

**ERIE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
MEETING
Tuesday, February 27, 2024**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Erie Regional Airport Authority duly posted and advertised, held in room 100 at the Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafraas Pier, Erie, PA 16507.

Attendees:

Brian Slawin	Ryan Bergquist	Brad DiFiore- Ailevon Pacific
Aaron Susmarski	Erin Kerner	Ethan Kibbe- Erie News Now
Peter Burton	Derek Martin	Jennifer Gornall

Board Vice President Brian Slawin opened the meeting at 3:00 PM.

Approval of Agenda:

Ryan Bergquist moved to approve the agenda and Aaron Susmarski seconded. Approved by All.

There were no **Public Comments**.

Derek Martin introduced Brad DiFiore, Managing Director for Ailevon Pacific Aviation Consulting. He added that Mr. DiFiore has been working in the consultant capacity for the Airport Authority since 2018.

Mr. DiFiore presented the following topics:

- How the Fly Erie Fund with the Erie Chamber is beneficial to ERI.
- The state of the aviation industry.
- How demand influences ticket prices.
- Cost drivers in the industry- fuel and rising labor costs.
- The pilot shortage and retirement of smaller aircraft.
- Updates on Delta Air Lines, United Airlines, and American Airlines.

Mr. DiFiore shared his thoughts on where ERI goes from here:

- Understand the landscape.
- Support the current service to Charlotte on American.
- Focus on offering a low cost carrier environment.
- Provide a robust air service incentive program.
- Attract a low fare airline for leisure routes.
- Further reduce airport until cost to airlines through increased capacity.
- Reengage network carriers from lower cost platform.


Board Member Comments

Mr. DiFiore answered questions from the Board pertaining to:

- A new route from a network carrier verse adding a low cost carrier.
- If an additional international options benefit ERI.
- Lowering cost per enplaned passenger to assist with securing a low cost carrier.

Peter Burton made a motion to adjourn, and Aaron Susmarski seconded. Approved by All.

Adjournment: 4:31 PM



Peter Burton, Secretary

