



**AVIATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FORT LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE AIRPORT
RED TAILS CONFERENCE ROOM
6000 NW 21 AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025 – 1:30 P.M.**

Board Members	Attendance	Cumulative Attendance	
		7/2025 - 6/2026	
		Present	Absent
William Gilbert, Chair	P	3	0
David Cooper, Vice Chair	A	1	2
Olivia Anderson	A	0	1
David Ash	P	2	1
Louis Gavin	P	2	1
Kelly Gordon	P	2	1
Dr. Jeff Johnson	P	2	1
Robert Laughlin	A	2	1
Kevin Macelhaney	P	3	0
John Vratsinas	P	2	1
Non-Voting			
Commissioner Marlon Bolton, City of Tamarac	P	3	0
Narciso Cherson, City of Oakland Park	P	3	0

Airport/City Staff

Rufus A. James, Airport Director
 Carlton M. Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
 Khant Myat, Airport Engineer
 Patrick Donnelly, Division Manager
 Linda Blanco, Senior Administrative Assistant
 Katharine Lee, Airport Projects Support

Others

Karen Cruitt, Prototype, Inc.
 Joe Taravella, Regional Manager, SE USA, Avfuel
 Deb Puia, Lofts of Palm Aire
 Michael Ray, Lofts of Palm Aire
 Tom O'Donnell, Kimley-Horn and Associates
 Nina Perez, Sheltair Aviation
 Theresa Jablonski, HDR
 Travis Werth, JM Family
 Todd Clarke, JM Family
 Cody Parham, Garver
 Don Campion, Banyan Air Service
 Craig Nyarumbu, Signature Aviation
 Ignacio Martinez, W Aviation
 Rafael Ayote, W Aviation
 Hugo Cortes, W Aviation

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gilbert called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Chair Gilbert presented Mr. Macelhaney with a gift in recognition of his years of service to the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **September 25, 2025**

Motion made by Mr. Gavin, seconded by Mr. Ash, to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2025, meeting as presented. In a voice vote, the **Motion** passed unanimously. (7-0)

A moment of silence was observed for Mr. Jerry Holland, Founder and Chairman of Sheltair Aviation.

Mr. Don Campion, Banyan Air Service, discussed Mr. Holland's contribution to pursuing the vision for the general aviation airport to be the best of its kind. A celebration of life is planned for December 12.

Carlton M. Harrison, Assistant Airport Director, provided a PowerPoint presentation recognizing Mr. Holland's contributions as Founder and Chairman of Sheltair Aviation. At its 75th Anniversary celebration, FXE had the opportunity to announce the naming a street "Jerry Holland Way." Mr. Holland passed away on November 18, 2025, at 90 years of age.

VOTING ITEMS

There were no voting items.

UPDATE ITEMS

A. Noise Compatibility Program

Mr. Patrick Donnelly, Division Manager, shared the report for September 2025. There were 1,056 jet departures, with 731 of those from Runway 9. He stated Noise Monitor 2 registered four noise levels above the 80-decibel threshold, however only one generated a report regarding a Falcon 900 aircraft. He noted there were a total of 32 noise inquiries from seven individual households.

Mr. Donnelly shared the report for October 2025. There were 1,313 jet departures, with 1,083 of those from Runway 9. He stated Noise Monitor 2 registered two noise level above the 80-decibel threshold on departures from the same Falcon 900 aircraft that was in the

September report. The operator has been contacted and provided with all the noise abatement procedures. He noted there were a total of 40 inquiries from eight households.

B. Development and Construction

i. FXE Project Status Update

Mr. Harrison provided the update. He shared that the Aviation Equipment and Service Facility Expansion Project was still in the permitting phase. He advised the plans had been resubmitted to address one outstanding comment related to the roof structure and the hope was to have an answer this month. The construction staging area has been established and earthwork has begun.

Mr. Harrison advised that Runway 13-31 Pavement Sealing Project had been approved by the City Commission at the November 14, 2025, meeting, and the work was in the contract execution phase. He stated mobilization and the preconstruction meeting were scheduled to begin in January, with work to be phased over two weekends.

C. Arrearages

Mr. Rufus James advised that there were no arrearages to report.

D. Communications to the City Commission

i. Request for a Moment of Silence for Jerry Holland at the December 16, 2025, City Commission Meeting

Chair Gilbert suggested sending Mr. Harrison's presentation with the communication.

Motion made by Mr. Vratsinas, seconded by Mr. Gordon, to request that the City Commission observe a Moment of Silence for Jerry Holland at the December 16, 2025, City Commission meeting. In a voice vote, the **Motion** passed unanimously. (7-0)

E. Other Items

i. Community Events

Ms. Katharine Lee, Airport Projects Support, reported on the Tenant Appreciation Lunch held on October 24. She stated there were 300 attendees and the feedback was highly positive, emphasizing a strong sense of community. She shared that on November 15, FXE partnered with Trustbridge Hospice Foundation for the 7th Annual Uptown 5K on the Runway. More than 1,800 people participated and the fundraising goal was surpassed, totaling more than \$158,000 for hospice and palliative care services.

ii. Sustainable Aviation Fuel Presentation

Joe Taravella, Regional Manager, SE USA, Avfuel, made a presentation regarding sustainable aviation fuel, what it is, and recent changes to the supply chain in South Florida. He opened with an overview of Avfuel and discussed the impact of aviation on global greenhouse gas emissions, commitments to work toward reduced emission goals, and the adoption of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF). He reviewed the process to create sustainable aviation fuel and highlighted the equivalency with traditional jet fuel, as well as the supply chain and recent changes to the supply chain.

Mr. Taravella responded to questions regarding the cost difference and whether SAF can be mixed with unleaded aviation fuel. He stated the cost difference would depend on the supply chain and how it was being utilized but could be around \$4-\$5 per gallon but had been reduced to \$1-\$1.50 with supply chain improvements. He noted it should not be mixed with gasoline.

Mr. Taravella responded to a question regarding the trajectory of consumption by discussing policies and priorities of the current administration and in the European Union.

Mr. Vratsinas asked if SAF was safer or easier to clean up than traditional jet fuel. Mr. Taravella advised that spills would be treated in the same way.

Mr. Taravella responded to a question regarding incentives, noting there are tax credits in California but currently there are no purchase incentives in South Florida. Discussion continued regarding fluctuations with temperature, storage, blending, market exchange, and possible sources for fuel.

iii. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Mr. James shared that on Saturday, January 31, Challenge Air for Kids would be hosted at FXE by Banyan. He acknowledged Mr. Donnelly's promotion to Operations Division Manager.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:09 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Thursday, January 22, 2026, at 1:30 P.M.

Any written public comments made 48 hours before the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached.