# ERIE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY MEETING

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

Minutes of a Meeting of the Erie Regional Airport Authority duly posted and advertised, held in the second floor conference room of the Intermodal Center, 208 East Bayfront Parkway, Erie, PA 16507.

Attendees:

Brian Slawin

Derek Martin

Keith Walach, citizen city of Erie Chuck Nelson, Erie City Council

Ryan Bergquist

Michelle Magee Jennifer Gornall

all

A'Darius Porter Peter Burton

James Pacansky

David Hallman, Jr.

Ian Bogle

Dorothy Smith-Frazier

Participated by Phone: Eric Rogers

Aaron Susmarski

Board President Brian Slawin opened the meeting at 12:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

# Approval of Agenda

Mr. Slawin asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Peter Burton moved, and Ryan Bergquist seconded. Approved by Yeas: David Hallman, Jr., Aaron Susmarski, A'Darius Porter, Peter Burton, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist.

#### **Public Comments**

No members of the public commented.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Slawin asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous Board meeting, Ryan Bergquist moved to approve, and A'Darius Porter seconded. Approved by Yeas: David Hallman, Jr., Aaron Susmarski, A'Darius Porter, Peter Burton, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist.

## Announce Executive Sessions- none.

## **Committee Reports**

<u>Finance Committee</u>-Finance Committee Chair David Hallman, Jr. stated that the Finance Committee Meeting met on March 25, 2025, and reviewed the February finance report, cash forecasts, bills to be paid, and expense reports. The Committee recommends approval of the bills. Peter Burton made the motion for approval seconded by Brian Slawin. Approved by Yeas: David Hallman, Jr., Aaron Susmarski, A'Darius Porter, Peter Burton, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist.

**Financial Report-** Mr. Pacansky reviewed the February finance report. The net deficit for the month of February was \$171,726, bringing the year to date deficit to \$275,428. We are unfavorable to budget year to date \$108,899.

There was no Unfinished Business.

Resolutions- none

There was no New Business brought forth.

Liaison Comments- Chuck Nelson of Erie City Council was in attendance but made no comments.

**Board Member Comments-** none

# **Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Martin reported the following:

- Meetings are scheduled in D.C. later this week with Senators Fetterman and McCormick's offices. Congressman McLaughlin and Representative Bizzarro are assisting PA airports in changing how airports are funded (similar to Jobs Ohio) in an effort to recruit airlines to PA communities.
- Real ID compliance will be effective May 7, 2025. He asked everyone to continue to spread the word about this. PennDOT Secretary Carroll is holding a press conference at ERI on April 7, 2025. In response to an inquiry from Mr. Bergquist, Mr. Martin will check with our airlines to see how they will handle bookings after May 7, 2025, regarding whether or not a ticket purchaser has the proper ID to board a flight. In response to a suggestion from Mr. Bergquist, Mr. Martin will reach out to the DMV to see if it would be possible to put a kiosk or satellite office at the airport to assist with Real ID upgrades.
- Breeze's load factors remain steady at 84%. The seasonal Tampa route will end April 26<sup>th</sup> and is expected to return for another seasonal run. Breeze agents are available at the ticket counter at ERI on Tuesdays from 11 am to 1 pm to assist customers with purchases.
- We are working with Customs to hold another Global Entry event at ERI. We will communicate the details once the dates/times are confirmed.
- In response to a question from Mr. Hallman inquiring if Breeze's current load factors indicate that they will want to continue to serve ERI without the guarantees from the Fly Erie Fund, Mr. Marting explained that Breeze would start paying in November 2026. Their goal is to maximize loads to be profitable here. Mr. Martin added that Breeze has been pleased with the numbers so far. Erie is performing better than initially expected. Tampa, Fort Myers, and Vegas could be seasonal routes for ERI with Orlando remaining year round.
- Referring to a recent social media post regarding a weather delay on Breeze that resulted in several people missing their flight, Mr. Burton asked Mr. Martin to explain what occurred. Mr. Martin explained that there was a weather delay and

Breeze updated passengers via their app. There was an opening for Breeze to get the plane out within 30 minutes or take another 3 hour delay, so the pilots took it. Mr. Martin stated that passengers should always be at their airport in time for their original departure time rather than relying on the app.

Peter Burton made a motion to adjourn, and Dorothy Smith-Frasier seconded. Approved by Yeas: David Hallman, Jr., Aaron Susmarski, A'Darius Porter, Peter Burton, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist.

Adjournment: 12:25 PM

Peter Burton, Secretary Aaron Susmarsk President Profem