

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**of the**  
**MASSACHUSETTS CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY**  
**January 15, 2026**

A meeting of the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (“Authority”) was convened on January 15, 2026 at the Thomas M. Menino Convention and Exhibition Center (“MCEC”), 415 Summer Street, Boston, MA, Board Room and via MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING OR JOIN BY TELEPHONE: DIAL-IN NUMBER 1-857-702-2232; CONFERENCE ID: 853 397 22#

Members in attendance at the MCEC or via MICROSOFT TEAMS were the following: Emme Handy, Khushbu Webber, Dr. Aisha Miller, Carlos Aramayo, Cindy Brown, Sheena Collier, Michael Donovan, Michael Flaherty, Ashley Groffenberger, Meg Mainzer-Cohen, Chris Pappas, Gwill York and Xiomara Albán DeLobato

Staff members in attendance at the MCEC or via MICROSOFT TEAMS included the following: John Barros, Kevin Scanlon, Bradley McMillin, John Donahue, Robert Noonan, Erin Anderson, Dave Silk, Diane DiAntonio, John Towle, Sorraia Taveres, Claudia Russell, Lennie DeSouza, Milt Herbert, Daunielle Brown, Brendan Flynn, Ankur Channe, Rob Chojnowski, Mark O’Leary, Tracey Burgio, Bob Kephart, Heleno Ferfaglia, Jason Beverly, Chris Raposa, Allen Proctor, Brian Hayes, Michael Ahfont, Alain Mathieu, and Jeannemarie Joyce

**I. ROLL CALL**

Chair Emme Handy called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and a quorum was established by a roll-call vote.

Roll Call:

Emme Handy	Present
Khushbu Webber	Present
Dr. Aisha Miller	Present
Carlos Aramayo	Present
Cindy Brown	Present
Sheena Collier	Present
Michael Donovan	Present
Michael Flaherty	Present
Ashley Groffenberger	No Answer <sup>1</sup>
Meg Mainzer-Cohen	Present
Chris Pappas	Present
Gwill York	No Answer
Xiomara Albán DeLobato	Present

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<sup>1</sup> Ashley Groffenberger later joined the meeting.

**II. OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION OF JOHN BARROS**

Chair Emme Handy introduced John Barros as the new Interim Executive Director of the MCCA. Ms. Handy praised Mr. Barros’ remarkable vision, including economic development, understanding of our city, our state, and the importance of engaging with the community. She stated that Mr. Barros has a track record of bringing people together.

**III. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the November 20, 2025 meeting were approved by a roll-call vote.

Roll Call:

Emme Handy	Yes
Khushbu Webber	Yes
Dr. Aisha Miller	Yes
Carlos Aramayo	Yes
Cindy Brown	Yes
Sheena Collier	Yes
Michael Donovan	Yes
Michael Flaherty	Yes
Ashley Groffenberger	Yes
Meg Mainzer-Cohen	Yes
Chris Pappas	Yes
Gwill York	Yes
Xiomara Albán DeLobato	Yes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the December 7, 2025 meeting were approved by a roll-call vote.

Roll Call:

Emme Handy	Yes
Khushbu Webber	Yes
Dr. Aisha Miller	Yes
Carlos Aramayo	Abstain
Cindy Brown	Yes
Sheena Collier	Yes
Michael Donovan	Yes
Michael Flaherty	Yes
Ashley Groffenberger	Yes
Meg Mainzer-Cohen	Yes
Chris Pappas	Yes
Gwill York	Yes
Xiomara Albán DeLobato	Yes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the minutes of the December 12, 2025 meeting were approved by a roll-call vote.

Roll-Call:

Emme Handy	Yes
Khushbu Webber	Yes
Dr. Aisha Miller	Yes
Carlos Aramayo	Yes
Cindy Brown	Yes
Sheena Collier	Yes
Michael Donovan	Yes
Michael Flaherty	Yes
Ashley Groffenberger	Yes
Meg Mainzer-Cohen	Yes
Chris Pappas	Yes
Gwill York	Yes
Xiomara Albán DeLobato	Yes

#### **IV. BOSTON CONVENTION MARKETING CENTER PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Milt Herbert, Executive Director Boston Convention Marketing Center, presented the Boston Convention Marketing Center Performance Report, highlighting recent sales activity, long-term bookings, event cycles, and the significance of the PCMA annual event for client engagement.

#### **V. MASS MUTUAL CENTER/MGM SPRINGFIELD SALES AND MARKETING END OF YEAR UPDATE**

Sean Dolan, General Manager MassMutual Center, and James Boucher, Director of Sales MassMutual Center, provided a comprehensive review of the MassMutual Center and MGM Springfield's 2025 performance, highlighting record-breaking events, increased bookings, and successful community engagement initiatives.

#### **VI. REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

##### **1. November YTD and MTD Update**

Khushbu Webber introduced Bradley McMillin, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. McMillin presented the November year-to-date financials to the committee, detailing revenue and expense variances against the budget.

2. Q2 2026 Forecast vs. 2026 Budget

Mr. McMillin discussed the Q2 forecast, highlighting a revised outlook based on actuals and known variances, and addressed questions regarding the inclusion of the Deloitte Strategic Plan project and future coverage ratio targets.

3. Finance Department Progress Report

Mr. McMillin presented. The CliftonLarsonAllen audit identified “reconciliation of significant account balances” as a material weakness. The remediation through the November close is 70% complete. The goal is 100% completion each month and to close the general ledger monthly on the tenth business day. The MCCA updated the Questica budgeting system and is implementing Concur, a travel and expense system. The MCCA is also working with an outside vendor to optimize the Business Central system.

**VI. REPORT OF DEVELOPMENT & CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE**

1. MMC Chiller Ice Plant Replacement

Meg Mainzer-Cohen introduced Erin Anderson, Manager of Capital Projects, who presented. The existing plant chiller is twenty-two years old and is at the end of its useful life. The existing system uses R-22 refrigerant which has been phased out under the Clean Air Act, causing supply to be limited and costly. This project will replace the existing ice plant system with new package CO2 chiller skid equipment. Kleeberg Mechanical Services Inc. was the lowest responsible and eligible bidder per MGL c. 149.

**VOTE: The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority hereby authorizes the Executive Director or his Designee to execute a construction contract with Kleeberg Mechanical, Inc. for the MMC Ice Plant Chiller Replacement in the amount of Four Million Three Hundred One Thousand, Seven Hundred Seventy-Seven Dollars (\$4,301,777.00) per construction plans and specifications documents dated October 8, 2025.**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the vote was approved by a roll-call vote:

Roll Call:

Emme Handy	Yes
Khushbu Webber	Yes
Dr. Aisha Miller	Yes
Carlos Aramayo	Yes
Cindy Brown	Yes
Sheena Collier	No Answer

Michael Donovan	Yes
Michael Flaherty	Yes
Ashley Groffenberger	Yes
Meg Mainzer-Cohen	Yes
Chris Pappas	Yes
Gwill York	Yes
Xiomara Albán DeLobato	Yes

2. Designer Services: Consulting Engineering and Architectural Services RFP

Meg Mainzer-Cohen introduced Erin Anderson, Manager of Capital Projects, who presented. The Authority initiates facility and capital improvements under the guidance of the Capital Program Budget. The majority of these projects require designer engagements for conceptual designs, cost estimates, procurement documentation, feasibility studies and investigations. Since 1982, the state’s Designer Selection Board has authorized the Authority to form its own Designer Selection Panel to select firms for design services. An RFP was announced on October 1, 2025. The Designer Selection Panel reviewed thirteen responses to the RFP and selected eight finalists for interviews: Fennick McCredie, Touloukian & Touloukian, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Kleinfelder, STV, KVA Architects, HDR, and Gannett Flemming. After evaluating the responses to the RFPs and interviewing the eight finalists, the Designer Selection Panel recommended that the Authority enter into contracts with all eight firms. There is no guaranteed spend. Work will be authorized through work orders. All costs will be covered within the Capital Budget which requires a Board vote.

**VOTE: The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority hereby authorizes the Executive Director or his designee to negotiate a fee with Fennick McCredie, Touloukian & Touloukian, Inc, Simpson Gumpertz and Heger Inc., Kleinfelder, STV, KVA Architects, HDR and Gannett Flemming and upon said satisfactory negotiations to execute a contract with each of them for a not to exceed fee of \$4,500,000, for a term of three years, with two one-year renewal options, for Consulting Services in accordance with the Request for Proposals dated October 8, 2025.**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the committee voted as follows:

Roll Call:

Emme Handy	Yes
Khushbu Webber	Yes
Dr. Aisha Miller	Yes
Carlos Aramayo	Yes
Cindy Brown	Yes

Michael Donovan	Yes
Michael Flaherty	Yes
Ashley Groffenberger	Yes
Meg Mainzer-Cohen	Yes
Chris Pappas	Yes
Gwill York	Yes
Xiomara Albán DeLobato	Yes

**X. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned by a unanimous roll-call vote.

Roll Call:

Emme Handy	Yes
Khushbu Webber	Yes
Dr. Aisha Miller	Yes
Carlos Aramayo	Yes
Cindy Brown	Yes
Michael Donovan	Yes
Michael Flaherty	Yes
Ashley Groffenberger	Yes
Meg Mainzer-Cohen	Yes
Chris Pappas	Yes
Gwill York	Yes
Xiomara Albán DeLobato	Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.