



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, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 – 1:30 P.M.**

	Attendance	Cumulative Attendance 7/2023 - 6/2024	
		Present	Absent
Board Members			
Mark Volchek, Chair	A	1	1
William Gilbert, Vice Chair	P	2	0
David Ash	A	1	1
Kelly Gordon	P	2	0
Jeff Johnson	P	1	1
Dr. Ed Kwoka	P	2	0
Robert Laughlin	P	2	0
Kevin Macelhaney	P	2	0
Valerie Vitale	P	2	0
John Vratsinas	P	2	0
Non-Voting			
Commissioner Marlon Bolton	A	1	1
Jeff Helyer, City of Oakland Park	A	1	1

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
 Jeri Pryor, City Commissioner Sturman’s office
 Amanda Foor, City Commissioner John Herbst’s office

Others

Terry Robertson, Florida Jet Center, Inc.
 Patrick Simesen, Florida Jet Center, Inc.
 Travis Werth, JM Family Enterprises
 Stephen Martin, AOPA
 Don Campion, Banyan Air Service
 Ignacio Martinez, W Aviation
 Tony Sherbert, Sheltair Executive South, Inc.
 Johanna Carter, Sheltair Executive South, Inc.
 Jim McNeill, Sheltair Executive South, Inc.

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **August 24, 2023**

Motion made by Dr. Kwoka, seconded by Mr. Vratsinas, to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2023, meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

VOTING ITEMS

1. Parcel 7 Lease Extension with Florida Jet Center, Inc.

Mr. James provided the presentation and recommended Board approval.

Terry Roberston, owner of Florida Jet Center, discussed his reasons for needing additional hangar space.

Dr. Kwoka said Mr. Robertson should not be responsible for relocating the water main; the City should be responsible for this.

Motion made by Mr. Vratsinas, seconded by Dr. Kwoka, to approve the Parcel 7 Lease Extension with Florida Jet Center, Inc. Motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE ITEMS

A. Noise Compatibility Program

Ms. Permanan stated in August there were 45 noise reports from residents. One aircraft registered over 80 decibels from monitor 2 but this was not reported by any residents. She explained the new software was user-friendly and efficient. Ms. Permanan said noise monitor 1 was still down but Broward County has assigned a new project manager, who was working with a contractor that applied for the permit in Oakland Park.

B. Development and Construction

Mr. Frost reported that the airfield painting and remarking project was complete and he played a video showing the different phases of the project. The mid-field run-up project started in September 2023 and was progressing quickly. He confirmed that the midfield was unusable during the project and the alternate area was on Echo between Delta and Golf.

Operational data was included in the Board's packet.

C. Arrearages

There were currently no rent or fuel flowage arrearages.

D. Communication to the City Commission

None

E. Other Items

I. FXE Pilot / Controller Workshop

Mr. Harrison said the workshop was very well attended: they had great representation, good dialog and there was no negativity among the attendees and presenters. Air Traffic stressed that dialog was very important, specifically if something was not working. Key takeaways included following directions and maintaining communication.

II. FXE Aviation Day

Mr. Harrison said FXE will host FXE Aviation Day on October 7th at the maintenance facility. There will be a flight simulator competition, Civil Air Patrol, local flight schools, as well as local colleges and businesses to talk about careers in aviation.

III. FXE Lead Emissions Analysis

Mr. James recalled that in 2022 the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] determined that lead emissions from aircraft using 100 low-lead fuel caused or contributed to lead air pollution. Mr. James said approximately 60% of piston-engine planes using the Airport used 100 low-lead fuel. FXE had made the EPA's list of highest lead emissions from those aircraft. FXE subsequently hired Harris Miller Miller and Hansen to determine how much the Airport contributed to the lead emissions in the area. Mr. James hoped to have the results by the next Board meeting.

Mr. James noted that change could not happen overnight. Some airports had already transitioned to unleaded fuel but they still had to provide low-lead fuel and that must continue until it was banned. In the meantime, the FAA was partnering with government agencies and aircraft engine manufacturers on how to best encourage the transition. Mr. James said some residents also requested soil testing and this would happen after the EPA analysis.

Dr. Kwoka said how the lead test results were presented would be important. Mr. Vratsinas thought the industry must take the lead on the transition to unleaded fuel. He wants the Airport to be proactive and implement incentives to encourage the change.

Mr. Laughlin noted this was not FXE's problem and he did not want to spend a lot of money on the study. The results should also be presented in a way not to frighten residents. Mr. James recalled how electric vehicles were being slowly adopted by the public. He thought electric aircraft could be in the future as well.

Mr. James said more and more tenants were using sustainable aviation fuel, including charter operators, so the transition was happening, but slowly. He recalled the Stage 2 Aircraft ban took 15 years to take place.

Ms. Pryor said Commissioner Sturman's office wanted to ensure that his office and the surrounding neighborhoods and communities participated in and were informed about the study results.

Mr. James read a study from Naples Airport that took swabs from areas at the airport and the surrounding community and determined the hydrocarbons were not from leaded fuel but from sooty mold. A report from Boca Airport had the same results.

IV. Public Comments

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Thursday, October 26, 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.