



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, AUGUST 24, 2023 – 1:30 P.M.**

| | Attendance | Cumulative Attendance 7/2023 - 6/2024 | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--|---------------|
| | | Present | Absent |
| Board Members | | | |
| Mark Volchek, Chair | P | 1 | 0 |
| William Gilbert, Vice Chair | P | 1 | 0 |
| David Ash | P | 1 | 0 |
| Kelly Gordon | P | 1 | 0 |
| Jeff Johnson | A | 0 | 1 |
| Dr. Ed Kwoka | P | 1 | 0 |
| Robert Laughlin [arrived at 1:35] | P | 1 | 0 |
| Kevin Macelhaney | P | 1 | 0 |
| Valerie Vitale | P | 1 | 0 |
| John Vratsinas | P | 1 | 0 |
| Non-Voting | | | |
| Commissioner Marlon Bolton | P | 1 | 0 |
| Jeff Helyer, City of Oakland Park | P | 1 | 0 |

Airport/City Staff

Rufus James, Airport Director
Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
Khant Myat, Project Manager II
Ryan Frost, Airport Operations Supervisor
Krystal Permanan, Airport Business Development Administrator
Angelia Basto, Senior Financial Administrator
Miguel Laca, Financial Administrator
Linda Blanco, Senior Administrative Assistant
Yadsel Ortiz-Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant

Others:

Stephen Martin, AOPA
Thomas Rowe, Atlantic Aviation
Gerard O’Connell, Atlantic Aviation
Lars Struck, Executive Jet Center
Travis Werth, JM Family Enterprises

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum was determined to be present.

New Board member Kelly Gordon introduced himself.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **June 22, 2023**

Motion made by Mr. Vratsinas, seconded by Dr. Kwoka, to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

VOTING ITEMS

1. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Agreement for Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation

Mr. Myat provided the presentation and recommended Board approval. The grant for the design portion of the project was for \$511,874. He anticipated construction would begin in the Fall of 2024.

Motion made by Mr. Vratsinas, seconded by Ms. Vitale, to approve the FAA Grant Agreement for Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Amendment to Public Transportation Grant Agreement (PTGA) for Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Truck

Mr. Myat provided the presentation and recommended Board approval. The cost to replace the vehicle was \$1.2 million and FDOT had initially provided a grant of \$475,000. FDOT provided an amendment to add \$175,000, bringing the total grant to \$600,000.

Motion made by Mr. Vratsinas, seconded by Dr. Kwoka, to approve the FDOT Amendment to PTGA for ARFF truck. Motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE ITEMS

A. Noise Compatibility Program

Ms. Permanan stated in July, there had been 116 total noise reports, with 82 from a single household in the northeast quadrant. In the southwest quadrant, 25 of 27 noise complaints were from a single household. Ms. Permanan said staff was continuing outreach and would continue to analyze operations pursuant to residents' concerns.

Dr. Kwoka asked if an FBO or business could find out who made a noise complaint about them. Ms. Permanan stated the reporting was not anonymous and this allowed staff to better respond to residents' concerns. Dr. Kwoka was concerned that the complaints would affect an FBO's business. Mr. James stated that engaging with neighbors, tenants, flight schools, and pilots has proven to help reduce the number of calls. He noted that the complaints received were comparatively mild. Mr. James explained that some pilots preferred to train when the weather was cooler; such as very early in the morning, and this was explained to the residents who complained. Similarly, when someone made several touch-and-go's, staff educated the pilot about the impact this had on the

community. Mr. Harrison stated a pilot/controller forum was planned later next month, providing an opportunity to discuss some of these issues.

Ms. Permanan explained that when staff contacted the resident in the northeast quadrant responsible for 82 complaints, he indicated that his practice was to “hit the button whenever a plane flew by,” not because the plane was too loud or too low. After explaining that was the flight pattern, he was appeased and staff had not heard from that resident, we have since received fewer complaints.

Ms. Permanan reported Noise Monitor 1 was still out of service. She stated the project manager at Broward County who had been overseeing the project had retired and a new project manager had not started yet. She confirmed FXE is prepared to install the noise monitor, but is awaiting Broward County to first install the post, and for FPL to then supply power to the installed post.

B. Development and Construction

Mr. Frost reported that the airfield painting and remarking project was 80% complete and should be completed in two weeks. The run-up project had been delayed two weeks and would begin on September 5, 2023, however, they still expect to be completed on time.

Operational data was included in the Board’s packet. Mr. Frost noted that operations and customs numbers were extremely high, despite the heat.

C. Arrearages

There were currently no rent or fuel flowage arrearages.

D. Communication to the City Commission

None

E. Other Items

I. Banyan News Release RE: Reimbursable Services Program (RSP) Service

Chair Volchek said this would provide after-hours customs service. Mr. James noted that this would save the aircraft an extra cycle on the engine and landing gear and would avoid it needing to have two flight patterns, so residents would not be disturbed. He said this was a testament to the Banyan team’s dedication to client service.

Dr. Kwoka said Banyan was a top-notch, award-winning FBO and he was proud to have them at the Airport.

II. Public Comments

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Thursday, September 28, 2023 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.