



**MINUTES OF THE RICHLAND COUNTY AIRPORT COMMISSION
January 8, 2024 MEETING**

Meeting Details:

Jim Hamilton – L. B. Owens Airport Community/Conference Room
January 8, 2024
12:00 PM

Roll Call:

Commission Members in attendance:

- Mike Kelly, Esquire, Chairman
- Lynn Hutto, Vice Chairman
- John Parrish, Secretary
- Louis Dessau
- Brianna Barrineau
- Prentiss McLaurin, Treasurer
- Cheryl English

The following persons were absent:

Don Weaver
Lindsey Ott
Allison Terracio
Frank Caggiano

Richland County Council & Staff in attendance:

- Peter Cevallos, Airport General Manager
- Michael Maloney, PE, Director, DPW
- Lori Thomas, Asst County Administrator
- Cassandra Cannon, Administrative Coordinator
- Kathy Hayes, Administrative Coordinator

Guest in attendance:

- Peggy Roberson, Eagle Aviation
- Lee Thomas, Eagle Aviation
- Jim Herper, EAA Tenant
- John Pipkin, RCSD
- James Clark, Tenant
- Ryan Turlak-Aircraft Maintenance Services, Inc
- Joseph Benevides-Aircraft Maintenance Services, Inc
- Andy Busbee, MBI

Call to Order

There was a call to order by Chairman Kelly at 12:00pm and a quorum in attendance announced. Chairman Kelly delivered the invocation. Guest were invited to introduce themselves.

Previous Meetings Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on November 13, 2023 were presented for approval. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Airport General Managers Report

A meeting agenda was distributed and presented by Airport General Manager Peter Cevallos.
See attached agenda/report
The agenda was unanimously approved.

Chairman's Report / Executive Committee Report

No report provided

Operations & Facilities Committee Report

Commissioner Parrish provided a report on Airport Operations & Facilities.
See attached report

Executive Session

An Executive Session commenced at 12:30pm to discuss the status of a future contract for Fixed Base Operator (FBO) services. The Executive Session concluded at 3:00pm. No business was conducted nor votes taken while in Executive Session.

Other Items

Commissioner Dessau provided an Initiative Report for the airport.
See attached report

A motion was made by Brianna Barrineau that Chairman Mike Kelly and AGM Peter Cevallos meet with Mr. Lee Thomas of EAA to address the issue of possibly extended the current contract for 18 months. AGM Cevallos will also pursue an RFQ/RFP for other services currently being provided by EAA. The motion was initiated by Brianna Barrineau and seconded by Louis Dessau. This motion was unanimously agreed upon by the remaining Commission members.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Airport Commission will be on Monday, March ,2024 at 12:00 noon.

Adjournment

Meeting has Ended – Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.

Airport General Manager's Report
Richland County Airport Commission Meeting, January 8, 2024

The following information was presented and discussed at the January 8, 2024 Richland County Airport Commission meeting:

→ **Operations Information:**

- Aircraft Operations for November 2023: 718 take-offs and 721 landings
- Aircraft Operations for December 2023: 492 take-offs and 499 landings
- Aircraft Operations for Year-to-Date 2023: 2,751 take-offs and 2,789 landings

→ **Eagle Aviation Update**

- Fuel Sales
- Ramp Fees collected
- Hangar occupancy

→ **Airport Budget & Finance**

- Oct Operational Revenue: \$29,756.98 (Oct 2022 - \$27,173.90)
- Nov Operational Revenue: \$27,775.20 (Nov 2022 - \$27,199.22)
- Year-to-Date Operational Revenue *: \$142,580.27 (YTD FY23 - \$134,464.32)
- Dec Operating Budget Status:
 - Personnel → \$ 74,509.33 (47% of budget)
 - Operations → \$ 137,703.43 (45% of budget)
 - Capital → \$143,171.16 (51% of budget)
 - Total → \$355,383.95 (48% of budget)**

→ **AIP / Project Updates**

- **AIP:** Taxilane Pavement Rehabilitation (Design): Consultant beginning work on project design; anticipate having project advertised to receive bids by April 2024 timeframe
- **SCAC:** Rotating Beacon Replacement Project: work will be performed by State authorized contractor under contract with the SC Aeronautics Commission, in accordance with the State maintenance program (Cost breakdown is 75% State, 25% County). Anticipated timeline is approximately 22 weeks from mid-December 2023.

→ **Other Items**

- Road Closure by Airport
- Media Request – SCETV
- 2024 SCAA Annual Conference

Ops/Facilities to Do's Jim Hamilton LB Owens Airport – Commissioner John Parrish

- Airport managers office downstairs
- FBO RFP
- Flight Training RFP (do we need an actual RFP for this since the FBO isn't contesting this anymore?)
- Custodial Services for building needs service daily
- Beacon – move trees across the street at park or move beacon so it's visible when approaching from the north
- Trash cans for conference room. Currently have to borrow from the line shack for Eagle Aviation
- Spruce up older hangars by painting them. Also, maybe commission local artists to paint aviation themed murals on hangar ends that face Jim Hamilton Blvd.
- Better lighting in hangars
- Beautify Jim Hamilton Blvd by planting trees and plants along the road
- Add airport signage along Jim Hamilton Blvd.
- Self-serve Avgas
- More electrical outlets in T hangars – currently one outlet
- Ramp/hangar lane resurfacing
- Eliminate 2 commissioners
- More public viewing areas of runway/airport tables and seating
- Connect outdoor speaker to Unicom so that communications can be heard outside
- Disabled aircraft plan and equipment. Currently EAA 242 president brings furniture dolly to move planes. Recommend county obtain proper dolly and have aircraft maintenance or someone on standby that can properly move aircraft off runway. Possibly charge for this service?
- Dumpster – remove inside gate and lock requirement for hangar tenants, move dumpster a few feet to safer location, Richland County should assume dumpster rental not the FBO as it is now
- Internet for the entire building is currently provided by the FBO. Richland County should be responsible for this not the FBO.
- Remove Clemson's name from our lobby wall!
- Update furniture in lobby and Pilot's lounge

Proposed Initiatives Jim Hamilton LB Owens Airport – Commissioner Louis F. Dessau

- Arrange for EV charging in parking area
 - Initially to attract more visitors to the airport
 - Possibly to charge county vehicles
 - Appeal for SC Nevis funds
 - Initial outreach: Dominion, Michael Baker, Colite Technologies, BETA
- Arrange for solar panels on hangar roofs
 - Initially to reduce utility bill
 - Eventually to be self-sustaining
 - Initial outreach: Michael Baker, Colite Technologies
- Redevelop instruction at CUB
 - Important source of revenue for airport
 - Flight
 - Aircraft Maintenance
 - Ground operations
 - Follow through with RFP plan do not limit to 1 provider
 - Encourage Propel
 - Explore installation of simulator for instruction in building
 - Promote to local educational institutions
 - University of South Carolina (initiated USC flight club, AIAA)
 - Allen University
 - Benedict College
 - Columbia College
 - Midlands Tech
 - Richland One
 - Student Organizations
 - Research (Engineering, Economic Impact, Environment)
 - ROTC
 - Convenience for Alumni & Donors who travel on private aircraft
 - Make internships available
 - Encourage school visits
 - K-12
 - 4-year institutions
 - Research
 - Revenue generation
 - Improve & optimize hangar lighting, maintenance, WIFI, infrastructure
 - Fuel sales – self-service facility & EV charging stations
 - Auto rental with EV charging
 - Billboard advertising on hangars along Jim Hamilton Blvd
 - Real Estate development = Economic development
 - Promotional events

- Plan for future
 - Establish a viewing area with food service for visitors
 - Cafeteria with farm to table products for City Roots (SCRA & Benedict)
 - Solar Panel roofing
 - Engage Benedict College to do feasibility study
 - Engage USC School of Hospitality Restaurants & Sports Management
 - Establish building for emergency services
 - Presence of Fire Engine to serve airport & Rosewood
 - Presence of Ambulance to serve airport & Rosewood
 - Presence of Sheriff
 - Equipment i.e. aircraft & helicopters
 - Office
 - Presence of Civil Air Patrol
 - Establish building for South Carolina Aviation History
 - Presence of B-25 & other aircraft (SCHAF & Celebrate Freedom)
 - Presence of South Carolina Hall of Fame (CUB SCAA)
 - Establish new & larger building for aircraft maintenance
 - Public Private investment
 - Economic Development for city/county/state
 - Establish new building for educational institutions
 - Hangar for aircraft
 - Area designated for research
 - Area designated for instruction
 - Establish new hangars
 - Public Private investment
 - Establish drone training/competition area
 - Use amusement park and have nets set up
 - Source of revenue for training or competitions

- Advance Aircraft Mobility
 - Arrange for eVTOL charging capability
 - Funding from South Carolina Department of Commerce
 - Technology from Mc Nair Aerospace Center
 - Seek to be first eVTOL flight training center in South East
 - OEM's = Sky Drive, BETA Technologies
 - Incorporate simulator
 - eVTOL aircraft maintenance
 - Explore development of vertiport
 - Pilot project for other SC Airports
 - Medical evacuation/ donor organ transport
 - Light freight transport (UPS/FEDEX/DHL/Amazon)
 - Air Taxi
 - Experimental aircraft (EAA)