



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**AVIATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FORT LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE AIRPORT
RED TAILS CONFERENCE ROOM
6000 NW 21 AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022 – 1:30 P.M.**

	Attendance	Cumulative Attendance 7/2021-6/2022	
		Present	Absent
Board Members			
Louis Gavin, Chair	P	7	0
Mark Volchek, Vice Chair	A	4	3
David Ash	A	2	1
William Gilbert	P	6	1
Jeff Johnson	P	7	0
Dr. Ed Kwoka	P	4	0
Robert Laughlin	P	6	1
Valerie Vitale	P	7	0
John Vratsinas	A	1	1
Non-Voting			
Tamarac Vice Mayor Marlon Bolton	P	6	1
Jeff Helyer, City of Oakland Park	P	7	0

Airport Staff

Rufus A. James, Airport Director
Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
Khant Myat, Project Manager II
Jeri Pryor, Program Manager I
Miguel Laca, Financial Administrator
Krystal Permanan, Airport Business Assistance Administrator
Linda Blanco, Senior Administrative Assistant

Others

J. Opperlee, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gavin called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Roll was called and a quorum determined to be present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **April 28, 2022**

Motion made by Dr. Kwoka, seconded by Mr. Laughlin, to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2022 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

VOTING ITEMS

1. Approval of Contract Negotiations for General Aviation Consultant Services with HDR Engineering, Inc. and Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

Mr. Myat provided the presentation and recommended the Board accept the evaluation committee's ranking determination and authorize negotiations with the top two firms.

Motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Dr. Kwoka, to accept the evaluation committee's ranking determination and authorize negotiations with HDR Engineering, Inc. and Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for General Aviation Consultant Services. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE ITEMS

A. Noise Compatibility Program

Ms. Pryor reported there were 25 noise calls in April and said this was typical as the weather warmed up. She stated 13 of the 25 calls were from one person. Ms. Pryor investigated the five jets that flew over 80 decibels over monitor #2, and found these were business jets: two Gulfstreams, two D-6s and one Lear Jet. The computer captured these readings but did not generate any complaints.

B. Development and Construction Challenge Air for Kids and Friends, "Fly Day"

Ms. Permanan reported that on April 23rd, Challenge Air for Kids and Friends hosted "Fly Day" at Banyan Air Services North. They provided the gift of flight to physically challenged children and young adults between the ages of seven and 21. There were over 100 volunteers, 15 donated aircraft and 72 registered participants. Don Campion with Banyan Air was a huge benefactor as he provided his hangar, staff, and support to ensure the success of the event. The event was rescheduled from January to April due to an uptick in Covid cases but is expected to return to its original January timeframe next year. Anyone wishing to donate their time or a monetary gift should contact: www.ChallengeAir.com.

Mr. Harrison said he would answer any questions regarding the Operations statistics and Dr. Kwoka was concerned by the number of incidents this month. Mr. Harrison reported there had been steering issues with three Lear 60s while on the taxiway. Dr. Kwoka felt

there was a lack of maintenance that was getting worse. Mr. James stated they shared these statistics with Flight Standards District Office.

C. Arrearages

Mr. James reported there were no rent or fuel arrearages.

D. Communication to the City Commission

None

E. Other Items

i. FXE Box Wrap Project

Ms. Pryor said they were conducting beautification/branding projects around the Airport. Their photographer, Jerry Wyszatycki from Avatar Productions, provided photos which were turned into utility box wraps along Cypress Creek Road and Commercial Boulevard. Hopefully, next month, we will also have anniversary banners along Commercial Boulevard and Cypress Creek Road installed.

ii. Runway Safety Action Team (RSAT) Results Presentation

Mr. Harrison provided a presentation on the annual runway safety action team meeting. He said approximately 25 people had participated virtually. They shared the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) viewpoint on current issues in the Airport environment.

Dr. Kwoka asked what could be done about taxiway Charlie and Mr. Harrison said ultimately, they would eliminate the crossing at Charlie. Mr. Harrison said the number of incidents was actually small, but the upward trend was disturbing and their goal was to get it to trend down instead of up.

Dr. Kwoka said they must communicate to pilots regarding the non-traditional markings on the field. Mr. James explained the non-traditional red lights help with communication between the tower staff and pilots. They also reached out to flight schools to pass on the information to their students.

Dr. Kwoka recalled a requirement in Manchester, New Hampshire for every pilot, mechanic, and crew member, to attend security and airport operations training every year to get their gate card renewed. Mr. Harrison said FXE's initial AOA class is done in-person and had implemented an online training portal for the recurring classes.

Chair Gavin asked the reason the FAA categorized runway incursions and Mr. Harrison explained the rationale.

Dr. Kwoka requested a future agenda item regarding the banning of 100 low-lead fuel. He said it was not realistic that all planes needing retrofitted would be completed by the time the proposed ban would take effect. He offered to make a presentation to the Board. Mr. James said slightly over 1/3 of their based aircraft used 100 low-lead.

Regarding incursions, Mr. James said when he started at FXE, it had the worst rating in the country for surface incidents. He recalled the FAA officials would visit and spend the entire day discussing this problem. Mr. James noted the steps they had taken to improve conditions with markings, signage and educating users. We had also worked with law enforcement to get a statute to institute a \$500 fine for vehicles and pedestrians that proved to be very effective. Mr. James was frustrated that there was still no punishment for pilots to make them realize how critical the problem is.

Ms. Vitale attended the RSAT meeting and said the FAA was very complimentary about FXE staff.

Mr. Helyer thanked everyone who had contributed to the Airshow's success.

Mr. Laughlin recalled a voting item on a merger between Million Air FBO and another person who had a contract with the Airport. Mr. James said they met with both parties and he anticipated bringing something to the Board's next meeting. Mr. James stated they were very pleased with how Million Air FBO planned to redevelop the site. Dr. Kwoka said Million Air FBO was a top-notch operation but stated Banyan was comparable. Mr. James agreed and said Banyan was rated #1 in customer service in the recent annual pilots' survey.

Regarding incursions, Mr. Laughlin said he experienced issues that were caused by controllers or the tower and he felt pilots were not encouraged to report this to the FAA. Mr. James suggested the NASA reports for sharing information anonymously.

iii. Public Comments

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 1:30 P.M.

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.