

# MINUTES

## Beaufort County Airports Board

---

August 17, 2023 | 1:30 pm | Meeting called to order by Chairman Howard Ackerman

---

### ATTENDANCE

---

**Present:** Howard Ackerman, Anne Esposito, Mark Bailey, Thomas Sheahan, Brian Turrisi, Chris Butler, David Nelems and Nick Mesenburg

**Absent:** Leslie Adlam Flory

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

---

### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

---

**Motion:** Chris Butler made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mark Bailey seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

---

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

---

**Motion:** Nick Mesenburg made a motion to approve the July 20, 2023, meeting minutes. Thomas Sheahan seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

---

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

---

There were no Public Comments.

---

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

---

- **DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

**We are Hiring:**

Jon Rembold mentioned that there are open positions at both airports. He informed that there are maintenance and ARFF positions open.

**1200.aero:**

Jon Rembold said that 1200.aero is a software that both airports are trying out for the next 90 days. He said the software allows the airports to track every aircraft that is coming in and out of the airport.

Steve Parry showed a demo of the software. He stated that the software is like a virtual tower, and it can track the aircrafts (live) as they are landing and departing. He said that many reports can be generated and that it will be good to have the information available. He said that the software can pinpoint tail numbers and ownership of the aircraft, so revenue that was lost in the past will be easy to recover now. He said the software is very powerful and accurate.

**Staff Spotlight: Marlene Myers**

Jon Rembold mentioned that Marlene is the Business Manager and has been with the Airports for over 3 years. He said that Marlene is an Air Force veteran, and her oldest son is currently serving in the Air Force. He mentioned that Marlene restores headstones and does quilting in her free time. He said that he is very happy to have her on staff and that she does a ton for the airports.

- **BEAUFORT EXECUTIVE AIRPORT (ARW) UPDATE:**

**Emergency Landing – Sea Island Pkwy:**

Jon Rembold said that many things went right with the incident. He said the incident happened in decent weather right before a thunderstorm, the aircraft flew right in between two sets of powerlines and there was not a median present where they landed. He stated that the young trainer and the young student handled the situation very well. The incident happened late at night, and the road was cleared before the morning rush hour traffic. He stated that the landing is considered an incident and not an accident because there were no injuries or property damage.

**Flying Frog 5K | Oct 28:**

Jon Rembold said that this will be the 4<sup>th</sup> annual race. He said that a portion of the proceeds will go to Altitude Academy, a 501c3 organization that helps underprivileged folks, primarily on St. Helena Island, who are not normally exposed to aviation, to attend classes and get discovery flights.

**Job Opportunities:**

Jon Rembold mentioned that there will be couple of line service tech positions opening at the end of the month.

- **HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) UPDATE:**

**FAA Meeting | Jul 26:**

Rembold said that they discussed many items regarding HXD's plans and projects for the next 10-20 years. He said there is a lot of work to be done in the near term and the center of the discussion was Taxiway F Rehabilitation project. He said they also talked about Project Cloud which is the proposed development at the northeast corner of the airport. Rembold said that they also talked about the St. James Baptist Church and how to move the project forward.

**Part 139 | Aug 7-8:**

Jon Rembold said that the annual inspection lasted 2 days and it went well. He said the inspector seemed to like the record keeping and tacking systems that were implemented. He said that they are waiting for the final report and when they do, they will address whatever items need work.

**Terminal Contract:**

Rembold mentioned that the contract is scheduled to go to Committee on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August and then before County Council on September 11. He said they are looking forward to getting the contract awarded, then putting together the construction project schedule.

**RBC Heritage – Signature Event:**

Rembold stated that he has been coordinating with the RBC tournament director about how to bring the airport into that tournament. He said that the tournament has been elevated to one of eight Signature events on the PGA Tour and he wants to find ways to make the airport the very best it can be for the tournament. He wants to make sure that the players know that they can fly directly to the tournament by flying to the Hilton Head Island Airport.

---

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no Unfinished Business.

---

**NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS**

**1. HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE AN INTERIM LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND THE BEST OF HILTON HEAD**

Thomas Sheahan made a motion to approve the recommendation to approve the Interim Letter of Agreement between Beaufort County and The Best of Hilton Head. Anne Esposito seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**2. BEAFORT EXECUTIVE AIRPORT - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A COMMERCIAL OPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND GITIBIN & ASSOCIATES, LLC DBA GO RENTALS**

Anne Esposito made a motion to approve the recommendation to approve the Commercial Operating Agreement between Beaufort County and Gitibin & Associates, LLC DBA Go Rentals. Chris Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

---

**CHAIRMAN UPDATE**

Howard Ackerman stated that it is his intent to have a conversation with the County to try and update some of the Enabling Legislation that governs the board.

He thinks it is time to review some of the qualifications to be a member of the Board. He said that he will be producing the document and the current members will have a chance to comment on it. He said that there is a procedure for getting it done.

He stated that he had a preliminary conversation with the County with respect to electronic attendance. He said there is no longer a requirement to offer Zoom or electronic means for attending meetings and it is his intent, after he circulates to board members for opinions, to remove the option. He stated that they do better when they meet in person. He reminded the members that they are entitled to 3 absences a year – excused or not excused.

---

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

---

### **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: 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

Howard Ackerman said the Ambassadors Program going on at HXD, which Leslie Flory has organized, is working out extremely well. He said it is benefiting both the passengers arriving and departing, and staff who are somewhat relieved from some of the more tedious questions that they get interrupted with. He stated that the volunteer turnout has been good this year.

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

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

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

### **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.

---

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

---

There were no Public Comments.

---

**ADJOURNMENT**

---

Motion to adjourn was made at 2:35 pm. It passed unanimously.

---

**NEXT MEETING**

---

September 21, 2023 | 1:30 pm | Hybrid Meeting

Town of Hilton Head Island, One Town Center Ct., Hilton Head Island, SC 29928