

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON AIRPORT DISTRICT
Commission Meeting
June 17, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m.
Carolina Room
Draft Minutes

Attendance

Anton Gunn, Chair; Carol Fowler; Dan Bell; Hank Jibaja; Jim Wellman; John Folsom; Chappelle Broome-Stevenson; Tripp Jones

Absent

Pat Smith; Duane Cooper; Breon Walker; LaJoia Broughton

Staff

Mike Gula; Gregg Hornsby; Ryan Kreulen; Daniel Ruggiero; Malia Ropel; Jessica Foster; Joseph Dickey (Attorney); Lynne Douglas (Secretary)

Guests

Ryan Hounshell, Zack Haney (Holt); Joseph Barkevich (WK Dickson)

A. Call to Order and Introductions

1. Determination of a Quorum

2. Approve Order and Contents of the Overall Agenda

Chair Gunn called the June 17th meeting to order and determined that a quorum was in attendance. Commissioner Folsom made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the May 20, 2024 Commission Meeting Minutes

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

C. Committee Reports

1. Finance Committee Report

a. 2023 Audit

Committee Chair Wellman reported that the committee received the audit presentation from Michael Slapnik, with Scott & Company (copy included in Commission Meeting packet). He said that it was an impressive audit and commended Mr. Hornsby and his staff for an outstanding job. The Commission voted to accept the audit as presented by Scott & Company. Chair Wellman also reported that the committee entered Executive Session to discuss contractual matters related to Reef Parking and to the potential sale of Site 11A.

D. Adjourn to Executive Session

1. Discussion of a Contractual Matter Related to Reef Parking

2. Discussion of a Contractual Matter Related to the Potential Sale of Site 11A

Commissioner Fowler made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the above mentioned contractual matters. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Action of Items Discussed in Executive Session

Upon coming out of Executive Session, Commissioner Wellman made a motion to approve the sale of Site 11A. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Folsom made a motion to extend the Reef Parking contract on a month to month basis pending further review by legal counsel and to prepare for the RFP process. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

F. Information/Announcements/Staff Reports/Correspondence

1. May 2024 Financial Report

Mr. Hornsby reported that cash increased just under \$476,000 and day's cash on hand is 439. Enplaned passengers for May increased almost 20% over May 2023. Enplanements are at 97.55% of May 2019 YTD. Cargo was down due to reduced flights by UPS and American. Revenues are slightly over budget. Airport Operations was over budget due to utilities. Mr. Hornsby continued by reviewing additional highlights of the financial report as included in the Commission Meeting packet.

2. Commission Chair's Report

Chair Gunn reported that, as the Airport Commission Chair, he has received a board seat with the Central SC Alliance. He attended his first meeting earlier today. He went on to say that he enjoyed the opportunity to meet with many of the business leaders of the eight-county region around the airport and the City of Columbia to talk about strategy to grow the region economically to attract business and industry. He shared with the group the importance of flying out of CAE and also the importance of the Central SC Alliance being a champion for the airport. Chair Gunn commended Jason Giulietti, their President & CEO, and the work that he is doing.

In referencing last fall's Commission retreat, Chair Gunn expressed the importance of having a retreat annually. Prior to the July meeting, he will send out prospective dates for this year's retreat as the planning process gets underway. There will be a focus on governance and related topics.

On behalf of staff, Chair Gunn asked that Commissioners park in the lot downstairs when traveling. Due to the construction going on inside the terminal, the upstairs parking lot spaces need to be available for the contractors.

Chair Gunn expressed appreciation for his first months as Commission Chair. He said he has learned much and that he wants to do the best job he can for the Commission in keeping them informed regarding changes, to mitigate challenges, and to make sure meetings are effective. He said he may call on Commissioners individually from time to

time to tap into their expertise and experience. He expressed how he values that and thanked Commissioners.

3. President/CEO Report

Mr. Gula reported that he recently graduated from the Riley Institute. He said it was a great experience and he made new contacts and friends.

Mr. Gula said this could be a record breaking year for CAE with enplanements and is looking forward to seeing the numbers at the end of the quarter.

A new elevator is now operational in the garage and provides us with two functional elevators in the garage. The new elevator replaces the escalator which had constant operational issues.

Ms. Crafton recently attended JumpStart with members of the air service consultant team and had good airline meetings. One of the airlines has committed to providing a letter of interest to be included in our application for the SCASDP (Small Community Air Service Development Program) Grant.

Mr. Gula reported that the quarterly State of the Airport will be held next week and much of the discussion will focus on the organizational survey and the results.

Per a conversation with the lobbyist last week, Mr. Gula said that the \$8 million is still a placeholder in the state budget for us - \$5 million in the House and \$3 million in the Senate.

Mr. Gula concluded his report by saying that he and Ms. Foster have been working on a new Commissioner orientation. Once it is in draft form, he will provide to Commissioners for comments and suggestions.

G. Discussion/Suggestions

1. Comments from the Public

There was no additional discussion.

H. Adjournment

Commissioner Wellman made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Folsom seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lynne Douglas, Commission Secretary