



**NYS Olympic Regional Development Authority  
Board Meeting Minutes  
December 17, 2021**

Present: Kelly Cummings, Chair  
Bill Beaney  
Cliff Donaldson  
Stephen Hunt, ESD  
Betty Little  
Arthur Lussi  
Diane Munro  
Chris Pushkarsh, OPRHP  
Jeffrey Stefanko, DEC  
Elinor Tatum

Also Present: Michael Pratt, President/CEO  
Michelle Crew, General Counsel

Introduction: Chair Kelly Cummings called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Kelly Cummings explained that the meeting was being videotaped and a link to the recording would be made available on [www.orda.org](http://www.orda.org).

Kelly Cummings then asked for a roll call, and confirmed a quorum was present. Cliff Donaldson and Elinor Tatum joined after the roll call, due to difficulties connecting online.

Minutes: On a motion by Betty Little, seconded by Bill Beaney, the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on September 22, 2021 were approved without changes.

President's Report: Mike Pratt commended the ORDA staff for their excellent work as the venues open for a second winter under COVID-19 protocols. Operations are primarily the same as last year.

All of the alpine areas and Mt. Van Hoevenberg (MVH) opened over Thanksgiving weekend. Many of the projects at the venues have been completed. Belleayre Mountain's Overlook Lodge repair was finished, and the new outdoor foodservice area is being utilized. The Gore Mountain potable water system update was completed. Whiteface Mountain's Bear lift replacement and Legacy Lodge project are both complete. All venues are taking advantage of the increased efficiencies from their snowmaking improvements; Whiteface Mountain reported its earliest-ever opening of the summit. During opening, Belleayre, MVH, the Olympic Jumping



Complex (OJC), and Whiteface simultaneously set snowmaking production records.

At the OJC, the new summer surfaces are working well.

Mt. Van Hoevenberg hosted a North American Cup Bobsled event which brought a lot of international exposure.

The 1932 rink is complete and opened on December 3. The 1980 rink is coming along and we expect it to be open in early January. The oval was a massive project and will be opening on December 23.

The three floors of the Admin Building have been poured and the contractors are making a lot of progress.

The World University Games are less than 13 months away. This has not been an ideal start to winter with rain and warmer temperatures. However, if the games were being held this year, ORDA would be substantially ready to host. Betty Little noted the value of linking ORDA's sustainability work to the Games.

The ORDA-operated retail stores have been a tremendous success this year.

ORDA will be hosting the Olympic Trials at MVH and OJC for Nordic Combined & Ski Jumping on December 24 and December 25. Several other major events are scheduled. ORDA's events and venue operations have garnered several positive articles in regional, national, and international media outlets.

Mike discussed the resolution regarding the Budget and Financial Plan. He noted several key items in developing the report, including labor, cash flows, insurance, debt management, energy costs, and technology. Diane Munro requested as an agenda item for the February meeting that the Board be able to hear about and discuss organizational priorities for capital spending.

The second resolution is a change order for the Link Building project. The four primary items associated with this change are asbestos abatement, DOT requirements, communications needs, and concrete removal of floor. The completion date for the building is September of next year.

Art Lussi commended ORDA for its ability to simultaneously host guest operations and athlete development at its venues. He also thanked Kelly Cummings for running open and transparent board meetings.

Executive Committee: Kelly Cummings provided a report of the Executive Committee Meeting. The Executive Committee held a meeting on October 29, 2021. On the



agenda was review of the 2022/2023 Budget and 2021-2026 Financial Plan.

ORDA Finance Director Peggy Evatt explained to the committee that the plan was developed in compliance with Part 203 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York, which are the regulations of the NYS Office of the Comptroller. In developing its numbers, ORDA utilized historical financial performance, analyzed new venue activities and operations, and identified projected changes.

Mike Pratt discussed direct correlations between revenue generation and payroll.

The Executive Committee recommends to the Board of Directors that it approve the 2022/2023 Budget and 2021-2026 Financial Plan.

New Business:

Resolutions:

**#435** Resolution Approving and Adopting ORDA's 2022/2023 Budget & 2021-2026 Financial Plan.

On a motion by Betty Little, seconded by Cliff Donaldson.

10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained, adopted Resolution #435.

**#436** Resolution Committing Capital and Granting Conditional Approval for the President & CEO to Enter Into an Amended Agreement for the Olympic Center Revitalization Project – Arena Link Building.

On a motion by Diane Munro, seconded by Elinor Tatum.

10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained, adopted Resolution #436

Chair:

Kelly Cummings announced that Renee would be in touch concerning the date of the next board meeting.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Art Lussi, seconded by Betty Little, the meeting of the Olympic Regional Development Authority Board of Directors was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.