

# MINUTES

## Beaufort County Airports Board

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July 20, 2023 | 1:30 pm | Meeting called to order by Chairman Howard Ackerman

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### ATTENDANCE

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**Present:** Howard Ackerman, Leslie Adlam Flory, Thomas Sheahan, Brian Turrisi, Chris Butler, David Nelems, and Nick Mesenburg

**Absent:** Anne Esposito and Mark Bailey

**County Staff:** Jon Rembold, Airports Director; Stephen Parry, Deputy Airports Director; Eric Townsend, ARW Manager, and Rocio Rexrode, Administrative Specialist.

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### AGENDA ADOPTION

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Brian Turrisi made a motion to adopt the agenda. David Nelems seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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Chris Butler made a motion to approve the May 18, 2023, meeting minutes. Thomas Sheahan seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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### PUBLIC COMMENTS

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There were no Public Comments

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### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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- **DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

**FAA Reauthorization:**

Jon Rembold informed that the FAA Reauthorization bill passed the House vote today. He said that he has been in touch with Congresswoman Mace's office daily regarding some of the many amendments that have been proposed and letting them know where the airport administration stands. He stated that the most important amendments are the DCA Perimeter Rule, Pilot Age, and Pilot Training requirements. Rembold said that he will look at what amendments have made it through the House, and then get a notice out.

**Staff Spotlight: Elena Milbrandt**

Jon Rembold mentioned that Elena has been with the County for almost five years. He said Elena started as an Administrative Assistant, worked on the Security team and now has move over to the Finance Department where she is an Accounts Payable Specialist.

- **ARW UPDATE:**

**Meetings with Airport Tenants:**

Jon Rembold mentioned that management has been having meetings with the tenants every 2-3 months. He said they intend to have quarterly meetings and a newsletter to let folks know what is happening at the Airport. Jon stated that the meetings are a real positive improvement at the ARW.

**Ramp Safety – Policy:**

Jon Rembold said that it has been very busy for the past couple of years and management has made a pronounced reduction in vehicular movement on airport property between the hangar complex, the Terminal, and the aircrafts. Rembold stated that tenants can park on the side of the building and walk in. He said tenants can drive out to the airplane, load the plane, get passengers out, and then move off the apron.

**“Official” Logo:**

Jon Rembold stated that with the FBO update a new forward-looking logo was created while keeping the roots with the Frogmore logo.

Jon Rembold said that some merchandise will have the new logo, the Frogmore logo or both. He stated that the Frogmore logo is not going away because it is a local favorite. He said that the official logo reflects the executive nature of the airport.

**Action Item – New Logo**

Chris Butler made a motion to approve the new official logo for the Beaufort Executive Airport. Leslie Adlam Flory seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Demand for Office Space:**

Jon Rembold stated that there has been a high demand for office space at ARW. He said the building is being evaluated to subdivide some of the spaces inside to create business offices.

- **HXD UPDATE:**

**Part 139:**

Rembold mentioned that the Part 139 Inspection is coming up in August. He said the team is working hard getting ready for the inspection.

**Airline Rate & Charges:**

Rembold informed that the rates and charges were settled and went into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>. He said it is a two-part implementation. He informed the first half is being implemented this fiscal

year and the other half next fiscal year. He said that once the rates and charges are fully implemented, (in theory) it will bring the Airport to full cost recovery of all the airline's activities.

**Rob Neil Retired:**

Rembold mentioned that Rob Neil, one of the firefighters, retired on July 7<sup>th</sup>. Rembold mentioned that Neil might come back as part-time firefighter.

**Planning Meetings with Engineers & Planners:**

Rembold mentioned that the Airport management team had a 3-day meeting with Talbert, Bright and Ellington to review the many HXD projects and to develop a plan for the future.

**FAA Meeting:**

Rembold mentioned that next week he will be meeting with the FAA in Atlanta to go through some of the items discussed during the meeting with Talbert, Bright and Ellington, and to get input on what the FAA thinks is the best way to develop the Airport and fulfill the Airport's mission as a critical gateway to the Island.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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There was no Unfinished Business.

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**NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS**

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**1. HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) - RECOMMENDATION OF CONTRACT AWARD FOR COMMERCIAL SERVICE TERMINAL IMPROVEMENTS**

Brian Turrisi made a motion to approve a recommendation of contract award for Commercial Service Terminal Improvements to Edison Foard, Inc. of Charlotte, NC in the amount of \$27,196,809.29 plus a 10% contingency for a total of \$29,916,490.10. Chris Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**2. HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) - RECOMMENDATION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD FOR TAXIWAY F REHABILITATION**

Thomas Sheahan made a motion to approve a recommendation of construction contract award for Taxiway F Rehabilitation to APAC Atlantic, Inc. of Savannah, GA in the amount of 3,488,760.00 plus a 10% contingency for a total of \$317,160.00. Leslie Adlam Flory seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**3. HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) - RESOLUTION TO APPROVE COST RECOVERY MODEL AND REVISED AIRLINES RATES AND CHARGES**

Chris Butler made a motion to approve a Resolution to approve Cost Recovery Model and Revised Airlines Rates and Charges. Brian Turrisi seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**4. HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) - RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT SCAC GRANT 23-029 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12M FOR HXD COMMERCIAL SERVICE TERMINAL IMPROVEMENTS CONSTRUCTION**

David Nelems made a motion to approve a Resolution to accept SCAC Grant 23-029 in the amount of \$12,000,000 for HXD Commercial Service Terminal Improvements Construction. Brian Turrisi seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**5. HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) - RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT SCAC GRANT 23-025 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$378,044 FOR HXD TAXIWAY F STRENGTHENING CONSTRUCTION AND EXEC AIR LAND ACQUISITION**

Thomas Sheahan made a motion to approve a Resolution to accept SCAC Grant 23-025 in the amount of \$378,044 for HXD Taxiway F Strengthening Construction and Exec Air Land Acquisition. Brian Turrisi seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**6. BEAUFORT EXECUTIVE AIRPORT (ARW) – FACILITY USE RATE CHANGES (AS APPROVED BY ARW COMMITTEE)**

David Nelems made a motion to approve the Facility Use Rate Changes as approved by ARW Committee. Chris Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**7. BEAUFORT EXECUTIVE AIRPORT (ARW) – RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE AN OPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND HIGH TIDE AVIATION SCENIC AIR TOURS**

There was a concern about noise above and around residential areas.

Thomas Sheahan made a motion to approve a recommendation to approve an operating agreement between Beaufort County and High Tide Aviation Scenic Air Tours that includes the following provision:

- a) Only fixed-wing aircraft and not helicopters will be used for the tours.

Chris Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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**CHAIRMAN UPDATE**

Howard Ackerman stressed the need to find citizens to fill the vacant seats in the BCAB. He said they held interviews, and they are hoping to fill a seat before the August meeting.

Howard Ackerman mentioned that they are getting calls for noise at Hilton Head, specifically about the helicopter tours flying too close to the beach.

**1. Finance Committee**

Members: Howard Ackerman (Chair), Chris Butler, Tom Sheahan, and Brian Turrisi.

The Committee has nothing new to report this month. They will keep the board informed of any new developments.

**2. Communications and Marketing Committee**

Members: *Vacant* (Chair), Howard Ackerman, and Leslie Adlam Flory

The Committee has nothing new to report this month. They will keep the board informed of any new developments.

**3. Passenger Service Committee**

Members: Leslie Adlam Flory (Chair), Anne Esposito and Tom Sheahan

Leslie Adlam Flory mentioned that the Ambassadors Program is moving right along and that the volunteers are doing great and doing their best. She suggested that passengers flying on Saturdays should arrive at the Airport two hours early.

**4. ARW Facilities Use and Improvement Committee**

Members: Chris Butler (Chair), Mark Bailey, and Nick Mesenburg

Chris Butler said that the quarterly meeting went great. He stated the biggest take away was the subject of communication. He said that rate increases, new hangars, the new logo, and parking in front of the Terminal were discussed during the meeting. He informed that there is another meeting scheduled for next Wednesday.

**5. The HHI Airport General Aviation Improvement Committee (HXD)**

Members: Brian Turrisi (Chair), Howard Ackerman and Anne Esposito

The Committee has nothing new to report this month. They will keep the board informed of any new developments.

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**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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There were no Public Comments.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

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Motion to adjourn was made at 2:47 pm. It passed unanimously.

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**NEXT MEETING**

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August 17, 2023 | 1:30 pm | Hybrid Meeting

Beaufort County Council Chambers, 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, SC.