

Erie Regional Airport Authority  
Regular Board Meeting  
**Thursday April 23, 2009**  
1:00 PM

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting of the Erie Regional Airport Authority duly posted and advertised. Held in the Conference Room of the International Trade Center, located at 3837 West 20<sup>th</sup>. Street, in Millcreek Township, Erie County, Pennsylvania.

**Attendance:**

Lou Porreco	Ron Cleaver	Bob Spaulding
Sumner Nichols	Jim Thompson	Tyrone Clark
Frank Stefano	Chris Rodgers	Mitch Kalkhof
Louy Bizzarro	Sheilah Bruno	Lori Hetrick
Lisa Cappabianca	Mari Anne Clark	Vinnie Halupczybski
Namon McWilliams	Ian Bogle	Georgia Heynes
Dale Roth	Kim Scharrer	Kim Fuller
Janet Anderson	Michelle Magee	Ed Kissell
Don Wright	Irene Seyler	

Meeting opened: 1:06 PM

Board President Lou Porreco opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes from:**  
**Work Session-March 26, 2009**  
**Regular Meeting-March 26, 2009**

Dale Roth moved and Janet Anderson seconded

Approved by All: Lou Porreco, Lou Bizzarro, Lisa Cappabianca, Sumner Nichols, Namon McWilliams, Janet Anderson, Dale Roth, and Frank Stefano

**Bills to be Paid**

Frank Stefano moved and Janet Anderson seconded

Approved by All: Lou Bizzarro, Lisa Cappabianca, Sumner Nichols, Namon McWilliams, Janet Anderson, Dale Roth, Frank Stefano, and Lou Porreco

**Liaison Comments**

Ron "Whitey" Cleaver, County Council Liaison, commended the efforts of the City and County officials, City and County Councils, Millcreek Township, and the Airport Authority concerning the golf course transfer. The golf course transfer closing is scheduled for Friday April 24<sup>th</sup>. It has been a long road; hats off to all involved.

City Council Liaison, Jim Thompson echoed Mr. Cleaver's statement.

Mr. Porreco added that the golf course transfer appears to be a done deal. On behalf of the Board, he thanked everyone for their hard work. It appears to be a done deal.

## **Public Comments**

Ed Kissell suggested that since the golf course transfer is scheduled for tomorrow and the Erie Golf Course will be open this season, a tournament should be held for City, County, Millcreek, and Airport officials for a fundraiser. Mr. Porreco said that Mr. Kissell's idea of a tournament is great and appointed him "chairman" of arranging the tournament.

Jack Flanagan of 3253 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street addressed the Board. He explained that his property is impacted by the runway extension, but not his house. He asked when the homes on West 14<sup>th</sup> Street are going to be demolished. He and other neighbors have some concerns. Although many of the homes are vacant, there still seems to be a lot of comings and goings in the area. Tyrone Clark explained that there is still one property left to vacate. The property is expected to be vacated by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Clark further explained that the demolition contract is in place. The ERAA Board has already approved the resolution to accept McCormick Construction for the demolition. Actual demolition is expected to begin in late summer once the funds for the demolition are received from a grant. Mr. Porreco asked if demolition of the vacate properties can start earlier than scheduled. Chris Rodgers explained that we haven't even applied for the grant from which the money for the demolition will come from yet. The grant will be applied for in Part B of the Partial Reauthorization of the 09 fiscal year. The House and Senate are currently discussing this now. We are waiting for guidance from the FAA on a date for submittal of our application. Mr. Porreco asked Mr. Rodgers for his best estimate on when demolition will begin. Mr. Rodgers said we have been planning June 1<sup>st</sup> start date. That could change depending on whether Congress decides on a continuing resolution rather than reauthorization. Mr. Rodgers explained that either way, the dollars will be available we just don't have a hard date from the FAA yet. Sumner Nichols asked how frequently the Airport Police patrols the area. Chief Bogle said that the area is patrolled two times per shift every day at a minimum. Mr. Porreco asked that the team do what they can to expedite things.

Mr. Flanagan spoke of a letter dated December 23, 2008 that he sent to Chris Rodgers. He said that he did receive a response to the letter from Tim Zieziula. Mr. Flanagan said that he is still waiting for a response from Chris Rodgers and would really like a response from Chris Rodgers. Mr. Porreco explained that Tim Zieziula is an attorney for the Authority and his response to the letter was a response on behalf of the Authority. Mr. Porreco further explained that Chris Rodgers would not address legal questions or issues; Tim Zieziula would as in this case.

## **Financial Report**

Chief Financial Officer Sheilah Bruno reported a net surplus after debt service of \$31,343 for the month of March bringing our year to date deficit to \$7,195. When compared to budget we are unfavorable \$22,761 year to date.

Ms. Bruno added that we had a deficit of \$103,141 year to date in 2008.

Mr. Porreco commented that we are much better than we were last year and we continue to improve each month.

### **Resolution 2009-17**

#### **Approval of Updates to the Authority's Procurement Card Program**

Dale Roth moved and Frank Stefano seconded

Adopted by Yeas: Lisa Cappabianca, Sumner Nichols, Namon McWilliams, Janet Anderson, Dale Roth, Frank Stefano, Lou Porreco, and Lou Bizzarro

### **Resolution 2009-18**

#### **Authorize Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer to Act as Trustee for 457 and Pension Plans**

Janet Anderson moved and Namon McWilliams seconded

Adopted by Yeas: Sumner Nichols, Namon McWilliams, Janet Anderson, Dale Roth, Frank Stefano, Lou Porreco, Lou Bizzarro, and Lisa Cappabianca

### **Director's Report**

Mr. Rodgers reported that March was the best month so far this year for air traffic numbers. Our year to date decline is 11.4%. Mr. Rodgers explained that when comparing 2008 year to date numbers to 2009 year to date numbers, a few things must be considered: 2008 was a leap year and Easter was in March last year.

Mr. Rodgers reported that US Air is scheduled to bring back regional jet service effective May 10<sup>th</sup> for 2 or their 3 daily departures to Philadelphia.

Mr. Rodgers reported that he visited the new offices of CommutAir in Cleveland on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Rodgers announced that on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, the airport will hold a "Wall of Fame/Famous Aviators" honoree induction ceremony. The ceremony will begin at 10:30 am in the baggage claim area at the Erie International Airport. Major Earl Abbott and Colonel Richard Hellwege are scheduled to be honored. Mr. Rodgers said that more details will be provided as the date nears.

Meeting adjourned: 1:20 PM

*The ERAA Board met in an Executive Session prior to the start of the Regular Board Meeting.*

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Lou Bizzarro, Secretary

