

ERIE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
MEETING
Wednesday, January 27, 2021

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: Marybeth Smialek Derek Martin Ed Tropper, Aviation Flyers
Daniel Giannelli Michelle Magee Michael Keys, Erie City Council
David Hallman, Jr. James Pacansky
Brad Peganoff
Gregory Hayes

Participated by Phone: Aaron Susmarski Andrea Zdaniewski
Richard Wagner Jennifer Gornall

Board President Andrea Zdaniewski opened the meeting at 12:10 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Approval of Agenda:

Ms. Zdaniewski asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Marybeth Smialek moved to approve the agenda as presented and Daniel Giannelli seconded. Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Gregory Hayes, Andrea Zdaniewski, David Hallman, Jr., and Brad Peganoff.

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Zdaniewski asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2020 Board Meeting as presented. Gregory Hayes moved to approve, and David Hallman, Jr. Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Gregory Hayes, Andrea Zdaniewski, David Hallman, Jr., and Brad Peganoff.

Ms. Zdaniewski asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2021 Reorganization Meeting as presented. Marybeth Smialek moved to approve, and Aaron Susmarski seconded. Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Gregory Hayes, and Andrea Zdaniewski.

Abstained (did not attend meeting): David Hallman, Jr. and Brad Peganoff.

Ms. Zdaniewski stated that the Board met in an Executive Session prior to today's public meeting to receive privileged legal advice.

Public Comments

Ed Tropper of the Aviation Flyers group requested that the \$2,000 fee for independent mechanics be waived since "there is not general aviation mechanic on the field". In a written statement (a copy was given to Michelle Magee for the record), Mr. Tropper proposed that the Board amend the regulations to eliminate the fee and allow the aircraft owners to bring their own preferred mechanics onto the field to perform maintenance and inspections.

Mr. Hallman stated that Daryl Stull of North Coast Air has been and still is working on planes.

Mr. Hayes stated that he brought up this issue at last month's meeting. In response to Mr. Hallman's statement, Mr. Hayes said that Daryl Stull is not permitted to work on commercial aircraft per the airlines. As far as Mr. Hayes is concerned, if the airlines won't allow Daryl to do work on their aircraft then there is no way he will allow Daryl to work on any of the flight school's aircraft.

After Meeting Follow Up- Upon hearing the incorrect information reported by airport tenant Ed Tropper and Board Member Greg Hayes, Grayson Patterson of North Coast Air sent a letter to the Board stating that North Coast Air does indeed have one full time and one part time mechanic currently on staff. Both are A&P Certified and have their IA Certificate. For personal reasons, Daryl Stull is no longer the 24/7 on call mechanic for the airlines after 40 successful years in that role. A copy of Mr. Patterson's letter has been added to the record.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Finance Committee Chair David Hallman Jr. reported that the Finance Committee met on January 26, 2021. The Committee reviewed the Cash Forecast and AR Summary, November Finance Report, Capital Fund Transactions, Bills to be Paid this month, and the Business Expense Reports with no concerns. Mr. Hallman stated that the Finance Committee recommends paying the bills as presented. Aaron Susmarski made a motion to approve and Daniel Giannelli seconded. Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Gregory Hayes, Andrea Zdaniewski, David Hallman, Jr., and Brad Peganoff.

Finance Report James Pacansky reported on the November Finance Report. The net deficit for the month of November was \$30,273. Year to date the net deficit is \$143,194. Compared to budget, we are unfavorable \$371,409 year to date with revenue unfavorable to budget \$894,756 and expenses favorable to budget \$523,347.

There was no **Unfinished Business**

Resolutions

Resolution 2021-01 Approval of Amendment to Agreement to Purchase Electrical Switchgear to Support New JetBridge

Derek Martin explained that the agreement to purchase electrical switchgear to support the new JetBridge was previously approved by the Board but the not to exceed increased by let than \$14,000 due to product costs.

David Hallman, Jr. moved, and Marybeth Smialek seconded. Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Gregory Hayes, Andrea Zdaniewski, David Hallman, Jr., and Brad Peganoff.

New Business

Ms. Zdaniewski welcomed new Board Member Brad Peganoff. At the suggestion of Ms. Smialek, Mr. Peganoff shared a bit about himself. He has many years of experience working with government and transportation.

Mr. Hayes inquired about the money the Porreco family gave to the airport for flight training scholarships. Edinboro knows nothing about why no scholarships have been awarded and no scholarships have been awarded. Ms. Magee explained that no money was donated by the Porreco family. Also, some scholarship money was awarded prior to the Porreco Promise program being halted per legal advice. She will forward information to the Board after today's meeting.

After Meeting Follow Up- Michelle Magee forwarded all information related to the scholarship that Mr. Hayes referenced (Porreco Promise) to the Board including legal opinion on why we cannot donate issued by legal counsel in April 2016 and again in October 2019 and notification of such to Edinboro in October 2019.

Liaison Comments

Erie City Council liaison Michael Keys commented that he is happy to see the airport's books are in good shape and he hopes transportation comes back soon.

There were no **Board Member Comments**

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Martin reported that the snow removal equipment (SRE) building is expected to be completed in May. The replacement of the revolving doors in the terminal is currently under way. Upcoming projects include installation of the new JetBridge, ramp expansion, and upgrades to Customs and Border Protection facility.

Mr. Hayes about next steps for the mechanic issue. Mr. Hayes stated that he personally likes Daryl but from a legal standpoint, he can't allow him to do work on his planes. Mr. Hallman stated that he doesn't believe it can be true that Daryl is prohibited from working on commercial aircraft. Ms. Zdaniewski suggested we check to see if there are any stipulations on what Daryl is permitted to work on (*see After Meeting Follow Up under Public Comments*).

Mr. Wagner asked if we would see an increase in cargo with Amazon going into the old AMSCO building. Mr. Martin explained that the Amazon items are being trucked into Erie and then sorted at the facility here to be delivered to customers in the region.

Daniel Giannelli made a motion to adjourn and David Hallman, Jr. seconded. Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Gianelli, Gregory Hayes, Andrea Zdaniewski, David Hallman, Jr., and Brad Peganoff.

Adjournment: 12:44 PM

Marybeth Smialek, Secretary