

June 8, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

7:30 – 9:00 AM

Minutes – Board Meeting (held via teleconference only)

Attendance

S3R3 Solutions Members present via teleconference: Breean Beggs, Greg Birchell, Al French, Larry Krauter, Johnnie Perkins, Scott Simmons

S3R3 Solutions Members absent: None

S3R3 Solutions Staff present via teleconference: Karen Corkins, Project Manager; Sueann Herkel, Executive Assistant; Taudd Hume, Legal Counsel; Rick Romero, Interim Executive Director

Guests present via teleconference: Marcia Davis (City of Spokane), Julia McHugh, Alex Sylvain (Parametrix)

Meeting called to order 7:33 AM

Welcome and Introductions:

Board Chair Breean Beggs requested a roll call, quorum present. He also acknowledged attendees via teleconference.

Public Comment/Courtesy of the Floor:

Public Comment was requested by Board Chair Breean Beggs. He advised that there will be a three-minute limit. Attendee Julia McHugh reminded the board that S3R3 was created for public service.

Action Item No. 1 – Consent Agenda

Board Chair Breean Beggs called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Action Item No. 1 which included minutes for the May 11 regular Board Meeting and minutes from the May 30, 2023 Special Board Meetings, and financials for May of 2023. Board Treasurer Larry Krauter motioned for approval for the minutes, Board Member Johnnie Perkins seconded, motion passed unanimously. Board Treasurer Larry Krauter motioned for approval for the financials, Board Member Greg Birchell seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Action Item No. 2 – ARPA Funds

As briefed by Interim Executive Rick Romero, at the end of 2022, Spokane County awarded S3R3 Solutions \$2,000,000 in ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funds for a stormwater project. In April of 2023, the Board discussed and decided to suspend the stormwater project and authorized the S3R3 staff to discuss with Spokane County the possibility of reallocating awarded funds to a different project. After discussion, it was determined the awarded funds could be utilized for a water and/or sewer project. Water is the greater concern for the West Plains since it is holding up the permitting process. Additionally, the City of Spokane commits to a loan to finish the suggested project. Board Chair Breean Beggs questioned the timeline for this decision and was informed that the dollars must be committed by March 2024 and spent by end of year 2026. Board Treasurer Larry Krauter agrees that the focus should be water as does Board Vice Chair Al French. He added that this resolution of the water issue lends to S3R3's commitment to have property shovel ready. Board Secretary Scott Simmons wanted to confirm that the City of Spokane is willing to go forward with a \$5-7M loan. At this point, Marcia Davis from the City of Spokane confirmed the low interest loan from the Department of Ecology adding that they would like commitment from the West Plains partners. Board Chair Breean Beggs called for a motion to approve Action Item No.2 to which Board Vice Chair motioned for approval and Board Member Johnnie Perkins seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Project Updates, Presentations

The GFC (General Facilities Charge) will roll into a larger discussion regarding a capital plan for the West Plains and will involve joint planning between Spokane County, the City of Spokane and Spokane International Airport.

Conner Thorne whose is employed by the City of Spokane wrote Standard Operating Procedures to address revenue sharing with property, sales and utility tax. The Board discussed and Board Chair Breean Beggs emphasized that, if the SOP is adopted, he would like it included in the Interlocal Agreement.

Unfinished Business

Board Treasurer Larry Krauter thanked the board and staff for their dedication to the process of hiring an Executive Director. At this time, modifications are being made to the candidate list which could involve engaging with additional candidates. The current goal is to firm the list and proceed with final interviews.

Other Business

None

New Business

None

Board Member Items

Board Chair Breean Beggs commented that funds set aside by the City of Spokane for the public development authorities for low-income census tracts are being discussed and it is possible that S3R3 Solutions could have their share reduced or depleted. The issue is scheduled to be discussed at the City's next Urban Experience Committee meeting. He further commented that the intent is good but it could be that how cutting the funds from S3R3 is not being considered. Several board members commented and asked why this was being proposed without first discussing it with S3R3. Further remarks included that all should engage with regard to how the dollars are spent.

The June 8, 2023 Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:32 AM.