RICHLAND-LEXINGTON AIRPORT DISTRICT
Commission Meeting
October 19, 2026 @ 4:00 PM
Carolina Room
Draft Minutes

Attendance
Elizabeth Taylor, Chair; Steve Benjamin, Vice Chair; Anton Gunn; Duane Cooper; LaJoia Broughton; Johnny Folsom; Chappelle Broome-Stevenson; Tripp Jones; Dawn Wetherley; Rod Dooley; Mark Weber (Zoom); Curtis Dayson

Staff
Chris White; Gregg Hornsby; Frank Murray; Ryan Kreulen; Sharon Nelson; Malia Ropel; Cameron Zimmerman; Will Salazar; Jessica Foster; Joseph Dickey (Attorney); Lynne Douglas (Secretary)

Guests
James Whitmire (Past Commission Chair); Jon Queen, Robert Moore (Foth); Anaya Muhammad; Nick Loder (RS&H); Andy Busbee (Ardurra); Erica Didonato, Ryan Hounshell (Holt)

A. Call to Order and Introductions

1. **Determination of a Quorum**
   Chair Taylor determined that a quorum was in attendance.

2. **Approve Order and Contents of the Overall Agenda**
   Commissioner Gunn made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. Consent Agenda

1. **Approval of the September 21, 2026 Commission Meeting Minutes**
   Commissioner Gunn made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. Committee Reports

1. **Finance Committee**
   a. **Audit Firm Selection**
      Commissioner Dooley reported that the committee met last Thursday and discussed receipt of RFPs for the audit firm selection. He went on to say that the committee decided to suspend this action for 30 days as they review additional information that has been received.

   b. **Treasury Policy**
      Commissioner Dooley reported that the committee continued the Treasury Policy discussion regarding the re-classification of restricted assets. The committee has agreed to receive assistance from Counsel in crafting the policy and are still reviewing.

2. **Labor and Personnel Committee**

   a. **Artificial Intelligence: Workforce Impact and Governance**

   Committee Chair Broughton reported that the committee met this afternoon prior to the Commission Meeting. Guest speaker, Chris Runde, joined via Zoom. Mr. Runde is Co-chair of the ACI-NA AI Working Group. She went on to explain that the goal of this topic of discussion was to receive insight on how we should be thinking about AI. Mr. Runde shared insights and topics from some of his group's meetings and also shared highlights/information from two presentations, "Ramblings on the State of AI" and "AI Trends 2026 – AI Ecosystems and AI Risks." Chair Broughton reported that Mr. Runde suggested that CAE appoint someone who will monitor AI, track the trends, and track the use for CAE. Mr. Runde will provide the information he presented with the committee and offered to assist further if needed. Chair Broughton reported there was discussion as to the ways CAE staff is currently utilizing AI to include their work on drafting an AI policy. At the next committee meeting, Mr. White will provide a report on CAE's current status with the use of AI and also the draft AI policy.

   b. **South Carolina Senate Special Committee on Growth**

   Committee Chair Broughton reported that the committee was provided with a copy of a presentation recently given at the State House, "SC Population Growth – Trends and Challenges." She provided additional comments regarding the report. She advised there was no action taken in the committee meeting, all discussion.

D. **<u>Information/Announcements/Staff Reports/Correspondence</u>**

1. **September 2026 Financial Report**

Mr. Hornsby welcomed Past Commission Chair James Whitmire to the meeting and expressed how nice it was to have him visit. He went on to present the financial report, which was included in the Commission information packet. There was a drop in cash of $362,000 primarily due to the self-funding project of restoring the ski pond, which is about 80% complete. The CPE is at $8.02 and Days' Cash is at 318. Mr. Hornsby pointed out Bonds Payable on the balance sheet and said this reflects the note associated with the Energy Project. He went on to offer additional comments to include reporting there was a draw in September and October. Leased Site Rentals was over budget due to the assessments sent out in September to the CAE Park Association tenants. Non-Airline Terminal Rents was over budget and included airport advertising particularly a new ad with USC as well as some additional smaller items. Rental Cars continue to exceed budget. Under Expenses, Airport Operations and Outside Professional Services exceeded budget due to a variety of items as reflected in the Dashboard. Revenue exceeded budget by just under $1.1 million. Total Revenue is at $1.6 million over budget. CFC collections are $660,000 over budget. Total Operating Expenses are under budget.

2. **President/CEO Report**

Mr. White presented his report as provided in a handout to the Commission. His report included the following topics: General Activities and Announcements, Operations, Finance, Projects, Marketing and Communications, Upcoming Events/Happenings, Industry Updates and Active Projects. Mr. White also advised that Victory Block Leave is scheduled for December 15-16 with return on January 2.

3. **Commission Chair Report**
   Chair Taylor shared that she enjoyed the opportunity to accept the football at the USC-Kentucky game on behalf of CAE. USC was honoring Lou Holtz at the game and she had the opportunity to meet his family as well. She went on to report that, along with Commissioner Broughton and Mr. White, she had recently attended the Airport Development and Investment Conference in Los Angeles. She said the conference was a good experience and educational.

E. <u>Discussion/Suggestions</u>

1. **Comments from the Public**
   Former Commission Chair James Whitmire welcomed Mr. White to CAE as the President/CEO and also welcomed Chair Taylor to the Commission. Mr. Whitmire expressed that he enjoyed his time on the Commission and recognized various staff and Commissioners. During his time as Chair, he shared that he enjoyed opening the meetings with an Invocation. He went on to offer some additional remarks and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to visit.

   Commissioner Weber expressed how much he liked the idea of an Invocation and thanked Mr. Whitmire for sharing. He went on to say that he would like to offer an Invocation at the next Commission meeting. Chair Taylor thanked him and agreed.

   Commissioner Stevenson thanked Mr. White for agreeing to complete the survey for ACRP (Airport Cooperative Research Program), which is a group she works with. She went on to share, that if the Commission needs a speaker to talk about AI in 2027, her son works with Google and is very knowledgeable about AI.

F. <u>Adjournment</u>
Commissioner Gunn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Folsom seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynne Douglas

Lynne Douglas, Commission Secretary