

# MINUTES

## Beaufort County Airports Board

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October 19, 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, Anne Esposito, Brian Turrisi, Mark Bailey, Nick Mesenburg, Thomas Sheahan, David Nelems, Rich Sells, and Jim Starnes

**Absent:** Chris Butler

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

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### AGENDA ADOPTION

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Thomas Sheahan made a motion to adopt the October 19, 2023, BCAB meeting agenda. Brian Turrisi seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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Rich Sells made a motion to approve the September 21, 2023, meeting minutes. Brian Turrisi 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:**

**Staff Spotlight: David Lilly**

Jon Rembold mentioned that Lilly is the longest-serving employee at the Airport – Almost 20 years with HXD ARFF! He said Lilly started as a volunteer firefighter at the young age of 16 and has been in the fire service for 44 years.

**New Equipment: Bobcat Skid Steer**

Jon Rembold said this equipment was needed for a while. He said the new Bobcat skid steer will make things a lot better when dealing with erosion issues every time there is a big rainstorm and help keep in compliance with Part 139.

**FAA Southern Region Airports Conference:**

Rembold mentioned that Steve Parry and Eric Townsend are attending the conference in Atlanta.

**New Staff Members:**

Spencer Salay (ARW) and Rene (Alex) Sabogal Hernandez (HXD).

**Agenda Item Approvals:**

High Tide Aviation and Edison Foard Office Space Lease Agreements had the First Reading.

At this point, Jessica Ward, High Tide Aviation, was invited to approach the lectern to introduce herself. She talked about her aviation background and the nature of her flying tour business.

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

**Flying Frog 5K Race:**

Rembold reminded the Board that the Flying Frog 5K race and Touch-a-Truck event is on Oct 28.

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

**Concours d'Elegance:**

Rembold reminded the Board that the Concours d'Elegance event runs from Nov 3-5.

**ATAX Presentation:**

Jon mentioned that he did the presentation, and the Airport requested \$150,000.00 in ATAX grant money. He said 100% of the funds will be available for Airport marketing.

**TSA PreCheck Event:**

Rembold reminded the Board that the TSA PreCheck Enrollment event runs from Oct 23-27 at 26 Hunter Road. He encouraged the Members to volunteer at the event.

**Additional Updates:**

Rembold mentioned that he is trying to secure a date for the Groundbreaking ceremony.

Rembold informed that the Airport Tenant Appreciation -Pizza luncheon- will be sponsored by Edison Foard.

Rembold informed that the paid parking at the Terminal will have a modest rate increase starting on Jan 1, 2024. He said this is the first increase since 2017.

**LEO Services:**

Rembold informed that the LEO Services at HXD will be a discussion item at the Public Facilities and Safety Committee meeting scheduled for October 23.

Rembold said that the deputies who man the post at the Terminal must be able to respond within five minutes if there's an incident at the checkpoint. He noted that the LEOs currently provide that service. He said that the Sheriff put the Airport on notice back in June and said that the Sheriff's Office would pull the deputies out of the Terminal at the end of the calendar year.

Rembold stated that the Airport is trying to work on putting together an RFQ, but it can't happen by the end of the year. He said that the process would take six, maybe eight months because even if a contractor was selected by the end of the year, the contractor then must find people trainable to carry a weapon and carry out federal mandates. Rembold said that if their people don't show up, the checkpoint closes, and flights get delayed or canceled. Rembold noted that there aren't many private companies who are interested in that level of liability.

Rembold said that this item is being presented at the Committee meeting to make sure that Council is completely aware of what's going on and to ask for their help because the Airport much rather have deputies at the Terminal than anybody else.

Rembold asked the Members to attend the meeting on Monday or send comments.

**Uber Numbers:**

Rembold presented a 3-year comparison graph showing the number of Uber vehicles going through the Airport's geographical electronic fence. He stated that it represents a decent revenue stream for the Airport and is an excellent passenger service.

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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. BEAUFORT EXECUTIVE AIRPORT (ARW) - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A LEASE AGREEMENT AT 39 AIRPORT CIRCLE BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND TIM VERROI**

Nick Mesenburg made a motion to approve a recommendation to approve a lease agreement at 39 Airport Circle between Beaufort County and Tim Verroi. Rich Sells seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**2. BEAUFORT EXECUTIVE AIRPORT (ARW) - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A GROUND LEASE AGREEMENT AT 39 AIRPORT CIRCLE BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND BEAUFORT FLIGHT TRAINING**

Mark Bailey made a motion to approve a recommendation to approve a lease agreement at 39 Airport Circle between Beaufort County and Beaufort Flight Training. Jim Starnes seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**3. APPROVAL OF 2024 BCAB MEETING DATES**

David Nelems made a motion to approve the 2024 BCAB Meeting Dates. Jim Starnes seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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**CHAIRMAN UPDATE**

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There was a brief interruption due to a fire alarm. The meeting resumed shortly after.

**1. Finance Committee**

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

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

**2. Communications and Marketing Committee**

Members: Anne Esposito (Chair), Howard Ackerman, and Leslie Adlam Flory.

The Committee had 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), David Nelems, Jim Starnes, and Tom Sheahan

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

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

Members: Chris Butler (Chair), Mark Bailey, David Nelems, Jim Starnes, and Nick Mesenburg

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

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

Members: Brian Turrisi (Chair), Howard Ackerman, Rich Sells, Chris Butler, and Anne Esposito

The Committee had 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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The motion to adjourn was made at 2:23 p.m. It passed unanimously.

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**NEXT MEETING**

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November 16, 2023 | 1:30 pm

Town of Hilton Head Island, 1 Town Center Ct., Hilton Head Island, SC 29928