

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON AIRPORT DISTRICT
Commission Meeting
February 19, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m. Carolina Room
Draft Minutes

Attendance

Carol Fowler, Chair; Anton Gunn, Vice Chair; Dan Bell; Duane Cooper; Breon Walker (Zoom); Pat Smith; Hank Jibaja (Zoom); Jim Wellman; LaJoia Broughton; John Folsom (Zoom); Chappelle Broome-Stevenson; Tripp Jones

Staff

Mike Gula; Gregg Hornsby; Frank Murray; Ryan Kreulen; Lindsay Copelan; Daniel Ruggiero; Jessica Foster; John Fisher (Attorney); Lynne Douglas (Secretary)

Guests

Gloria Tanner (CBC); Ron Harvey (Global Core); Lee Thomas (Eagle Aviation)

A. Call to Order and Introductions

1. Determination of a Quorum

Chair Fowler confirmed that a quorum was in attendance.

2. Approve Order and Contents of the Overall Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

B. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the January 29, 2024 Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Wellman made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. Regular Agenda

1. Election of Officers

Chair Fowler put forth this agenda item to elect officers for the next two years by saying that the Chair has to be a Commissioner from Richland County and the Vice Chair has to be a Commissioner from Lexington County. Commissioner Cooper made a motion to nominate Vice Chair Gunn as Chair. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Chair Fowler asked if there were other nominations. Commissioner Cooper made a motion to close the nominations. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Chair Fowler put forth the motion to elect Vice Chair Gunn as Chair. Motion carried.

Commissioner Wellman made a motion to nominate Commissioner Smith as Vice Chair. Following the call for further nominations, Commissioner Cooper nominated Commissioner Wellman. He declined and thanked Commissioner Cooper for his nomination. Commissioner Cooper rescinded his nomination. The motion carried to elect Commissioner Smith as Vice Chair.

Commissioner Bell made a motion to nominate Lynne Douglas as Secretary. With no further nominations, the motion carried to elect Lynne as Secretary. She thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve.

Past Chair Fowler turned the gavel over to Chair Gunn to preside over the meeting.

D. Committee Reports

1. Finance, Contracts & Planning Committee Report

a. Proposed Land Sale - Site 11C

Committee Chair Wellman reported that the committee met prior to the Commission meeting. He went on to say that the Letter of Intent had not been received so this item has been postponed until the March meeting.

b. President/CEO Approval Authority

Committee Chair Wellman said that the committee discussed this item in great detail and decided to refer it to an ad hoc committee. He put forth the committee's motion that an ad hoc committee be appointed by the Commission Chair to explore the possibility of giving the President/CEO unilateral authority to sign certain contracts without the necessity of committee or Commission approval. The motion carried.

c. Airline Agreements Update

Committee Chair Wellman reported that the airlines had assured staff that they could execute their agreements by the end of 2023; however, that did not happen. He put forth the committee motion to approve an amendment extending the agreements through April 30, 2024. Motion carried.

2. Labor & Personnel Committee

a. Diversity Consulting RFP

Committee Chair Walker reported that the committee met on February 9. She asked Mr. Hornsby to present the staff recommendation. Mr. Hornsby said that the committee received a staff recommendation on the scope of work for the two selected diversity consultants to include the recommendation to finalize consulting agreements, satisfactory to the Commission's Counsel, with Ken Weeden and Associates and with Foresight Communications. Committee Chair Walker put forth the committee motion as stated in the staff recommendation. Motion carried.

E. Information/Announcements/Staff Reports/Correspondence

1. January 2024 Financial Report

Mr. Hornsby presented the monthly financial report as detailed in the Commission packet. He said that the decrease in cash was due to a considerable amount of capital expenditures on a variety of projects as stated in the financial packet. He also highlighted revisions to the Enplanements graph to make it more informative.

2. Commission Chair's Report

Chair Gunn thanked Past Chair Fowler for her role as Commission Chair these past two years. On behalf of the Commission and in appreciation for her leadership and service, he presented her with an engraved gavel gift set in a lined presentation case. Past Chair Fowler received a round of applause from everyone. Chair Gunn expressed his appreciation with the Commission's confidence to Chair the Airport Commission. He went on to share the four values which represent the spirit by which he approaches everything that he does. The values are Service, Empowerment, Justice, and Legacy. Chair Gunn shared what each value means to him. He said that he is grateful and looks forward to

growing and learning with Commissioners as they support the President & CEO in impacting the airport.

3. President/CEO's Report

Mr. Gula reported on his experience so far with the Riley Institute Diversity Leaders Initiative Program and expressed his gratefulness to be a part of the program. He shared some aspects of the program to include a project that his group will be working on to include students and that will focus on diversity.

Last Thursday, Mr. Gula spoke at the Lexington Rotary and expressed that CAE cannot succeed if travelers continue to fly out of Charlotte instead of CAE. He said that we have made progress in the past two years but still have a ways to go. He asked that Commissioners continue their efforts as ambassadors for CAE.

Mr. Gula said that he recently attended the Irmo Chamber Board retreat which was very good. The Chamber Gala is scheduled for March 4 and tickets are available through Friday.

On March 13, Mr. Gula plans to attend the Georgia/South Carolina Legislative Dinner at the AAEE Legislative Conference in Washington DC.

Last Saturday, Mr. Gula attended the USC basketball game and accepted the game ball. He was also interviewed on the radio at half time by Derek Scott.

Mr. Gula concluded his remarks by sharing that a Lunch & Learn is planned for the staff on February 21.

F. Discussion/Suggestions

1. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the guests.

Commissioner Stevenson commended the staff's commitment and their work on the various projects. She also commended staff on their responsiveness to requests for assistance. She expressed how she wants to be sure they are being recognized for their efforts in the midst of all the busyness of the airport. Commissioner Stevenson shared her appreciation for recent assistance from Malia and Jennifer and also commended Jessica for her consistent responsiveness. Mr. Gula said that CAE has the best team in the nation.

G. Adjournment

Chair Gunn adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lynne Douglas
Commission Secretary