fred Koegel, Nikki Lopez, Darnail Lyles, Matt Maloney, Pete Schroeder, Doug Spencer, Larry Tucker, Terry Velligan, and Andy Qunell

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Brent Brashier, Tom Dabertin, Bernie Grisolia, Patrick Reardon, Matthew Schuffert, and Chareice White

#### **IV. PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Mark Shublak and Ann Cottongim of Taft, Stettinius & Hollister LLP provided a government services update.
- B. The Times provided a summary of the proposed Move to Indiana campaign for 2022.

Following the presentation, Interim President/CEO was asked to provide a follow-up to the campaign and the SSCVA's role and involvement going forward.

#### **V. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

##### **A. Public Comment**

Several members of the public made comments; only two people provided their names: Rita Renee Jackson and Valeria Vaughn. All comments were regarding their concern of the lack of ADA accessibility at festivals and events.

##### **B. Next Regular meeting - Thursday, November 21, 2021 - 12:00 Noon - Indiana Welcome Center**



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**C. Upcoming Events**

1. Indiana Society of Chicago - Loews Hotel - Saturday, December 4, 2021
2. A Christmas Story Comes Home Exhibit - November 13, 2021 to January 2, 2022

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing of no other business to come before the board, Chairman Qunell asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motioned by Treasurer Matt Maloney and seconded by Member Darnail Lyles. The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m. (CST).

**Approved:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andy Qunell, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Attest:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chareice White, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date