

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON AIRPORT DISTRICT

Commission Meeting

April 21, 2025 @ 4:00 PM

Carolina Room

Draft Minutes

Attendance

Anton Gunn, Chair; Duane Cooper (Zoom); Breon Offord (Zoom); Hank Jibaja; Jim Wellman; LaJoia Broughton; Chappelle Broome-Stevenson; John Folsom (Zoom); Tripp Jones; Steve Benjamin; Elizabeth Taylor; Dawn Wetherley

Staff

Gregg Hornsby; Frank Murray; Ryan Kreulen; Kim Crafton; Tamie Head; Cameron Zimmerman; Jason Brown; Daniel Ruggiero; Thomas Tapp; Roger Allen; Will Salazar; Jessica Foster; Elizabeth Black (Attorney); Lynne Douglas (Secretary)

Guests

Ron Harvey (Global Core Strategies); Johnny Dickerson (Columbia Aviation); Zack Haney (Holt); Joseph Barkevich (Ardurra); Tyler Moser (Eagle Aviation)

A. Call to Order and Introductions

1. Determination of a Quorum

Chair Gunn confirmed that a quorum was in attendance.

2. Approve Order and Contents of the Overall Agenda

Commissioner Wellman made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Jibaja seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of March 17, 2025 Commission Meeting Minutes

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

C. Regular Agenda

1. Nominations and Election of Vice Chair

Chair Gunn began by saying that Commissioner Pat Smith had resigned from the Airport Commission. As he represented the Lexington County Delegation, the Vice Chair has to be from Lexington County. Chair Gunn opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Jones nominated Commissioner Wellman for Vice Chair of the Airport Commission. Chair Gunn asked if there were additional nominations or a motion to close the nominations. Commissioner Benjamin made a motion to close nominations. The Airport Commission proceeded to vote Commissioner Wellman in as Vice Chair. Chair Gunn extended his congratulations.

D. Committee Reports

1. Operations, Facilities, & Construction Committee Meeting

a. Master Plan Update

Committee Chair Jones reported that the committee met just prior to today's Commission meeting. The committee received a presentation on the update of the Master Plan from Frank Murray and Stephanie Ward, Master Plan Project Manager

with Mead & Hunt. The presentation was received as information and no committee action was taken. Committee Chair Jones went on to offer some additional comments.

Mr. Murray advised that the presentation had been recorded and can be made available to Commissioners. He said that upcoming events are scheduled for the public to view the information to include a display in the main lobby during Aviation Week, April 27 – May 3. The information will also be available at the Master Plan Reception on May 15.

Mr. Murray invited Commissioners to contact him or Ms. Foster with any questions or for more information. He went on to say that these presentations are another step in the effort to gather feedback as staff moves toward finalizing the plan in the May/June timeframe. The plan will then be submitted to the FAA for review and will be final once the FAA approves it. Chair Gunn advised that the slides from the presentation are available in today's Commission packet. Following the public presentations and feedback, Chair Gunn asked that the committee bring back the completed Master Plan presentation to the Commission before sending to the FAA.

E. Information/Announcements/Staff Reports/Correspondence

1. March 2025 Financial Report

Before giving his report, Mr. Hornsby introduced three staff members who had been highlighted in a recent email to Commissioners. Tamie Head was recognized for her work and coordination of the "Wings for All" event. Delta Air Lines partnered with CAE to host members of the special needs community, who may not have the opportunity to fly. Guests experienced checking in for a flight, going through the security checkpoint to the gate, and boarding an actual flight which taxied the guests around the airfield. Tamie has coordinated this event for the past four years.

Mr. Hornsby also recognized Thomas Tapp and Roger Allen for their work and long hours on a Sunday spent working to resolve the issue of a chiller that quit working. They were able to locate a replacement chiller and, because of their efforts, there was no negative impact to the Monday travelers. Mr. Hornsby said there are other stories like these and he would like to develop a cadence of bringing in staff and highlighting their efforts. Chair Gunn thanked Ms. Head, Mr. Tapp, and Mr. Allen for their hard work and service.

Mr. Hornsby presented the financial report as included in the Commission Meeting packet. Highlights included: (1) Cash dropped by \$1.2 million due to capital expenditures – will receive \$1.2 million in reimbursements, primarily from the FAA; (2) Days cash is 472; (3) Load factors were less than what was budgeted but projected to improve; (3) Other Non-Operating on the monthly statement reflects the FAA grant through the CRRSAA Act for concessionaire relief during Covid; (4) Airport Operations was over budget as two utility bills were paid in the month plus other expenses; (5) Cost per Enplanement is over our \$8.00 target, but new service by Allegiant and Spirit should move us closer to our goal.

2. Commission Chair's Report

Chair Gunn reported that he, Commissioner Cooper, Commissioner Benjamin, and Mr. Hornsby attended the ACI-NA/AAAE Washington Legislative Conference at the end of March. He said there was great discussion of FAA and aviation issues. The South Carolina/Georgia airports hosted a dinner for their Congressional staff members to discuss

priorities for the airports. He said it was a great opportunity to meet the leadership at these airports and to continue relationship building with the Congressional delegations.

Chair Gunn expressed kudos to Mr. Hornsby, Ms. Foster, and the staff for organizing the New Commissioner Orientation. This will be a regular event for new Commissioners.

3. Interim President/CEO Report

Mr. Hornsby also referenced the great opportunity of attending the Washington Legislative Conference and meeting with our Legislative Delegation and/or their staffs. At the January Commission meeting, Mr. Hornsby had shared a concerning issue about the designation of the secondary runway as related to future FAA funding for maintenance. However, the FAA has now given it a legacy crosswind runway designation and they will continue to provide funding so this is no longer a concern.

Mr. Hornsby provided a legislative update, from consultants Kenny Bingham and Darrell Campbell, regarding the state funding for airports. He concluded his comments by giving a brief update on staff's current projects to include working on Core Values, the Master Plan, and preparation for new air service by Allegiant and Spirit.

Commissioner Stevenson thanked Mr. Hornsby for recognizing Ms. Head, Mr. Tapp, and Mr. Allen for their work. She also thanked him for keeping the Commission informed.

F. Adjourn to Executive Session

1. Discussion of Contractual Matters and Receipt of Legal Advice Related to Airport

Commissioner Jones made a motion to enter Executive Session. Vice Chair Wellman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

G. Reconvene to Regular Session

Vice Chair Wellman made a motion to reconvene to Regular Session. Commissioner Benjamin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

After coming out of Executive Session, Vice Chair Wellman made a motion to accept the proposal from ACS and negotiate a contract with them for the President/CEO search. Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

H. Discussion/Suggestions

1. Comments from the Public

There were none.

I. Adjourn

Commissioner Hibaja made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynne Douglas".

Lynne Douglas, Commission Secretary