



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, JUNE 23, 2022 – 1:30 P.M.**

	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Cumulative Attendance 7/2021-6/2022</b>	
		<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Board Members</b>			
Louis Gavin, Chair	P	8	0
Mark Volchek, Vice Chair	P	5	3
David Ash	P	3	1
William Gilbert	P	7	1
Jeff Johnson	A	7	1
Dr. Ed Kwoka	P	5	0
Robert Laughlin	P	7	1
Valerie Vitale	P	8	0
John Vratsinas	P	2	1
<b>Non-Voting</b>			
Commissioner Marlon Bolton	P	7	1
Jeff Helyer, City of Oakland Park	A	7	1

**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  
Seth Walters, Airport Management Intern

**Others**

Don Campion, Banyan Air Service  
J. Opperlee, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Gavin called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Roll was called and a quorum determined to be present.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **May 26, 2022**

**Motion** made by Mr. Laughlin, seconded by Dr. Kwoka, to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2022 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Board members approved hearing the Walk-On Item.

## **VOTING ITEMS**

### **1. Amendment to the Public Transportation Grant Agreement from the Florida Department of Transportation for the Construction of Mid-Field Taxiway Extension and Run-up Area Project**

Mr. Myat provided the presentation and recommended the Board approve and accept \$946,200 from the Florida Department of Transportation for up to 80% of the costs.

**Motion** made by Mr. Volchek, seconded by Ms. Vitale, to approve the Amendment to the Public Transportation Grant Agreement from the Florida Department of Transportation for the Construction of Mid-Field Taxiway Extension and Run-up Area Project. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

### **2. WALK-ON Item 1: Parcel 17 – Lease Extension with the United States of America, Army Reserve**

Mr. James provided the presentation and recommended the Board approve the extension for six months to complete the appraisal and negotiate new terms. The new five-year lease would then be brought back to the Board for approval.

**Motion** made by Mr. Vratsinas, seconded by Mr. Gilbert, to extend the Parcel 17 Lease for a six-month term, from July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 with the United States of America, to allow time to complete negotiations for a long-term lease. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

## **UPDATE ITEMS**

### **A. Noise Compatibility Program**

Ms. Pryor reported the numbers in May stayed consistent when they usually decline. She noted there had been a shift in the wind for a period of time, resulting in several calls. She stated five households were responsible for 22 calls.

Mr. James noted he knows of other airports that get thousands of calls per month. He felt FXE's good record was largely attributable to their outreach to the surrounding HOAs. He said the Airport appreciated complaint calls because in some instances, it made them

aware of a condition that may have been unsafe. Mr. James stated there had been times when a resident thought the Airport was doing something “out of the norm” but when they visited the office, saw the system and toured the Airport, they became an ally.

Dr. Kwoka wondered if the people calling were working from home and Mr. James confirmed this was sometimes the case. He noted that the noise generated for 45 minutes from someone cutting grass nearby was much worse than an airplane overhead for a five-second burst.

Ms. Pryor said the County needed to take down monitor #1 for construction on the water tower at Rickards Middle School and she is currently working with them to get the noise monitor reinstalled.

## **B. Development and Construction**

Mr. Harrison said the project was still on hold but he would have an update next month. He stated there was a slight dip in traffic, which was typical in the Summer.

Chair Gavin noticed that aircraft maintenance issues had decreased significantly. Dr. Kwoka referenced the serious supply chain issues, such as being unable to get oil filters and tires. He thought they may want to have the FAA visit and explain to pilots that they have a responsibility to operate a safe aircraft. Mr. James recalled that in the past, FAA inspectors would visit the Airport and discuss safety with pilots. He noted that Covid had resulted in fewer visits, but he could request that they return. Mr. Harrison said they were scheduling a safety meeting for September.

## **C. Arrearages**

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

## **D. Communication to the City Commission**

None

## **E. Other Items**

### **i. FXE 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banner Project**

Ms. Pryor said the branding/anniversary banners were installed. Dr. Kwoka thanked Ms. Pryor, Ms. Blanco, and the team for the gift bag, which included items that were genuinely useful.

### **ii. Public Comments**

None

Mr. James introduced Seth Walters, Airport Management Intern. Mr. Walters stated that he is a senior at Lynn University, already has his private license and is working on his instrument license. Mr. Walters expressed that in the future, he would like to own an FBO.

Dr. Kwoka said the 100 low-lead concern was becoming serious and wanted to put a panel together to discuss what they could do about it. Mr. James said he believed the ultimate goal in California, where this had been done, was to shut down the airport for redevelopment. Dr. Kwoka brought up federal funds and Mr. James noted that typically, a grant cycle was 20 years, and shutting the Airport required waiting out the life cycle of the grants.

Mr. James pointed out that the Airport had a \$2.1 billion economic impact on the local economy in 2018 and based on that and jobs created, was the #2 general aviation airport in the country. Mr. Don Campion, of Banyan Air Service, stated that he was not worried about the 100 low-lead issue, and said his fuel supplier was spending hundreds of thousands of dollars identifying alternative fuels.

Mr. James agreed to put the 100 low-lead fuel discussion on a future agenda.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Thursday, July 28, 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.

Minutes prepared by J. Opperlee, Prototype, Inc.