# ERIE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY MEETING Wednesday, January 25, 2023

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:** 

Daniel Giannelli

Andrea Zdaniewski

Peter Burton Richard Wagner

Brian Slawin

Marybeth Smialek

Aaron Susmarski David Hallman, Jr. Derek Martin

Michelle Magee James Pacansky

Ian Bogle

Jennifer Gornall

Jack Bendig, Hangar 20

Lou Aliota, Taxpayer/Millcreek Terry Scutella, County Council Joe Ceresa, North Coast Air

Tom Kaveney

David Benson, Fundamentals Flight

Training

G. Patterson, NCA

Michael Keys, City Council

Board President Daniel Giannelli opened the meeting at 12:07 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America. Mr. Giannelli apologized for the slightly late start and announced that the Board met in an Executive Session today at 11:15 am prior to the public meeting for legal matters.

### Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Giannelli asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Marybeth Smialek made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and Aaron Susmarski seconded. Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Peter Burton, Andrea Zdaniewski, Brian Slawin, and David Hallman, Jr.

### 2023 Slate of Officers:

Nominating Committee Chair Brian Slawin read the following slate of officers for 2023 for the record:

President- Daniel Giannelli

Vice President- Andrea Zdaniewski

President Pro-Tem- Aaron Susmarski

Treasurer- Marybeth Smialek

Secretary- David Hallman, Jr.

After hearing no nominations from the floor, Mr. Giannelli asked for a motion and second for the proposed slate. Brian Slawin made the motion and Andrea Zdaniewski seconded. Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Peter Burton, Andrea Zdaniewski, Brian Slawin, and David Hallman,

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Giannelli asked for a motion to approve the minutes of last month's Board Meeting. Brian Slawin moved to approve, and David Hallman, Jr. seconded.

Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Andrea Zdaniewski, Brian Slawin, and David Hallman, Jr.

#### **Public Comments**

Lou Aliota of Millcreek Township spoke about the United States and Pennsylvania Constitution regarding freedom of speech. He said he has been fighting to defend the Constitution for 6 years. After 6 years, he won; we won! He asked how citizens/taxpayers attend these board meetings remotely. Mr. Aliota also stated that there seems to be an issue between the public and board members. He also asked if there is tampering with public records.

## **Committee Reports**

<u>Finance Committee</u>-Finance Committee Chair Marybeth Smialek reported that the Committee met on January 24, 2023. The Committee reviewed the current Cash Forecast and AR Summary, the November Finance Report, Bills to be Paid, and Expense Reports. Ms. Smialek stated the Finance Committee recommends approval of the bills and made the motion to approve; seconded by David Hallman, Jr. Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Andrea Zdaniewski, Brian Slawin, and David Hallman, Jr.

**Financial Report-** James Pacansky reviewed the November report. The net deficit for the month of November was \$66,175. The year to date net deficit is \$31,195. We are unfavorable to budget year to date \$103,661 with revenue unfavorable to budget \$202,741 and expenses favorable to budget \$99,080. Mr. Pacansky reminded the Board that the airline common use was cut by 50% in 2022 and the reduction is 20% in 2023.

Ad Hoc Marketing and PR Committee- Mr. Giannelli stated that annual report is being finalized. Also, we will be holding a follow-up meeting with M:7 soon.

There was no Unfinished Business, no Resolutions, and no New Business

#### **Liaison Comments**

Erie County Council Liaison Terry Scutella was present but had no comments.

City Council Liaison Michael Keys stated that the new year brings a new opportunity. What the public has to say is very important. He admitted that sometimes the public goes off script and brings up things that we have no control over as board members, but we still have to listen.

### **Board Member Comments**

Mr. Wagner thanked the Patterson's for a wonderful and successful BK Classic basketball tournament.

New Board member Peter Burton introduced himself. He said that he hears a lot of things about the airport. Mr. Burton stated that he believes that Derek Martin has done a nice job since starting at Erie Airport. Mr. Burton shared a story from years ago regarding US Air and his business trips to and from the Virgin Islands.

Mr. Burton stated that he would be interested in discussing Zoom meetings and/or recording meetings. Mr. Slawin stated that he is interested in discussing as well. Ms. Zdaniewski suggested this be a new business item next month with information on costs, security and how to record.

Ms. Gornall added that there is no requirement under the Sunshine Act to offer remote participation or to record meetings.

## **Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Martin reported and/or addressed the following:

- M:7 is finalizing the annual report.
- A one on one meeting with Mr. Burton will be scheduled soon.
- United will be offering 20 more seats beginning in March on a CRJ700. American is looking to do something similar.
- Mr. Martin will be attending an air service development conference in Mobile, Alabama next month which will give him an opportunity to interact/meet with several low cost carriers as well as legacy carriers.

Mr. Giannelli added that some investigative meetings have been held or will be held with local leaders for local support of air service development initiatives.

Marybeth Smialek made a motion to adjourn, and Brian Slawin seconded. Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Andrea Zdaniewski, Brian Slawin, and David Hallman, Jr.

Adjournment: 12:48 PM

David Hallman, Jr., Secretary

