

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON AIRPORT DISTRICT
Operations, Facilities & Construction Committee Meeting
July 18, 2022 @ 2:30 p.m. Carolina Room
Draft Minutes

Attendance

Pat Smith, Chair; Duane Cooper (Zoom); Carol Fowler; Hank Jibaja (Zoom); Anton Gunn (Zoom); John Folsom; Hazel Bennett (Zoom); Dan Bell; Jim Wellman; LaJoia Broughton (Zoom); Sarah Johnson (Zoom)

Staff

Mike Gula; Eddie Martin; Josh Davis; Jessica Foster; John Fisher (Attorney); Lynne Douglas (Secretary)

1. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Folsom made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Approval of Minutes from October 14, 2021

Chair Smith advised that the minutes could not be located from this meeting due to the transition at that time with the Commission Secretary leaving.

3. Ground Transportation Discussion

Chair Smith said that each committee member should have received a copy of the letter from Dr. Indika Bandara, Owner, Carolina Express 1 Cab Company requesting a reduction in the annual taxi fee from \$1000 annually to \$300. Chief Martin provided the history and background on the taxi procedures that were put into place in 2016, the changes since then, and an update on the current procedures.

After discussion, Mr. Gunn made a motion to compare CAE's taxi license fee to other similarly sized airports in the state and in the region. Based on the survey's findings, there will be consideration whether to make an adjustment or not. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Discussion/Suggestions

Mr. Folsom asked if CAE has sufficient taxi, Uber and Lyft resources to handle the volume. As a customer service point, he said this creates an image issue and one that should be considered. Chief Martin said that he had erected a sign at the taxi location listing phone numbers for taxi companies should there not be one available. He went on to say that waiving the gate access fee for taxis after 10:00 p.m. greatly helps as more taxis are willing to come out during the late night hours.

Mr. Gunn asked if we receive complaints or social media chatter from travelers not being able to get a cab. Chief Martin said that he works with Marketing to receive any complaints to include any on social media and receives very few. He went on to explain that all the taxi drivers track the flight arrivals on their phones and know when to be at the airport. When surveying other airports, Mr. Gunn asked Chief Martin to inquire as to whether any of the airports use one taxi company to serve the airport.

5. **Adjournment**

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynne Douglas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lynne Douglas, Commission Secretary