

ERIE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
MEETING
Wednesday, March 27, 2019

Minutes of a Meeting of the Erie Regional Airport Authority duly posted and advertised, held in the Board Room on the second floor of the Intermodal Center, 208 East Bayfront Parkway, Erie, Pennsylvania.

Attendees:

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| Christopher Parker | Derek Martin | Joe Ceresa, NCA |
| Daniel Giannelli | Michelle Magee | Valerie Myers, Times-News |
| Marybeth Smialek | James Pacansky | John Nygaard, Autism Society/MHS AFJROTC |
| Andrea Zdaniewski | Kim Scharrer | Tish Bartlett, Autism Society |
| Patrick Cappabianca | Ian Bogle | Ed Tropper, Aviation Flyers |
| David Hallman, Jr. | Jennifer Gornall | Jack Bendig, Hangar 20 |
| Richard Wagner | | Don Chase, Hangar 20 |
| Aaron Susmarski | | Dan Galvin, Hangar 20 |
| Gregory Hayes | | |

Opened: 12:01 PM

Board President Christopher Parker opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Mr. Parker announced that the Board met in an Executive Session this morning at 11:15 am prior to the start of today's public meeting to discuss personnel issues and received privileged legal advice.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Parker stated that the agenda would be amended to move an Ad-Hoc Committee report to after Unfinished Business and asked for a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Daniel Giannelli moved and Gregory Hayes seconded. Approved by Yeas: Christopher Parker, Daniel Giannelli, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Gregory Hayes, Patrick Cappabianca, David Hallman, Jr., Marybeth Smialek, and Andrea Zdaniewski.

Approval of Minutes:

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Mr. Parker asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Marybeth Smialek moved, and Patrick Cappabianca seconded. Approved by Yeas: Christopher Parker, Daniel Giannelli, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Gregory Hayes, Patrick Cappabianca, David Hallman, Jr., Marybeth Smialek, and Andrea Zdaniewski.

Public Comments

Mr. Parker invited members of the public to comment. He asked that comments be kept to 3 minutes for each speaker and reminded the group that this is an opportunity to comment; not a question and answer period.

- Jack Bendig, Hangar 20- Mr. Bendig stated that the airport was a friendly place when Hangar 20 was built back in 2005. All the problems here started with the dog. The airport's actions reek of discrimination. The airport is using SIDA badges as a weapon. The private aircraft owners/pilots want to be able to remove insurance during the off season when not flying. Is the airport going to check every aircraft in and out of here for insurance? If not, it is discrimination? Mr. Bendig added that the rules are unjust and hostile. He does not believe what Mr. Martin says about FAA funding and grant assurances. The airport rules make lease agreements worthless!
- Trish Bartlett and John Nygaard- Autism Society- Ms. Bartlett introduced herself as the Director of Autism Society and John Nygaard as a Board Member. They shared information on their recent partnership with the Airport Authority, Delta Air Lines operated by SkyWest, and TSA for an Autism in Flight program. The program is a real time simulation of air travel. Two events are planned- May 4th and May 11th. Autism Society is very excited for this event and thanks Mr. Martin and Michelle Magee for helping to facilitate the event. Mr. Nygaard thanked Mr. Martin and the Board. He feels this program is very valuable for families in our community living with autism. Mr. Nygaard added that he is the Director of the JROTC program at McDowell High School. He is pleased to work with Mr. Martin to schedule what could be semi-annual FOD walks. This will provide a service to the airport and give the cadets community service hours which is a big part of the JROTC's mission.
- Ed Tropper, Aviation Flyers- Mr. Tropper stated that in addition to the private pilots, Mr. Martin has managed to upset everyone at the airport including TSA, the FAA, and the airlines in the short time he has been here! Mr. Tropper told Mr. Martin that this is not a hockey game; he can change his mind about the rules and regulations. Although Erie is a Part 139 airport with commercial service and Youngstown has no commercial service, Mr. Tropper offered several comparisons between ERI and Youngstown Airport. Mr. Tropper also mentioned that the Erie School District has partnered with AOPA for a STEM program.
- Dan Galvin- Hangar 20- Mr. Galvin read a letter that he sent to Mr. Martin pertaining to his need to have a SIDA badge to access a hangar he owns even though he does not have an aircraft in the hangar. Mr. Galvin incorrectly assumed that since he did not receive a written response from Mr. Martin regarding his badge, his access is denied. Mr. Galvin recounted his numerous volunteer hours for National Aviation Day with the Boy Scouts when Chris Rodgers was the Director. He ended his comments by telling Mr. Martin that he does not appreciate the bullying tactics being used.
- Mark Youngs, Aviation Flyers- Mr. Youngs stated that he and the other pilots have tried to educate "you people" on their needs and rights to self service their aircraft, but it has fallen on deaf ears. The Airport's rules are very restrictive and unfair. Mr. Youngs referenced AC 5190 6B pertaining to restrictions on self-service needs of private pilots. Mr. Youngs announced that he has finalized a Part 13 complaint against the Airport. Mr. Youngs explained what general aviation brings to the community. The FAA radar left ERI because landings and take offs of private aircraft are down. According to Mr. Youngs, the tower will be leaving

too. Mr. Youngs closed by accusing ERAA of blackmailing the pilots with their SIDA badges. ERAA is not following TSA procedures and TSA has many issues with ERAA.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Finance Committee Chair David Hallman stated that the Finance Committee held a meeting on March 26, 2019. The cash forecast, A/R summary, bills to be paid, finance report, capital fund transactions, and expense reports were reviewed with no questions or concerns. Approval of the Bills to be Paid- Patrick Cappabianca moved and Andrea Zdaniewski seconded. Approved by Yeas: Christopher Parker, Daniel Giannelli, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Gregory Hayes, Patrick Cappabianca, David Hallman, Jr., Marybeth Smialek, and Andrea Zdaniewski.

James Pacansky reviewed the Finance Report. We had a net surplus of \$20,518 for the month of February. Year to date we are favorable to budget \$108,804 with revenues favorable to budget \$26,566 and expenses are less than budget (favorable) to budget \$82,239. In response to an inquiry from Greg Hayes, Mr. Pacansky explained that much of our savings came from the lack of winter we experienced.

Unfinished Business

Ad-Hoc Committee- Mr. Parker reported that the Ad-Hoc completed their revisions to the K-9 policy. Legal review has been completed. Mr. Parker stated that he personally sat down with Lt. Morell to review the proposed policy revisions. Lt. Morell's only concern pertains to the canine wearing a vest while working. The concern is that the canine will think he is working when wearing the vest only. Mr. Parker advised Lt. Morell to inform the Board immediately if this seems to become an issue.

Mr. Cappabianca asked where the 16 hours of training would take place. Mr. Parker explained that the 16 hours a month of training would take place on airport. Mr. Cappabianca asked about mutual aid. Mr. Parker explained that the canine is not allowed on mutual aid calls pending insurance liability determination unless called by DHS, FEMA, PEMA, or TSA. Mr. Cappabianca stated that the community wants the dog to be able to go out to assist in the community. That's what all of this has been about- what the community wants! He is sick of the excuses! Let the dog do what the community wants him to do! Mr. Hayes added that Chief Bogle needs to send a follow up email to all law enforcements agencies that were told last year that the canine was no longer available.

Jennifer Gornall explained that this will be a process. We need to build our documentation for training and certification of the canine. Liability is a major factor. Mr. Parker added that once we have solid documentation, the Board can

decide if the canine will be permitted to participate in mutual aid calls in the community outside of DHS, FEMA, PEMA, and TSA calls. Mr. Parker added the Terry Fleck is a great source on canine liability issues. Mr. Parker thanked the Ad Hoc Committee Members present, as well as missing committee member Tony DeBacco for their efforts on the policy revisions.

Resolutions

Resolution 2019-12 Approval of Revised Canine Policy

Gregory Hayes moved for approval and Andrea Zdaniewski seconded. Approved by Yeas: Christopher Parker, Richard Wagener, Daniel Giannelli, Aaron Susmarski, Gregory Hayes, Patrick Cappabianca, David Hallman, Jr., Marybeth Smialek, and Andrea Zdaniewski.

New Business

Mr. Parker distributed the 2019 ERAA Board Committee assignments.

Mr. Cappabianca made a motion to move as quickly as possible to do what needs to be done in order to get the canine out in the community for mutual aid. Gregory Hayes seconded. Approved by Yeas: Christopher Parker, Marybeth Smialek, Patrick Cappabianca, David Hallman, Jr., Aaron Susmarski, Andrea Zdaniewski, Daniel Giannelli, Richard Wagner, and Gregory Hayes.

Liaison Comments

There were no liaisons present.

Board Member Comments

Mr. Cappabianca stated that he would like to see Mr. Martin and the airport address some of the issues that the pilots are concerned about. He just can't understand why there are problems all of a sudden. Mr. Hayes added that when Mr. Martin finds policies that have not been enforced properly or issues that need addressed, Mr. Martin needs to bring to the Board. No more "poison pen" notices to tenants. Mr. Hayes reminded Mr. Martin that this is not an ego thing; you need to admit when you are wrong! Walls have been built now and it will be hard to break them down.

Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director responded to the following concerns brought up at the podium today during public comments:

- Funding is not based on general aviation. It is a national policy order 5100.38D. The formula used to calculate airport funding has nothing to do with general aviation activity. If an airport does not have passenger service, then no federal funding is received. Mr. Martin referenced Centennial Airport is one of the largest general aviation airports in the country and they receive no federal funding because they have no passenger service.
- Mr. Martin explained that the airport is working with a national security consultant to review our Airport Security Plan (ASP), access control system, and

SIDA. During this process, operational need for a SIDA badge will be re-evaluated for all current badge holders.

- Contrary to what Mr. Youngs stated in his comments, the FAA radar did not leave ERI due to a decrease in general aviation activity. As previously presented to the Board and reported to the local news. The radar moving to Buffalo was a decision made by Congress. The effort to relocate the radar started well before Mr. Martin came to Erie.
- Mr. Martin shared information obtained for our local mall regarding operating a kiosk. There is a monthly fee upwards of \$2,500 a month plus a \$3 million liability insurance requirement. Our liability insurance requirement is not unusual.
- Mr. Martin addressed the accusation that the airport is discriminating against the general aviation pilots. Mr. Martin stated that by bending the rules because the general aviation pilots don't like them would be discriminating against the FBO. North Coast Air complies with the Airport's Rules and Regulations and their operation meets the Minimum Standards.

Mr. Martin reported on the following:

- The work to renovate the café (move access from landside to secured side) is underway.
- Our advertising concession program with FastSigns is moving forward.
- Installation of the new flooring is expected to begin soon.
- The new seating has been ordered.
- The Snow Removal Equipment (SRE) building project will be out to bid soon.
- We continue to prepare for the car rental lot improvements using the car rental CFC's.
- We will be making required upgrades to the Customs and Border Protection facility at ERI. This is the only airport with a Customs office that has not complied yet. The effort is several years overdue.
- Mr. Martin met with representatives from the state economic development team. There may be some opportunities for funding for the airport. We will continue to work with the state.

Marybeth Smialek made a motion to adjourn and David Hallman, Jr. seconded.

Approved by Yeas: Christopher Parker, Daniel Giannelli, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Gregory Hayes, Patrick Cappabianca, David Hallman, Jr., Marybeth Smialek, and Andrea Zdaniewski.

Adjournment: 1:04 PM

Marybeth Smialek, Secretary