



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 26, 2024 – 1:30 P.M.

Cumulative Attendance
7/2024 - 6/2025

Board Members	Attendance	Present	Absent
Mark Volchek, Chair	P	2	0
William Gilbert, Vice Chair	P	2	0
David Ash	P	2	0
Kelly Gordon	P	2	0
Dr. Jeff Johnson	P	2	0
Dr. Ed Kwoka	A	0	2
Robert Laughlin	P	2	0
Kevin Macelhaney	P	2	0
Valerie Vitale	P	1	1
John Vratsinas	P	2	0
Non-Voting			
Commissioner Marlon Bolton	P	2	0
[arrived 1:43]			
Jeff Helyer, City of Oakland Park	P	2	0

Airport/City Staff

- Rufus A. James, Airport Director
- Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
- Chelsea Jones Finley, Airport Programs Manager
- Khant Myat, Airport Engineer
- Patrick Donnely, Advanced Specialist II
- Krystal Permanan, Airport Business Development Administrator
- Angelia Basto, Senior Financial Administrator
- Miguel Laca, Financial Administrator
- Linda Blanco, Senior Administrative Assistant

Others

- Stephanie Lopez, AVCON
- Travis Wertz, JM Family Automotive
- Johannah Carter, Sheltair
- Ignacio Martinez, W Aviation
- Jon Tonko, Banyan Air Service
- Debbie Puia, The Lofts of Palm Aire
- Marshall Myles, FXE Jet Center
- Alex Rivera, FXE Jet Center

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **August 22, 2024**

Motion made by Mr. Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Vratsinas, to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2024, meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

VOTING ITEMS

1. FXE Decorative Street Posts Phase II Contract Award

Mr. Myat provided the presentation and recommended awarding the contract to Horsepower Electric, Inc., the low-responsive, qualified bidder, in the amount of \$428,859 for Phase II of the Executive Airport Decorative Street Post project.

Mr. Vratsinas objected to the 20% price increase.

Motion made by Mr. Laughlin, seconded by Ms. Vitali, to award the contract to Horsepower Electric, Inc., the low-responsive, qualified bidder, in the amount of \$428,859 for Phase II of the Executive Airport Decorative Street Posts project. Motion passed 8-1 with Mr. Vratsinas opposed.

UPDATE ITEMS

A. Noise Compatibility Program

Ms. Permanan reported that in August, Noise Monitor 2 did not detect any aircraft that exceeded the 80-decibel threshold. There was a total of 24 noise reports in August. She referenced the noise table to identify the quadrants from which the noise reports originated.

B. Development and Construction

Runway 9 Run-up Area Relocation and Southend Taxiways Project

Mr. Harrison reported they were now in Phases 5 and 6 which deal with the overlay of Taxiway Echo 3 and construction of the new run-up area. Taxiway Echo 3 is currently closed between Taxiway Echo 2 and Echo 5. There would also be grading work, sod and electrical work in this phase. The blast fence has been constructed. The next phase would include finishing the electrical work, finishing the sod work and permanent striping.

Commissioner Marlon Bolton arrived at 1:43.

Runway 31 Bypass Taxiway Opening

Mr. Harrison stated this was complete and showed a video of the project. He said the project would improve the overall operational efficiency of the Airport, specifically, runway 13-31. It would provide good operational flow for traffic, and in particular for aircraft crossing from Customs. He explained to Mr. Laughlin that a lot of traffic coming out of Customs crossed over here and proceed to Banyan so when an aircraft was trying to depart from the area, this clogged up the opposite side of the Airport. This project would allow Air Traffic to direct aircraft to cross at the bypass. Mr. James pointed out the aircraft movements in the aerial photo.

Operational data was included in the Board's packet.

Mr. Harrison said the contract award for repaving of Runway 9 would go to the City Commission in October. After that, they would meet with the contractor to establish a schedule, followed by a stakeholder meeting to review the details and establish a start date. He anticipated this project would begin in the first quarter of 2025.

Mr. Macelhaney asked about the 5% decrease in Customs counts and Mr. James noted there was less traffic to the islands in August.

C. Arrearages

Mr. James reported there were no rent or fuel flowage arrearages to report.

D. Communication to the City Commission

None

E. Other Items

I. City Boards and Committees Code of Conduct

Board members had received the documents via email and Mr. James asked them to review, sign, and return the document to the City Clerk.

Mr. James announced the City Clerk would host a Board Liaison/Board Member meeting before the end of the year.

Mr. James stated they would hold an Environmental Assessment meeting for the runway extension project on October 17 and it would be open to the community. This meeting was required for FAA approval.

Mr. Laughlin asked if there has been any other conflict between W Aviation and JM Family regarding access. Mr. James said the parties were having discussions. Once they reached an agreement, Mr. James said the Airport would prepare whatever lease amendments were needed.

Mr. James introduced new staff member, Patrick Donnely, Advanced Specialist II. Mr. Donnely introduced himself to the Board. He said he was pursuing a Master's Degree in Business Aviation.

II. Public Comments

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Thursday, October 24, 2024, 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.