

MINUTES

Beaufort County Airports Board

January 18, 2024 | 1:30 pm | Meeting called to order by Chairman Howard Ackerman

ATTENDANCE

Present: Leslie Adlam Flory, Anne Esposito, Brian Turrisi, Chris Butler, Nick Mesenburg, David Nelems, Rich Sells, and Mark Bailey

Absent: Howard Ackerman, Thomas Sheahan, and Jim Starnes

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

Public: David Ames, Town Council liaison to Airports Board; and Judy Elder, Talbert, Bright and Ellington, Inc.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Chris Butler made a motion to adopt the January 18, 2024, BCAB meeting agenda. Rich Sells seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Brian Turrisi made a motion to approve the November 16, 2023, BCAB meeting minutes. Rich Sells seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

New Staff: Jon Rembold welcomed a new staff member, firefighter Mark Haskett (ARFF). Mark has 28 years of experience and is EMT certified.

Adopt-a-Highway: Rembold said that the airport adopted Hunter Road, and some of the staff helped pick up trash on a cool morning. He mentioned the staff tries to do the pick-up once per quarter.

Christmas: Rembold said that the Airport staff had a potluck at 26 Hunter Rd. to celebrate the holiday. He suggested that it would be nice to decorate the Terminal and the entrance to the Airport for Christmas. He stated that the staff will work on some ideas and present them for funding approval.

HHCA Field Trip: Rembold mentioned that Hilton Head Christian Academy students visited the Airport and that it was a great field trip. He said the students met with ARFF, Airport Maintenance, and Security Staff. He said the students had the opportunity to interact with the Coast Guard, Civil Air Patrol, MediVac, and a United Airlines pilot.

Storm Damage: Rembold mentioned that the weather system that moved through the Island caused more than 100K in damage to a canopy, baggage rollers, and the airlines' ground-to-air communication antennas. He said that the documentation was submitted to the County's Risk Management department for insurance claims.

Terminal Construction Update: Rembold informed that the temporary security fence has gone up on the apron area, so badging is eliminated for the contractor. He said the contractor is procuring material, some of which is being stored offsite in Hardeeville.

Airports' Business Update:

- **Airline Q3 Data:** Rembold reported that he received an update from the Air Service Development consultants. He stated the Q3 report showed that the top 25 destinations remained almost the same. In the top 10, Charlotte made the list, and Philadelphia fell out. He said #1 two years in a row is Newark. Rembold said that efforts are being made to increase funds to market to the top ten cities.
- **Pilot Shortage:** Rembold said that the pilot shortage is improving, but there is still a real pilot shortage.
- **RBC Heritage Partnership:** Rembold met with the RBC leadership group to discuss sponsor opportunities and strategic partnerships.
- **Concours Partnership:** Rembold met with Concours' new executive director who comes with much experience and is a fan of the Airport partnership.
- **Check Presentation:** The donation to Altitude Academy will occur on Wednesday, January 31, at the Beaufort Executive Airport.

Chase's Significant Accomplishment: Chase has received his learner permit to drive!

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. LEO SERVICES AT THE HXD TERMINAL

Jon Rembold informed that an agreement has been reached. The Sheriff's office will provide 40 hours of LEO service per week, and Securitas will provide the staff to cover the additional hours. Rembold mentioned that TSA will continue to reimburse 30-40% of the cost, and the airlines will assume the increased price for this operation.

2. EXEC PROPERTY ACQUISITION

Jon Rembold mentioned that the acquisition process is ongoing, and legal issues are being resolved.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

1. HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE SECURITAS SECURITY SERVICES CONTRACT ADDENDUM, ADDITION OF ARMED SECURITY GUARD AT TERMINAL

Chris Butler made a motion to approve a recommendation to approve a Securitas Security Services contract addendum, Addition of Armed Security Guard at the Terminal. Rich Sells seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

2. HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE TALBERT, BRIGHT AND ELLINGTON WORK AUTHORIZATION 2119-2304, ST. JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH ACQUISITION AND RELOCATION

Rich Sells made a motion to approve a recommendation to approve Talbert, Bright, and Ellington Work Authorization 2119-2304, St. James Baptist Church Acquisition and Relocation. Brian Turrisi seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

3. BEAUFORT EXECUTIVE AIRPORT (ARW) – RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A COMMERCIAL OPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND M&L MOBILE DETAILING

Chris Butler made a motion to approve a resolution to approve a commercial operating agreement between Beaufort County and M&L Mobile Detailing. Rich Sells seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

CHAIRMAN UPDATE

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

Brian Turrisi said a meeting with airport users/people operating at the airport is scheduled for January 30th.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Ames: There was a question about whether the January 30th meeting should be opened to the public. David Ames clarified that if a Board quorum is present, then it should be a Public Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn was made at 2:15 p.m. It passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

February 22, 2024 | 1:30 pm

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