



## Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

Monday, 15, June 2020

2:10 pm

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Via Teleconference:

<https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1480999935>

Meeting ID: 148 099 9935

Video:

<https://meetings.ringcentral.com/personallink.html>

Audio:

+1 (469) 445 0100

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### All Commissioners Present:

Sue Klein  
Heidi Raines (Lv. 4:15)  
Steve Caputo (Arv. 2:20)  
Robert Watters (Lv. 5:10)

Juliet Laughlin  
Jeremy DeBlieux  
Christian Pendleton  
Frank Zumbo  
David Bilbe (Arv. 2:15)

Jane Cooper (Lv. 5:10)  
Gail Cavett  
Mamie Gasperecz  
Matthew Emory (Lv. 5:10)

**Commissioners Absent:** None

**Executive Director:** Karley Frankic

### Guests:

Andrew Sullivan, District C, Chief of Staff  
Chris Young, FQ Business League  
David Jorgensen, Livability Committee  
Eric Smith, CNO, CAO, FQIF  
Lt. Anthony Caprera, NOPD  
Glade Bilby, FQC

David Speights, NRMSI  
Ross Bourgeois, CNO, Homeland Security  
Bob Simms, FQTF  
Brittany McGovern, FQBA  
Erin Holmes, VCPOA  
Capt. Dean Behrens, LSP Troop N Commander

- I. CALL TO ORDER: ROLL CALL: INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES at 2:12 pm.
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT: Anyone who wishes to comment on actionable items must announce their name for the recording and indicate the item(s) on which s/he wishes to comment. It was announced all signed in via the RingCentral teleconferencing application and anyone wishing to comment on actionable items must announce themselves prior to commenting. Everyone was asked to mute their phone when not speaking, and do not speak over anyone.
- III. APPROVAL OF APRIL 2020 MEETING MINUTES: Mr. DeBlieux motioned (M1) to "approve the May Board Meeting Minutes...", seconded by Mr. Watters and unanimously approved.

- IV. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** Mr. DeBlieux reviewed the reports distributed via email. The Balance Sheet as of May 31, 2020 shows the SPPP account at \$ 438,326.47 the General Operating account at \$ 317,761.23 and the FQMA account at \$9,267.31 for a total of \$ 765,355.01. There is \$3,110.18 in Account Receivables and Total Liabilities and Equity at \$ 783,217.19. All expenditures are acceptable with no odd or irregular entries and FQMD is saving money wherever we can. Ms. Frankic’s salary is secure through some point in 2021. Ms. Cooper motioned (**M2**) to ”approve the April Treasurer’s Reports...”, seconded by Ms. Gasperecz and unanimously approved. Annex I: Treasurer’s Reports enclosed.
- V. **CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS:** Mr. Pendleton noted that FQMD funding is changing completely and we cannot shy away from difficult conversations. However, in acting for our own preservation, he would appreciate everyone’s grace and patience as we interact to move forward and allow everyone to finish their thoughts. He noted that it was good to see some life back for the commercial interests in the French Quarter (FQ) and on a personal note, thanked some Commissioners for dining at the Brennan’s reopening. Chairman Pendleton hopes we can physically meet in July, if an appropriate space is found.
- VI. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:** Ms. Frankic noted it has been a very busy month and some of the items listed in her report shall be further discussed in the Committee Reports.
- a. Explanation of State Civil Service (SCS) registration requirement
    - i. The French Quarter Management District (FQMD) must register with State Civil Service (SCS) as it is a commission created by the Louisiana State Legislature. Per Article X of the Constitution. SCS is the agency required to collect and provide the legislative bodies on all state employees which includes Boards and Commissions and their Commissioner/employees.
    - ii. The cost to FQMD is nothing at this time, and will remain nothing so long as FQMD has only unclassified employees.
    - iii. All registration of the commission, employees, and commissioners is the responsibility of the Executive Director, and there is no additional forms or requirements of individual commissioners. SCS will:
      1. Establish an agency number for FQMD
      2. Assign a position number for each board seat – this will not change when commissioners are phased in or out
      3. Create a personnel number for each commissioner and employee which will stay with The individual if they move between state agencies
    - iv. Registering with SCS does not obligate FQMD to provide benefits, but may be able to provide benefits through the Louisiana Office of Group Benefits and Louisiana State Employees’ Retirement System (LASERS) and Louisiana Public Employees Deferred Compensation Plan. Registering would also allow employee’s years of service to be counted as state public service.
    - v. Commissions are governed by the executive orders of the Governor. This includes leave accrual, holidays, and possibly future benefits.
    - vi. Per Civil Service rules FQMD can have up to two unclassified employees:
      1. Executive Director

2. Personal Secretary or High-Ranking Position i.e. executive staff member or Special Assistant
- vii. SCS will review the job description of FQMD’s proposed new hire to assure that it is an executive staff position that meets the criteria of an unclassified position.
- viii. SCS rules will govern all aspects of the hiring process, compensation and discipline for all classified employees.

<https://www.civilservice.louisiana.gov/>

<http://senate.legis.state.la.us/documents/constitution/Article10.htm>

<https://www.civilservice.louisiana.gov/HRProfessionals/HRHandbook/Chapter4.aspx>

b. Update to French Quarter Management District Logo

- i. For the Sanitation Laws & Services brochure, we removed the lamp post from the logo to assure it would maximize the use of the allowable space. Comparing the two logos at 0.75” demonstrates the abundance of negative space in the lamp post logo vs the non-lamp post version:



- ii. Unless there is any objection, we can continue to use the revised logo for future use,
- iii. Another option is to explore rebranding and establishing a brand identity for FQMD.
- iv. Ms. Cavett motioned (M3) to “accept the revised logo as presented by Ms. Frankic for all FQMD communications and representations...”, seconded by Ms. Cooper and unanimously approved.

c. Update on 5G Cell Tower planning by City of New Orleans

- i. Ms. Frankic has been working with a group of representatives from VCPORA, French Quarter Business Association, VCC Foundation, and the Preservation Resource Center, who have been meeting with the mayor’s Director of Utilities and Vieux Carré Commission staff to provide constructive feedback on assuring at any rollout of new 4G and 5G cell towers to be compliant with the Federal Section 106 process and are properly designed to have minimal impact on the tout ensemble of the French Quarter.
- ii. The engineering group Toro Blanco has developed designs that have reduced the height in half and look similar to the French Quarter lamp post. She provided a Toro Blanco slide deck presentation. The City is looking at either making the Toro Blanco design mandatory for all carriers or using it to craft the design guidelines for the Quarter. The City is negotiating a deal for Toro Blanco to have a management role in coordinating the three carriers’ installation plan in some fashion.
- iii. The City has taken a position of no net increase in poles in the French Quarter. The City expects to see a net decrease in poles with the Crown Castle 4G poles being replaced with this lamppost design. There are currently 768 lamp posts in the French Quarter. It is the working groups hope that any existing lamp posts that are replaced with the cellular poles will be retained for future use in the French Quarter.

- iv. Verizon is the only provider that has applied to the City and Section 106 via the State Historic Preservation Office for approximately 120 poles for the interior of the Quarter. The application has certain deficiencies that require the VCC to reject it as incomplete. The VCC is requiring photo representations of each location so that VCC can assess the appropriateness of each site.
- v. Ms. Frankic asked Mr. Eric Smith, CNO, CAO to follow up with the Director of Utilities to assure that the installation of the 55 new FQIF lamp posts are coordinated with the carrier applications. If there is overlap, we will need to coordinate on new locations for the FQIF lampposts, per VCC recommendations.
- vi. We are working with Mr. Ross Bourgeois to assure that coordination with the Real Time Crime Center cameras are included in the design to include the current cameras and to see if additional crime cameras are available. Also, that new poles have graffiti wrap, pedestrian counters and that there is a performance clause with a daily penalty for any inoperable lights once installed.
- vii. The working group is coordinating with the VCC on scheduling a public meeting soon to review the Toro Blanco design and get an update on the deployment coordination effort from the Director of Utilities.
- viii. She noted this is not a final determination, but continuing work through this 5G stakeholder group to promote the best functionality and design, and to mitigate negative tout ensemble impact.
- ix. The Department of Public Works would also like storm water level indicators incorporated into the design.

**DUE TO SECTION 106 NON-COMPLIANCE, THERE IS A STOP ORDER ON INSTILLATION OF 5G TOWERS, EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO TAKE PHOTOS OF THESE AND SEND WITH THE ADDRESS LOCATION TO**

**MS. FRANKIC AT: [kfrankic@fqmd.org](mailto:kfrankic@fqmd.org)**

**At Ms. Coopers request, Ms. Frankic shall keep the Commission updated on this situation.**

- d. Update on Pedestrianization of the French Quarter planning by the City of New Orleans
  - The City has assembled an internal technical tiger team to research and make recommendations for pedestrianization in the French Quarter. They have been meeting daily to talk about what cities around the world are doing in their centers and historic districts, as well as to build the framework that will lead to concepts and a subsequent set of near- and long-term recommendations. Draft goals that they have articulated for this body of work:
    - To offer a safe, accessible, and comfortable environment for residents and visitors to enjoy the French Quarter.
    - To improve the overall quality of life in the French Quarter with sustainable near- and long-term pedestrian-centric approaches.
    - To provide creative opportunities that support the full business ecosystem to reopen, recover and thrive as we move through and beyond COVID-19 restrictions.
    - To establish an inclusive framework and processes for decision-making that ensures pedestrianization efforts support improved outcomes for all stakeholders.
  - The City has assembled an external working group of French Quarter advisors representing French Quarter Business Association, French Quarter Citizens, VCPORA, French Quarter Festivals, Stay Local, Vieux Carré Commission, and FQMD which are meeting via teleconference weekly.
  - Councilmember Palmer is interested in using this opportunity to reduce the allowable size of trucks in the FQ.

- Accessibility for emergency responders, sanitation services, deliveries, and residential parking pass holders is assumed in all scenarios.
- Access for workers, and parking lot circulators/shuttles need to be worked out.
- French Quarter Citizens poll showed 35% of respondents are opposed to pedestrian only areas in the French Quarter. The remainder **think this is a good idea, think it has limited merit, not the entire Quarter, or need to see more information before deciding.**
- The City is about 1-2 weeks from having visuals to share with the public.
- Ms. Frankic is working with a small group (FQBA, VCPORA, and Stay Local) to identify quality of life concerns based on the information we have received thus far, and identify an action plan to address these concerns so that any pedestrianization programming assures that the residents see positive impacts to their lives and businesses' logistical concerns are met. Please review the list we have identified below before we send to the City to assure your concerns are included.

Quality of Life Issues Raised by the External French Quarter Working Group on June 12, 2020 are listed below. Overall, they are excited about the opportunity to rethink the French Quarter and think there are underlying strengths to these concepts. In these early phases of development, numerous logistical considerations will need to be addressed to ensure a holistic approach and, ultimately, community buy-in. The success of short and long-term investments need to respond to the unique circumstances of the French Quarter regarding impacts on quality of life for residents and businesses and work to mitigate any adverse impacts. Equity in how the program is rolled out is of paramount importance.

1) **Sidewalks & ADA compliance**

Condition of sidewalks and maintaining ADA accessibility, particularly as it relates to the elderly or mobility impaired need to be addressed with the limitation of curbside drop-off of patrons.

- a) Enforcement of utility cut performance clauses to repair related damages
- b) Identify funding source for remainder of repairs to assure that sidewalks are safe for use with walkers and wheelchairs.
- c) FQMD to complete the FQMD sidewalk assessment for use by the City Dept of Public Works

2) **Public Health** – Crowd management and sound management

Sound has been used to draw patrons in, creating an environment whereby businesses compete with each other. This method of advertisement is used in Jackson Square to draw crowds, and tips, to a particular street performance. Current rules are unenforceable, including the closing of doors and windows and the positioning of speakers to be directed to the exterior of the property and into the street.

- a) Sound Ordinance & Enforcement by the Dept of Public Health
  - i) Enforce existing speaker regulations for bricks and mortar establishments
  - ii) Finalize and implement a sound ordinance, currently underway by the Department of Health, and identify the enforcement mechanisms that are responsible
  - iii) Hours of operation of parklets/street dining to reflect impact on residential units in proximity to parklets/street dining
- b) Expanded outdoor dining privileges should be limited to standard restaurants

- i) Standard Restaurant Definition to be revisited by City Council as a text amendment to the CZO

**3) Impacts on Infrastructure and reducing vehicles**

- a) Vehicle access limited to emergency & patrol vehicles, residential parking pass holders, employees and their transporting families, and delivery vehicles (as governed under program delivery hours)
- b) Delivery Hours are reviewed by stakeholder for logistical practicality
- c) Vehicle size review, including length, height, and weight
- d) RTA circulator shuttle and associated parking lots launched at the same time as implementation of any closures of vehicular traffic
- e) Emphasis needed on safe cycle infrastructure and pedestrian crossings improvements at North Rampart and Decatur Streets where perimeter parking is located
- f) Hack stands are retained and monitored for cleanliness

**4) Management and Responsibility**

Businesses should receive a fair opportunity to participate in expanded seating. Business owners should be responsible for their operations, not for crowd control in the shared space. Enforcement Officers shall be provided for compliance of:

- a) City parklet and/or street seating permits to restaurants
- b) Social distancing rules
- c) Operational hours, deliveries, and permitted music
- d) Sanitation laws: garbage cans, sidewalk maintenance, sandwich signs, etc.
- e) Idling tour buses, which are not allowed

**5) Evaluation**

It is paramount that the City define clear metrics for determining success.

- a) Establish a timeline for review based on benchmarks for reopening phases with a minimum timetable
- b) Create a clear path for stakeholder feedback on areas that require reevaluation with process and time outlined prior to launch of program rollout

e. Meetings Attended

- 5/12/2020
  - Meeting with Commissioner Cooper
  - Call with Ross Bourgeois & Eric Smith
- 5/13/2020
  - Teleconference with Walt Leger and Commissioners Laughlin, DeBlieux, Pendleton, Cavett, and Watters
- 5/14/2020
  - District C Leadership Conference Call
- 5/15/2020
  - Meeting with Commissioner Pendleton
- 5/18/2020
  - Call to Office of Group Benefits
  - District C Leadership Conference Call
  - Security & Enforcement Committee Meeting

- First call with Sarah Porteous re: pedestrianization of the French Quarter
- 5/19/2020
  - Call with District C staff & Commissioner Emory re: illegal carry ABO radius restrictions
- 5/20/2020
  - Government Affairs Committee meeting
  - Kickoff call with pedestrianization internal tiger team and external working team
- 5/21/2020
  - Call with Joshua Cox
  - District C Leadership Conference Call
- 5/26/2020
  - District C Leadership Conference Call
  - Finance & Development Committee Meeting
- 5/27/2020
  - Call with District C staff & Commissioner Emory re: illegal carry ABO radius restrictions
  - Teleconference with Toro Blanco, City & FQ Leadership re: cell tower design & co-location plans
- 5/28/2020
  - District C Leadership Conference Call
- 6/1/2020
  - Call with NOHSEP, FQIF Analyst, FQTF Coordinator, and Commissioners Cavett & Emery as requested by Board Chair; re: FQMD Board concerns with NOHSEP Grounds Patrol proposal
  - District C Leadership Conference Call
  - Meeting with Commissioner Cooper
- 6/2/2020
  - Conference call with City's internal tiger team & external working group for FQ pedestrianization
  - Call with FQ Working group re: cell towers
  - Teleconference with Toto Blanco re: design revisions
- 6/3/2020
  - Executive Team teleconference
  - Livability Committee Meeting
- 6/4/2020
  - Webinar by New Orleans & Company
- 6/5/2020
  - District C Leadership Conference Call
  - Teleconference with FQ Working group re: cell towers
  - Meeting with Commissioner Pendleton
- 6/9/2020
- Conference call with City's internal tiger team & external working group for FQ pedestrianization
  - Teleconference with FQBA & VCPORA re: quality of life action concerns plan for City's pedestrianization concepts
- 6/12/2020
  - Keep the Quarter Clean campaign teleconference with Commissioners Raines, Gasperecz, and Cooper
  - District C Leadership Conference Call
  - Teleconference with FQBA, VCPORA, and Stay Local re: quality of life action concerns plan for City's pedestrianization concepts
  - Conference call with Eriksen Krentel re: 2019 audit

f. Scheduled Meetings To-Date

- 6/16/2020
  - FQBA Quality of Life Com.
  - Security & Enforcement Com.
- 6/19/2020
  - Dist. C Leadership Conf. Call
- 6/24/2020
  - Government Affairs Com.
- 7/1/2020
  - Livability Committee Meeting
- 6/26/2020
  - District C Leadership Conference Call
- 7/6/2020
  - French Quarter Museum Association

VII. REPORT BY CHAIR, FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Ms. Raines

The Committee met on Tuesday, May 26, 2020.

- a. The April 6 and May 4, 2020 Committee Meeting minutes were approved.
- b. The “Keep the Quarter Clean” campaign was discussed and shall be presented by the Livability Committee, Agenda item IX. a. The terms and finances involved were reviewed for Board approval.
- c. The funding termination scenarios (October 2020; December 6, 2020; Feb 14, 2021; May 2021) for the SPPP were discussed for presentation by the Security and Enforcement Committee, Agenda item XII. Ms. Frankic created an Excel sheet and graph with these details found in the Board packet and for presentation.
- d. A FQMD funding white paper was discussed. The Government Affairs Committee submitted a financial report for review. The total amount being sought through State funding is \$2,000,000.00 and shall be presented by that Committee as Agenda item VII.
- e. The FQMD CEA was discussed for the purposes of utilizing SPPP funds for some of that programs administrative requirements. The third page of the CEA states that “the FQMD shall retain a 3% administrative fee for administrative services”. Any other use of funds would besides the SPPP and this 3% would require a CEA amendment.
- f. The next Committee Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 29, 2020 at 4:10 pm.

VII. REPORT BY CHAIR, GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – Mr. DeBlieux

The Committee met on Wednesday, May 20, 2020.

- a. Funding issues and paths for funding – white paper for funding sources.
- b. Public meeting for EDD renewal, possible increase, and options for spending these funds. This shall be discussed under Agenda item XIII.
- c. The possibility of an ad valorem tax was discussed to cover SPPP funding in Agenda item XIII.
- d. Commissioners DeBlieux and Laughlin have been communicating with Lieutenant Governor Nungesser and Louisiana legislators to initiate FQMD funding through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) BDG funding and other available sources. It has been confirmed that the ask is in and they are waiting for replies to that submission.



e. The next Committee Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 24, 2020 at 2:10 pm.

VIII. REPORT BY CHAIR, LIVABILITY COMMITTEE – Ms. Gasperecz and Ms. Cooper  
The Committee met on Wednesday, June 3, 2020.

- a. Ms. Gasperecz thanked Ms. Raines, Ms. Cooper and Mrs. Frankic for their work on the “Keep the Quarter Clean” campaign which is a new project. She noted the very positive article in the BIZ publication and Ms. Frankic’s work on this. The flyer was presented and is attached. It shall be distributed and banners shall be utilized on businesses, poles and perhaps a billboard. Partners on this are the French Quarter Business Association (FQBA), the French Quarter Museum Association (FQMA), the Vieux Carre Property Owners and Renters Association (VCPORA) and French Quarter Citizens (FQC). They shall also reach out to the New Orleans Business Alliance, Greater New Orleans, Inc. (GNO, Inc.), New Orleans & Company, and the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce. The budget for this campaign is under \$5,000.00 and sponsorships are being sought. Ms. Gasperecz is hopeful in reaching this goal and the use of the billboard on the corner of Esplanade and North Rampart is being donated.
- b. Ms. Cooper noted that Commissioner input shall be sought for distribution and promotion of this campaign. Our partner’s social media shall also be sought. Mr. Caputo suggested a news media launch for this campaign. Mr. Pendleton noted that this campaign is just one of the value’s FQMD brings to the City of New Orleans.

X. REPORT BY CHAIR, SECURITY AND ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE  
The Committee met on Wednesday, May 18, 2020.

- a. Report on meeting between Security & Enforcement Committee leadership and New Orleans Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness - Mr. Emory noted that he, Ms. Frankic, Ms. Cavett and Mr. Simms met with Mr. Smith and Mr. Bourgeois. The City’s strategy for a unified command was discussed. Current and contingency funding is a question. They are committed to continuing these conversations and understand the importance of incorporating the FQTF app and not replacing it. Conversations shall continue. Mr. Bourgeois and Mr. Smith shall be submitting possible implementation scenarios to this leadership team for review. Mr. Bourgeois noted Phase I of the project rollout shall be French Market Corporation security incorporation into the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) with a CEA between the City and the FMC to be worked out. This shall be a Hybrid model of NOPD and FMC Grounds Patrol. Once approved, this will be a 90-120 day process. August 1, 2020 is the target date for FMC and Armstrong Park patrolling with new model. The hybrid model for the FQ would probably be later in the year; it is a stepped process. Mr. Emory noted that evaluations for the FQMD SPPP staffing should line up with the DHS FQ implementation model. Also, with fluid budgets, this is an ongoing transparent conversation. Reporting is still undetermined and is a concern. Mr. Ross intends to report in the same or very similar manner as the current reporting by Mr. Simms in time and content. The DHS reports directly to the Mayor. The Mayor’s team is aware FQMD is on board to assist in any way and Mr. Emory thanked them for continuing availability during this transition.
- b. Report on meeting with City Council District C staff regarding possibilities for the expansion of carry penalties – Mr. Emory reported that enforcement on the City and State level is a challenge, This requires more research and crafting before it is brought to the Board. Ms. Klein believes Mr. Mike Weinberger of the Home Defense Foundation is key to moving this type of legislation forward and

shared his contact information with Ms. Frankic.

- c. Report on Supplemental Police Patrol Program by Robert Simms - Mr. Simms noted that for May, the SPPP responded to 122 calls for service, 25 app calls, 127 dispatch calls, and 1,247 self-initiated calls. The vehicles clocked 4,607 miles. Most of the calls are related to mental illness and homelessness. Last month 98% of the shifts were filled. However, the three protests, negatively impacted shift staffing, as well as the storm impact when NOPD extended officer hours. A number of police cars were vandalized during the protests. Mr. Simms thanks Mr. Caputo for arranging FQTF vehicle parking at the Monteleone. This was made available for over a week and none of our vehicles were damaged. Whenever NOPD instructs the FQTF to park outside of the French Quarter, the vehicles are moved to the Mahalia Jackson lot as a short-term plan, along with the police cruisers. He noted that any support of NOPD is appreciated at this time. This past weekend experienced an increase in pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Crime is still down with the crowds not back. Mr. Pendleton thanked NOPD Lt. Caprera and LSM Captain Behrens for their responsiveness and thoughtful updates during the protest situations which could be pushed out through FQMD eblasts.

XI. PRESENTATION on the FRENCH QUARTER IMPROVEMENT FUND – Mr. Eric Smith

- a. Mr. Smith has not received the full arrival of budget items. The City is still missing the New Orleans & Co. 2019 remittances that came to about \$2,000,000.00 and they have been attempting to collect these since February. Without success collection, the FQIF balance was revised and therefore, the budget. Initially, there was a total 2020 budget of \$3,400,000.00, but that has been revised to meet the needs of the COVID -19 crisis and shortfall. The new budget is at \$2,100,000.00. Many of the previously budgeted projects and programs have been dropped. The focus is seeking City Council approval on the revised budget, so funds can be put to use. The City will continue in their efforts to recover the 2019 missing remittances. As those funds as collected, the budget shall be readjusted via a City Council budget amendment to refund those programs and projects that were cut out.
- b. The majority of the existing funds shall go to DPW for projects that are already in process or committed. \$725,000.00 is going to instillation of 55 new streetlights; the poles have been received and the instillation is progressing. An instillation schedule can be shared by next week. Mr. Smith said these lights should not be overlap with the lighting on the 5G towers of which most are on corners versus the 55 lights being primarily mid-block. He would work to eliminate any overlap. This was approved in the 2019 budget, but a delay in receipt of the poles, pushed it to 2020. Mr. Simms noted that 4 streets lights were installed from Bourbon Street business funds for \$35,000.00 and they were more complicated than what will be installed now. Mr. Pendleton noted that the \$725,000.00 was for over 50 new poles and for the repair of 70 existing poles. Mr. Smith said he stood corrected and would send the figures to Ms. Frankic. He verified that \$531,000.00 is for purchase and instillation of new poles and \$221,000.00 is for refurbishment of existing poles. He noted this project predated him and apologized for the confusion. The overall point is that most of the February budget is now defunct. Since the Sobering Center has been closed since the beginning of the quarantine and there is no set reopening date, that funding has been removed. He will send updates to Ms. Frankic as soon as he receives approval to transmit the much different budget line items. Ms. Klein asked what was being budgeted for the remaining \$850,000.00 in the FQIF. Mr. Smith replied that those funds have been designated to continue graffiti removal and the ramping up of grounds patrol through 2020, and a couple of things for the CNO Department of Health. This shall be sent to the City Council at the earliest, sometime in July. Mr. Pendleton thanked Mr. Smith for his participation in the FQMD virtual meetings, his transparency in relaying known information and his willingness to follow-up when information is unknown.

c. Approximately \$500,000.00 is part of the drainage and road improvements on Conti between Bourbon and Chartres and improvements on Decatur.

XII. REVIEW OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL POLICE PATROL PROGRAM (SPPP) per Board Motion on March 26, 2020 – by Ms. Frankic

As approved in March Commission Meeting, the SPPP was reduced to one officer for daytime and two officers for the evening/nighttime. Pursuant to the May 31, 2020 Balance Sheet Ms. Frankic produced a graphic indicating timeline versus staffing for the remainder of the budget reference by Ms. Raines in her Committee Report. Mr. DeBlieux felt the SPPP should be reduced to one officer for twenty-four hour coverage. Mr. Simms noted FQMD went with two at nighttime, because if an officer could not report there would be no coverage. Being short staffed has occurred and activity is increasing, so he would not recommend that. Mr. Caputo noted there has been an uptick in his and other hotel reservations and as the City moves into Phase II with restaurants and bars reopening, he would caution to reduce the SPPP. Ms. Cavett noted that frequently the FQMD SPPP is called upon to assist the FMC patrol and the Armstrong Park patrol. Also, as patrols are incorporated, the SPPP will be a guide to maintain best practices. Mr. Pendleton reiterated that staffing requirements shall be reviewed every month. Mr. Simms responded to Mr. Bilbe's question that there was a 10% savings in staff costs last week. Also, if protests and weather events continue, the staff savings shall continue; monthly review is a good idea. Ms. Cavett motioned (M4) to "maintain for ninety days the SPPP staffing of three officers per twenty-four hour period with one officer for the daytime and two officers scheduled for the evening/nighttime, to be reviewed every month at the FQMD Board Meetings and to facilitate scheduling adjustments as necessary...", seconded by Mr. Caputo and unanimously approved.

XIII. DISCUSSION OF EXPIRATION OF THE FRENCH QUARTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT SALES TAX - "Quarter for The Quarter" - Ms. Frankic

Five years ago, the voters approved the EDD to go into a trust fund managed by the CNO Department of Finance. The language was board so the funds could be used for security and other quality of life issues in the French Quarter. However, the CEA between the City and the Louisiana State Police (LSP) dedicated all the funds to the LSP. It stated there would be no less than fifteen State troopers dedicated to the French Quarter at all times. Ms. Frankic believes that requirement has not been met since a great deal of the funds go to benefits and overtime. Last year the EDD generated \$3,100,000.00 with a total of \$5,500,000.00 going to LSP. The EDD and the CEA expires December 31, 2020. The French Quarter voters shall have to decide if they want to renew this sales tax. Therefore, there is an opportunity to renegotiate how the tax-generated monies are spent with monitoring to assure transparency and accountability. As understood from District C, a new sales tax initiative would have to be on the July City Council agenda to be on the fall 2020 ballot. The Louisiana Bond Commission would approve the CNO ordinance for the runoff ballot.

Mr. DeBlieux noted that the Government Affairs Committee discussed whether to keep the tax amount the same or to increase it to cover other FQMD SPPP funding shortfalls. It was recommended for full Board discussion. Ms. Cavett said the phase mentioned was "doubling down on the quarter for the quarter".

Mr. Watters feels an attempt to increase taxes in the French Quarter while coming out of COVID-19 should not be done. Also, he believes that for FQMD to continue the EDD with the LSP funding as in the past is also appalling. He thinks it's been the most inefficient use of funding. He feels the residents should pay for the SPPP because Bourbon Street has never benefited from it. Ms. Klein noted that the EDD is a sales tax and everyone that makes those purchases is paying for it, not the seller. A discussion ensued about Bourbon Street security and while Ms. Frankic stated that the LSP was designated for the entire FQ, with NOPD concentrating on Bourbon Street, he feels because the NOPD has not been at full compliment, Bourbon Street needs more NOPD. It was noted that some businesses choose to absorb additional taxes to keep their prices at round figures. Ms. Cavett pointed out that is a business decision and they are not mandated to do that. Also, to put things in perspective, the current tax is 25 cents on a \$100.00 sale. The increase suggested would be 50 cents on a \$100.00 sale. It was pointed out that the SPPP does patrol on the commercial section of Bourbon Street as long as it is open to vehicular traffic, just like the police cruisers. Mr. DeBlieux noted that there are hotels and other venues in the CBD that market prospects by saying their tax is less than the FQ. He feels increasing the tax would add an additional burden to compete. Ms. Laughlin noted that while residents also pay sales tax on their purchases, they do not make any profit. Also, that residents pay property taxes and are generally not the ones breaking the law that necessitates extra security. She also said that the LSP has been very responsive and sometimes they respond faster than the FQTF to app notifications. Mr. Watters said the intent of LSP funding was to secure Bourbon Street, but that does not appear in the legislation or the CEA. This came from a private meeting with former Mayor Mitch Landrieu's staff, Mr. Watters and some others. He said the residents were assured that the SPPP would remain, but the additional monies would go to Troop N for Bourbon Street. Mr. Watters also feels there is not enough transparency in LSP line-item allocations and until this can be reported, FQMD should not extend the EDD.

Ms. Cavett noted with the EDD and CEA ending this year, the idea for increasing the sales tax to 50 cents on \$100.00 was to compensate for the loss of COVID-19 revenue. Furthermore, her negotiations were not with former Mayor Landrieu's administration but with residents and New Orleans & Company. The residents were told if they voted to pass the EDD, New Orleans & Company would support the FQTF SPPP and that was the agreement. Mr. Pendleton asked Ms. Cavett for clarification of her understanding of Troop N funding. She stated she was not in the referenced Landrieu meeting, but in every meeting she was involved in, Troop N was to be focused primarily in the business sector with support also in the residential sector, and the legislation reflects that.

Mr. Watters said the SPPP CEA does not exclude Bourbon Street and the FQTF as never patrolled there. Ms. Cavett noted that the FQTF does patrol Bourbon Street while it is open to vehicular traffic and when the street is closed, the Bourbon Street Promenade NOPD patrol begins. Mr. DeBlieux said the genesis of Troop N was the Bourbon Street shooting and former LSP Col. Edmonson verbally said he would "put boots on the ground" on Bourbon Street if funded.

Chairman Pendleton concluded by saying we have an opportunity to move forward, bringing clarity to future legislation and CEA's, with more specificity to accomplish our goals.

Mr. Emory agrees that we pursue EDD renewal with greater control and accountability and not just hemorrhage a tax. Mr. Caputo asked about redirecting FQ EDD money to SPPP and NOPD support. He believes a 50 cents tax on \$100 is not much, and FQMD should direct the security funds where needed, and not exclusively to the LSP.

Ms. Cavett agreed that the current CEA was a first time attempt to bolster security, was broadly written, and did include important performance matrix's and accountability requirements; this will need to be rectified in the future. Ms. Gasperez said this is an opportunity to evaluate and change our security relationships to maximize best outcomes.

Mr. Watters helped craft four or five CEA's, and said the process is bad and he believes anything other than NOPD will not work. Ms. Klein agrees there are flaws in the current system and with comments made by Mr. Pendleton, Ms. Cavett and Mr. Caputo. However, as we make decisions, we must keep in mind how policing in general is reevaluated; that our police have been effective in recent protests; as we work to fund security, and to realize that the protest in Armstrong Park on Wednesday was to defund the police.

Mr. DeBlieux shared in Committee it was recommended to hold a public meeting on the EDD. However, since learning of the legislative timeline, he feels there is not time and with social distancing to hold a public meeting. He is opposed to increasing the tax, strictly for business reasons. However, he is in favor of redirecting EDD funds to the FQMD where business and residents together to direct money in the manner they see fit.

Ms. Gasperez noted that private security forces can work well with other neighborhood associations, as is the case in her mixed-use neighborhood.

Mr. Emory feels the dollars should be spent to evolve away from multiple security patrols as was recommended in the FQMD Security Study. Also, to not support the removing of public property, but to be sensitive to what is transpiring nationally. Finally, that we should reallocate the funds as determined and how to positively message that.

Mr. Simms agreed that the crafting language needs to be specific, because the last time what residents were told they were voting for is not what totally resulted. Also, that the LSP came to FQ primarily because of a decrease in FQ NOPD officers. Also, he feels there is always room for improvement, but the LSP has done a good job and they should not be discounted. Finally, he stated he feels it is a wise move to be involved with the Mayor's Public Safety Team Model and he is in favor of the SPPP coming the DHS.

Chairman Pendleton asked Mr. DeBlieux revisit this issue at the Government Affairs Committee next Wednesday and come up with a couple of thoughtful proposals for the Commissioners to review to move forward on the EDD.

#### XIV. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

Mr. DeBlieux noted that this came out of Government Affairs Committee.

Mr. Christian shared previously there has been a lot of misinformation on the ad valorem tax. He asked for an honest conversation, we deal with facts and be respectful of one another. Using the previous model, residents would pay 50 cents per day, small businesses \$1.00 per day and larger business at various amounts. We are discussing a new ad valorem tax now, because it is a leaning experience and would sustainably fund FQMD. It can be easier to receive State funding when the legislators feel the community is contributing versus being the sole funding agent. Given the current COVID-19 crisis and economic downturns we need to seek funding solutions.

Mr. Watters noted perhaps FQMD should not be in the Security business and we should allow the Mayor to proceed with her plan for the DHS patrol. If it does not work, we can revisit. Mr. Pendleton replied that not all the funds would be slated for security, but also quality of life issues. Mr. Caputo agreed with Mr. Pendleton.

Ms. Laughlin stated the wear and tear on our neighborhood is mostly from tourists, so an EDD makes more sense to her than an additional property tax.

Mr. Bilbe asked for clarification on the previous tax breakdown. Ms. Frankic noted the per diem rates:  
\$0.50 per single household  
\$1.00 per multi-family and small business  
ad valorem based for larger properties with a cap of \$2,500.00

Mr. Bilbe noted that residential and commercial property taxes have significantly increased since the last ad valorem tax proposal, so the numbers would probably be larger.

Ms. Cavett shared what we are discussing is a tax on property owners to go into a trust fund. She noted in this and many meetings, we have the inability to get what we think we are buying. So, it would be difficult to have the voters approve a new tax based on past experiences. Mr. Bilbe agreed that it would be a heavy lift. Mr. Pendleton noted the Downtown Development District has been able to keep their staff and all programs running because their funding is a millage property tax. Mr. Caputo said if we had hard figures to review and it was targeted more for QOL issues there would be more of a comfort level regarding a new tax.

Mr. Watters said he would send some of the hostile media from the previous tax effort. Also, Ms. Frankic is sending the GCR report that includes the Marigny Triangle, so it requires updating.

Mr. Pendleton Cristian asked that Finance & Development and the Government Affairs Committees to revisit this and report back to the Commission.

XV. NEW BUSINESS – None raised.

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant R.S. 42:17 A. (3) to discuss the development of the course of action regarding security plans of the FQMD. Mr. DeBlieux motioned (**M5**) to “adjourn to Executive Session to discuss security matters...”, seconded by Mr. Emory and unanimously approved at 4:00 p.m.

XVII. RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING: The meeting was reconvened by Board acclimation at 5:10 p.m.

XVIII. NEXT MEETING: 13 July 2020

XIX. ADJOURNMENT: Mr. DeBlieux motioned to (**M6**) “adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 5:19 p.m...”, seconded by Ms. Raines and unanimously approved by a quorum of the Board present.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Klein (signed original available)

Susan Klein, Secretary

## Treasurer's Report

French Quarter Management District  
For the period ended May 31, 2020

### Balance Sheet

As of May 31, 2020

	<b>Total</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Bank Accounts</b>	
FQ SPPP account	438,326.47
FQMA	9,267.31
FQMD general operating account	317,761.23
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>765,355.01</b>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	
Contract Receivable	3,110.18
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>3,110.18</b>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
Prepaid Expenses	14,752.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>14,752.00</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>783,217.19</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$783,217.19</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	26,443.25
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>26,443.25</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>26,443.25</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>26,443.25</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
Opening Balance Equity	728,758.01
Retained Earnings	14,481.00
Net Income	13,534.93
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>756,773.94</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$783,217.19</b>

## A/P Aging Summary

As of May 31, 2020

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	91 and over	Total
City of New Orleans (OPSE)	17,992.94					17,992.94
F.Q.M.A.			110.18			110.18
French Quarter Management District				3,000.00		3,000.00
G4S Secure Solutions	3,640.34					3,640.34
John Wyatt Foard, LLC		142.46	1,057.33			1,199.79
LPL Financial	500.00					500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$22,133.28</b>	<b>\$142.46</b>	<b>\$1,167.51</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$26,443.25</b>

## Profit and Loss

May 2020

	Total
<b>INCOME</b>	
Charitable Donations	75,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>75,000.00</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>75,000.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Office Supplies & Software	256.38
Payroll Expenses	
Employee Benefits	1,000.00
Payroll	4,046.53
Processing Fees	160.10
Taxes	1,578.09
Worker's Compensation	38.08
<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>6,822.80</b>
SPPP Expenses	
Fuel	1,067.15
Licensing Fees	-262.94
Mobile Data Charges	320.08
Police Patrols	36,247.56
Security Administration	4,849.93
Vehicle	
Maintenance	126.88
<b>Total Vehicle</b>	<b>126.88</b>
<b>Total SPPP Expenses</b>	<b>42,348.66</b>
Utilities	
Email	6.00
<b>Total Utilities</b>	<b>6.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>49,433.84</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>25,566.16</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$25,566.16</b>



