

Arizona Sports & Tourism Authority

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Arizona Sports & Tourism Authority
Finance, Budget and Audit Committee
June 16, 2009, 4:00 p.m.
Fennemore Craig – Conference Room W1
3003 N. Central, Suite 2600
Phoenix, AZ 85012**

Attendance

Members

Rod Williams, Chairman
John Benton
Bill Peltier, Telephonically
Brad Wright

Staff

Tom Sadler, President/CEO
Charles Foley, CFO and Treasurer
Kim Monroe, Office Manager/Executive Asst.

Other Members In Attendance

Jerry Walker

Authority General Counsel

Sarah Strunk, Fennemore Craig

1. Call to Order. A public meeting of the Arizona Sports & Tourism Authority's (the "Authority") Finance, Budget and Audit Committee (the "Committee") was held at the offices of Fennemore Craig in Conference Room W1 at 3003 N. Central, Suite 2600, Phoenix, AZ 85012 on June 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. A quorum being present and the meeting having been duly noticed Chairman Williams called the meeting to order.

2. Consideration of Minutes from March 25, 2009. Mr. Williams called for a motion to approve the minutes of a meeting of the Committee held February 24, 2009 (Exhibit A). Mr. John Benton moved the approval of the minutes. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Benton and seconded by Mr. Brad Wright the minutes were unanimously approved.

3. City of Glendale Update. Chairman Williams asked Mr. Tom Sadler, Authority President/CEO, to discuss this agenda item. Mr. Sadler stated that the City of Glendale had wire transferred to the Authority the outstanding balance due and owing the Authority related to the 2006-07 fiscal year. Ms. Sarah Strunk, General Counsel for the Authority, stated that the Authority had not given up any legal rights on any other open, unresolved issues by accepting the funds. Mr. Sadler stated that the marketing fee issue had been resolved and memorialized

in an Amendment Number Two to the Development and Disposition and Intergovernmental by and between the Tourism and Sports Authority d/b/a Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority and the City of Glendale. Ratification of this amendment would be on the City Council's agenda in June as well as the Authority's board of director agenda for the scheduled June 25th Board meeting.

Related to the outstanding parking issue related to the City of Glendale's Cactus League facility and the Authority's use of its parking, Ms. Strunk stated that based on her discussions with the City of Glendale she believed all issues have been resolved and the City is finalizing them with the Teams and final resolution would be coming very soon.

4. Consideration of Request for Financial Audit Services. Chairman Williams asked Mr. Foley, to discuss this agenda item. Mr. Foley stated that the Authority had received five responses to the RFP for annual financial audit services. He discussed that all five respondents could be considered equally qualified based on their professional resumes, experience and technical qualifications. He reviewed the summary that had been prepared for the committee in advance of the meeting and he stated that our current audit firm, Eide Bailly, was among the five respondents. The committee asked Mr. Foley if he had a specific recommendation among the five respondents. Mr. Foley replied that he had, during the RFP process, informed each firm that he would not be making a recommendation to the committee on which entity to choose and felt that it was best that it would be solely based on the committee and its members' collective analysis and recommendation. Mr. Benton stated that he believed due to the Authority's continued challenges related to the on-going economic recession it would be best to retain our current audit firm rather than introduce a new firm at the present time. Mr. Foley was asked about Eide Bailly's proposed fees and he replied that they were second highest of the five firms. Mr. Benton moved to have Mr. Foley notify Eide Bailly that the Authority would like to retain their services as the Authority's audit firm and to renegotiate their proposed fees. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Benton and seconded by Mr. Bill Peltier the motion was unanimously approved.

4. Consideration of Executive Session. The Chairman asked for a motion to go into executive session for discussion or consultation with the attorneys of the Authority for legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)4 regarding negotiation of certain contractual matters regarding the use and operation of the facility. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Benton and seconded by Mr. Wright the Committee unanimously approved the motion to enter into Executive Session.

Chairman Williams requested a motion to return to the open meeting. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Benton and seconded by Mr. Wright the Committee unanimously approved the motion to return to the open portion of the public meeting.

5. Consideration of Authority's FY2010 Budget. Mr. Benton moved to table the Consideration of the Authority's FY2010 Budget until a meeting was held jointly with representatives from the Fiesta Bowl, Arizona Cardinals and the Tourism Industry in order to discuss our pending legislation. Upon motion duly made and seconded by Mr. Wright the motion was unanimously approved.

6. Announcement of Future Meeting Dates and Other Information Concerning the Committee. Chairman Williams requested that Mr. Sadler work to schedule a meeting with the Fiesta Bowl, Arizona Cardinals and the Tourism Industry as quickly as possible. He also stated that he would like to schedule the next Finance Committee meeting one hour ahead of the full Board Meeting which was scheduled for June 25, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

7. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the committee Mr. Wright moved for adjournment. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Wright and seconded by Mr. Benton the meeting was adjourned.

“Exhibit A”

March 25, 2009 Committee Minutes