## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF MARCH 27, 2025

## **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners present were Robert Vosbein, Jr., Chairman; Hilary Landry, Vice Chair; Daniel "Beckett" Becnel, Tommy Cvitanovitch, and Cedric Richmond. Absent were Commissioner Matt Bowers and John Condos. A quorum exists.

## WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN VOSBEIN

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Vosbein deferred his opening comments and moved to the approval of the February 20, 2025, Official Minutes. On motion of Commissioner Cvitanovich, seconded by Commissioner Becnel, the Minutes of the February 20, 2025, meeting were adopted.

**Doug Thornton** began the ASM/SMG Report noting that: The Hotel Tax was very favorable due to the Super Bowl, followed by Mardi Gras as a second boost. The Sports Foundation released its Economic Impact Report, estimating an overall impact of \$500 million and the generation of \$33.6 million in State and Local Taxes. Tax revenue for this fiscal year is up 9% over the previous year.

It is not known whether DOGE cuts may have an impact on conferences, travel, governmental employees, and other topics. The Tariff situation may also impact in ways difficult to predict. Thankfully, the renovation of the Superdome is complete, so that tariffs on imported steel or products will not impact that project.

The ASM Team will be traveling to Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas to monitor the WrestleMania 2025 Event which is coming to the Superdome for 2026.

The Superdome has been nominated by the Sports Business Journal as one of the facilities to be considered as the "Sports Facility of the Year." Competition includes the Rogers Centre, the Intuit Dome, the Crypto.com Arena, Churchill Downs, and TD Garden.

**Evan Holmes** continued the ASM Report noting that: The Strategic Capital Needs of the Facilities can be studied, now that Super Bowl and Mardi Gras are behind us and the Pelicans Season is nearing its end.

It is an honor to be nominated by the Sports Business Journal.

The 2025 Super Bowl was a great success, and WrestleMania 2026 will be a substantial event. This will be WrestleMania's third time to perform in the Superdome. The event spans several days and extends to other venues, such as the Convention Center for its WrestleMania Fan Experience. Events will also be hosted at the Smoothie King Center with the Hall of Fame

Event. It compares to a major bid event and a Super Bowl. Approximately 50% of the attendees come from outside of the United States, so it is a big international event.

The fan experience feedback from the Saints Season was excellent relative to the Superdome Renovation. The survey results were very positive. Mr. Holmes then deferred to Finn Bendana to cover other Events hosted by the Superdome and the Smoothie King Center.

**Mr. Bendana** covered the following: the Jim Gaffigan and Sebastian Maniscalco Comedy Show; the Katt Williams Comedy Show; the We Them Ones Comedy Show; several Pelicans games; the Millenium Tour at SKC; the Home and Garden Show setting up for the Superdome; Tyler Childers Concert Tour; Monster Jam Truck Show; planning for the Essence Festival; long-range planning for Cirque de Soleil; Hozier; and a WrestleMania update.

**Mr. Holmes** then supplemented his report to cover the Endymion Extravaganza, which returned to the Superdome after a 4-year hiatus. The featured artists were Katy Perry and Train. The event was a huge success.

**Commissioner Becnel** made important comments, including the overall enjoyment factor at Endymion and issues relative to safety and security. Those comments were echoed by Commissioner Cvitanovich regarding the parade route and stage access.

**Daniel Burke** then began the Finance Report which included: The 2025 Fiscal Year is healthy, with approximately \$9 million of excess funds; the hotel tax drives the Budget. It is up 2% over the prior year, and operations are running ahead of Budget. The Super Bowl impact was very positive. Self-generated revenues are also positive. Projections are for 32 Events at the Smoothie King Center, which will be comfortably ahead of the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget. The Superdome calendar is static and is dominated by Legacy Events which are held each year. The Billy Joel concert for the Fall may positively impact the Budget.

Next, **Eileen Long** gave the Capital Projects Report, which included updates on: the John Alario Jr. Sports Complex; the Shrine on Airline project, including the finalization of a contract for the CMAR, Broadmoor LLC; and the Gate A Pedestrian Ramp Project at the Superdome, which should have bids in by late May.

**Kathleen Turner** then provided her report, which included updates on: YouthForce NOLA; Junior Achievement; a Career Expo; the University of New Orleans HR-Career Opportunities Event; the Diversity Task Force; and the Best Practices Programs to enhance opportunities across all ASM facilities.

**Chairman Vosbein** then returned to his opening remarks prior to the Legal Report. His focus was to recognize other LSED properties, specifically noting the TPC of Louisiana facility and the Annual PGA Golf Tournament held each year. The upcoming Tournament should be another great success.

He then turned to the Legal Report. Mr. Roedel introduced nine Resolutions for consideration, all of which were approved by Legal and, where appropriate, all are fully

funded. The Resolutions at Tabs 6 through 14 were introduced and, by motion, adopted. The Resolutions are hereby made a part of this transcript.

Thereafter, there being no need for the LSED II meeting this month, on motion of Commissioner Becnel, seconded by Commissioner Cvitanovich, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM.