

Savannah Georgia Convention Center Authority

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, April 8, 2026, 11:00am

Via onsite Jasper Boardroom and teleconference ~ Savannah Convention Center

Members present: Pat Farrell, Joe Marinelli, Martin Miller, Ben Polote Jr. (via zoom), Anne Scheer, Mark Smith, Ruth Quattlebaum **Members absent:** Bert Brantley, Pritpal Singh, Trip Tollison and Ansley Williams. Also present: Paul Threlkeld (via zoom), Frank Poe (Consultant), Lee Hughes, Yong Choe (YC Consulting-via zoom), Michael Garcia (via zoom), Todd Nocerini (via zoom), Brian Abel, SVP of Hilton F&B Operations (via zoom), Nathaniel Brethold, Hilton F&B Brand Development Americas (via zoom), Gerald Barrack, Hilton VP Hotel Openings, Americas (via zoom), Bobby Knowles (via zoom), Maggie Harney (via zoom), Janet Finalyson (via zoom), Kevin Duvall (GWCCA) and SCC staff: Kelvin Moore, Ronnie Hickman, Holly Jenkins, Jackie Mitchell, Al Rojas, Fredia Brady, Gail Terrell and Myesha Jones.

Chairman Smith convened the meeting at 11:02am.

Chairman Smith asked for approval of the Minutes and Treasurer's Report. Motion made by Mr. Marinelli; seconded by Ms. Scheer and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Counsel Report. Mr. Threlkeld stated no report at this time.

External Affairs Report. Mr. Hughes stated that Governor Kemp has signed the supplemental budget which included \$5 million dollars for the repair of the seawall and riverwalk. Mr. Hughes also commented on the Town of Thunderbolt's participation in hotel/motel taxes. Mr. Choe commented that the \$1.5 million dollar request has been submitted to Senators Warnock, Ossoff and Congressman Carter to help fund the replacement of the two escalators. Mr. Hughes commented on extending an offer to Senators Ossoff and Warnock and their staffers to tour the SCC facility as well as Savannah.

Financial Report. Ms. Jenkins presented the financial report for the month of March. Ms. Jenkins reported a favorable month for March and favorable-year end for the facility. Ms. Jenkins then continued to report a favorable variance to the Authority budget for the month of March and favorable year-end to Authority budget.

Facility Operations Update. Mr. Hickman provided a capital project update to include completed projects, capital projects in progress and future projects. Mr. Hickman reviewed potential marshalling yard options which would be a designated area where vehicles and freight are organized, sorted and prepared for load-in. Discussion ensued to discuss marshalling yard needs and location. Mr. Hickman then continued with an emergency capital request to repair the Chatham Ballroom escalator. Cost to repair \$160,868.60. Motion made by Mr. Miller; seconded by Ms. Scheer and approved by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Smith commented on the budget to include capital projects such as bulkhead replacement, Westin stabilization project due to structural concerns and the design for the interconnection of Slip 3 to the walkway in front of SCC. Mr. Moore commented on the upcoming budget workshop to be held week on April 15. Mr. Moore then provided a brief overview of highlights from the budget workshop. Mr. Moore then commented on the upcoming Talmadge bridge construction and road impacts. Mr. Smith requested Mr. Hughes to contact Ms. Anne Purcell, GDOT Board Chair, in order to schedule a meeting with Mr. Moore to discuss.

Hotel Development Update. Mr. Nocerini commented on The Grey restaurant becoming the Hilton's Chef Consultant to assist with menu planning, training and marketing. Mr. Nocerini then introduced the Hilton team: Brian Abel, SVP of Hilton F&B Operations, Nathaniel Brethold, Hilton F&B Brand Development Americas, Gerald Barrack, Hilton VP Hotel Openings, Americas.

Chairman Report. Mr. Smith commented on the upcoming SGCCA Budget Workshop on April 15, 2026, at 8:30am and the May Board meeting to be held May 13 at 11:00am. Mr. Smith then commented on a

SGCCA Board Minutes

April 8, 2026

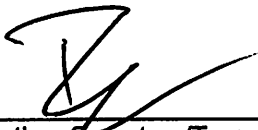
Page 2 of 2

few potential locations on Hutchinson Island for the NS Savannah to be docked if the decision was made to move forward (Slip 3, eastern side of Hutchinson Island or western edge of Slip 3). Mr. Smith requested the staff to research the master plans of Hutchinson Island drafted by Sottile & Sottile Architects many years ago that included a pedestrian bridge over Slip 3. SCC staff to research. Mr. Smith stated that the draft of the management agreement from GWCCA to be reviewed with the SGCCA Executive Committee.

Mr. Moore commented on the branded shovels for the Signia Hilton Savannah groundbreaking for each board member to take home.

Mr. Smith asked for any other business; hearing none, then adjourned the meeting at 12:30pm to lunch served by Iron and Oak.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bert Brantley, Secretary/Treasurer