



**AVIATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
 FORT LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE AIRPORT  
 RED TAILS CONFERENCE ROOM  
 6000 NW 21 AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA  
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024 – 1:30 P.M.**

**Cumulative Attendance  
 7/2024 - 6/2025**

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Mark Volchek, Chair	P	3	0
William Gilbert, Vice Chair	A	2	1
David Ash	A	2	1
David Cooper	P	1	0
Kelly Gordon	P	3	0
Dr. Jeff Johnson	P	3	0
Robert Laughlin	A	2	1
Kevin Macelhaney	A	2	1
Valerie Vitale	P	2	1
John Vratsinas	P	3	0
<b>Non-Voting</b>			
Commissioner Marlon Bolton	P	3	0
Jeff Helyer, City of Oakland Park	P	3	0

**Airport/City Staff**

Rufus A. James, Airport Director  
 Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director  
 Chelsea Jones Finley, Airport Program Manager  
 Khant Myat, Airport Engineer  
 Patrick Donnelly, Advanced Specialist II  
 Angelia Basto, Senior Financial Administrator  
 Miguel Laca, Financial Administrator  
 Linda Blanco, Senior Administrative Assistant  
 Katharine Lee, Airport Projects Support

**Others**

Stephen Martin, AOPA  
 Johannah Carter, Sheltair  
 Jim McNeill, Sheltair  
 Tony Sherbert, Sheltair  
 Don Campion, Banyan Air Service  
 Debbie Puia, The Lofts of Palm Aire  
 Marshall Myles, FXE Jet Center  
 Alexander 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.

New Board member David Cooper introduced himself.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- September 26, 2024

Motion made by Dr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Gordon, to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2024, meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

### **VOTING ITEMS**

1. FDOT Public Transportation Grant Agreement for the Construction of Apron Pavement Rehabilitation FXE Aviation Equipment Safety Building Project

Mr. Myat provided the presentation and recommended approving the grant agreement in the amount of \$493,000.

Motion made by Ms. Vitale, seconded by Dr. Johnson, to approve the FDOT Public Transportation Grant Agreement for the Construction of Apron Pavement Rehabilitation FXE Aviation Equipment Safety Building Project. Motion passed 6-0.

2. FDOT Public Transportation Grant Agreement for the Construction of Taxiway Echo Pavement Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Myat provided the presentation and recommended approving the grant agreement in the amount of \$2,048,000.

Motion made by Mr. Vratsinas, seconded by Mr. Cooper, to approve the FDOT Public Transportation Grant Agreement for the Construction of Taxiway Echo Pavement Rehabilitation Project. Motion passed 6-0.

3. FDOT Amendment to Public Transportation Grant Agreement for the Construction of Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Myat provided the presentation and recommended approving the amendment to the grant agreement in the amount of \$87,485.

Motion made by Mr. Cooper, seconded by Ms. Vitali, to approve the FDOT Amendment to Public Transportation Grant Agreement for the Construction of Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation Project. Motion passed 6-0.

4. FDOT Public Transportation Grant Agreement for the Helistop Painting and Fireproof Coating at John Fuhrer Downtown Helistop Project

Mr. Myat provided the presentation and recommended approving the grant agreement in the amount of \$134,023.

Motion made by Mr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Cooper, to approve the FDOT Public Transportation Grant Agreement for the Helistop Painting and Fireproof Coating at John Fuhrer Downtown Helistop Project. Motion passed 6-0.

## **UPDATE ITEMS**

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

Mr. Donnelly reported that since the last meeting, there had been 33 noise inquiries, of which 23 were in September. In September, Noise Monitor 2 detected one aircraft exceeding the 80-decibel threshold. In October, there were a total of 10 noise reports from three households. In October, Noise Monitor 2 detected one aircraft exceeding the 80-decibel threshold.

### **B. Development and Construction**

#### **Runway 9 Run-up Area Relocation and Southend Taxiways Project**

Mr. Harrison reported the project was now completed and the cost was approximately \$4.2 million. He showed a video depicting the project. He explained that the change in the Runway 9 dogleg approach to a 90-degree angle was one of the major runway safety initiatives, meant to provide a clear line of sight when holding short of the runway. The run-up area was also designed to the new standards. It had dedicated lanes, giving air traffic control more positive control of aircraft performing runups. This was another runway safety initiative.

Operational data was included in the Board's packet.

Mr. Harrison reported traffic was down approximately 4% for the year and attributed this to it being an election year.

### **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. FXE Runway 9 Extension Environmental Assessment – Public Meeting**

Mr. Harrison reported that on October 17 they had held the first public meeting to introduce the project to the community and invite feedback. Approximately 30 people attended in-person and 20 attended online. The contractor, HDR, would incorporate the community's comments into the study and address concerns as part of the process. A final draft of the study document would be presented to the FAA for comment and feedback in the first quarter of 2025. It would then be available to the public for another round of comments and then would come back to the Board and to the City Commission.

#### **ii. Uptown 5K on the Runway Recap**

Ms. Jones Finley reported that on November 16, 2024, FXE partnered with Trustbridge Hospice Foundation to host the 6th Annual Uptown 5K on the Runway for the sixth year, and the event was a tremendous success. More than 1,600 runners and walkers

participated, surpassing the event goal and raising over \$130,000, all of which would benefit the Trustbridge Hospice Foundation. Ms. Finley stated Mr. James had undertaken the “Dunk Tank Challenge” to raise additional funds. She showed a brief video of the event. She thanked the event sponsors, volunteers and contributors.

### **iii. Public Comments**

Mr. James and the Board members discussed operations data.

Don Campion, CEO of Banyan Air Service, stated that the work (Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation) would hurt his business. Marshall Myles, CEO of FXE Jet Center, said they counted on transient, weekend business travel. Mr. James advised the Board that a stakeholder workshop was scheduled for December 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss the details of the project with impacted tenants.

Mr. James reminded everyone that the following day at noon, Blue Angel #7 would be visiting the Airport at the Banyan Pilot Shop for their pre-show visit. He noted the Blue Angels would be based at FXE for the Air Show in May.

Mr. James announced that Saturday, December 7 is FXE Aviation Day, in partnership with Haughton Media Management. There would be several exhibitors and this is an opportunity to get youngsters interested in aviation. There would be flight simulators, aircraft on display, and other resources and products for kids to take with them.

Mr. James stated on Sunday, December 15, from 8 AM, the Stanley Cup would be available for selfies for one hour at the Banyan Pilot Shop.

Mr. James informed the Board that the annual Open House event is scheduled for January 30, 2025, at 5:30 PM.

Chair Volchek thanked Ms. Vitale for her service on the Board. Mr. James presented Ms. Vitale with a model airplane commemorating her service. He said the 5K on the Runway was coordinated by Ms. Vitale.

Mr. James thanked the Board members for their service and holiday gifts were distributed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Thursday, January 23, 2025, 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.