

**Convention Facilities Authority (CFA)  
Meeting Minutes September 10, 2021**

**To:** CFA Members

**From:** Holly Christmann

**Subject:** September 10, 2021, Meeting Minutes

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**CFA Members Present:** Paul Brehm, Bimal Patel, Lee Czerwonka, Adam Getler, Lawrence Hawkins III, Brendon Cull, Donna Jones Baker and Kevin Hardman

**Others present:** Jeff Aluotto, John Bruggen, Holly Christmann, Roger Friedmann, Julie Calvert, Marc Von Allmen, Rick Booth, Billy Weber, Marion Hayes, Lisa Anderson, Lisa Daria and Tana Weingartner

**1. Call to Order:**

Mr. Brehm called the meeting of the Hamilton County Convention Facilities Authority to order at 12:05 pm. Mr. Friedmann conducted the roll call and indicated there is a quorum.

**2. Review and approval of the minutes from June 30, 2021**

Mr. Brehm accepted a motion to approve the minutes from Mr. Czerwonka and seconded by Mr. Hawkins. Mr. Brehm asked for discussion, hearing none he asked for a vote. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**3. Financial Update**

- a. Review of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Report – Karen Alder indicated that actual collections are showing improvement. The City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County collected \$223K and \$1.7M respectively in the second quarter. The City is projected to collect \$575K in the third quarter and if the County does as well as it did this quarter, in the third quarter there should be sufficient funds available to cover the det service payment. Karen also discussed the actual CFA expenses and mentioned that the Arbitrage Calculation happens every five years.
- b. Lodging Tax Projections – John Bruggen indicated the Hamilton County’s 2022 *projected* ending fund balance is \$6.2 million.

Jeff Aluotto indicated that the lodging tax projection is overall good news. Covid 19 hit the travel and tourism industry hard. Balance in Hamilton County's account will support the shock to the system. 2022 is projected to have \$6.2 million at the end of the year.

#### **4. Millennium Hotel Update:**

Mr. Denning provided update on the demolition which so far is on time and on budget. Next few weeks activity will be at top of building.

#### **5. Other Business**

Julie Calvert reported that they had a great summer with a lot of conventions - highest since 2019. She is concerned about the uptick of the spread of Covid 19 and how it might affect upcoming bookings but remains optimistic.

Bimel Patel stated that 2nd and 3rd Quarters were better. He is still concerned about cancellations but also remains optimistic. Ric Booth noted that the Convention Center has staffing challenges and that next spring is filling up.

#### **Sharonville Convention Center Update**

Kevin Hardman mentioned that the Sharonville Convention Center was hosting the HorrorHound Convention this weekend. This event filled up the hotels in the Sharonville area and the convention center. Based on second quarter transient tax collection they will proceed with the expansion of the exhibit space at the Sharonville Convention Center at the end of this year.

Adjourn: 12:30 pm.