

**Aviation Council of Alabama, Inc.  
Monthly Board of Directors Meeting  
Montgomery Regional Airport  
Montgomery, AL  
July 12, 2017**

**MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:**

Jed Blackwell	Jerry Cofield	Menzo Driskell	Ken Gilbert
Thomas Hughes	Nikki Jordan	Russ Kilgore	Col. Roosevelt Lewis
Ray Miller	Art Morris	Bobby Odom	Jeff Powell
Mike Smith	Todd Storey	Kevin Vandenberg	

**Board Members Absent:**

Fred Sington, Courtney Tomberlin, Rick Tucker

**Quorum:**

Present

**Others Present:**

Misty Jones

**Call to Order:**

President Jed Blackwell called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Mr. Ray Miller gave the invocation.

**Consideration of Minutes:**

Jed Blackwell presented the minutes from the monthly board meeting held June 21, 2017. An addition was made to Membership Report to show that the Board approved the printing of 500 legal size envelopes for mailings and 500 larger envelopes for Membership Certificates. An addition was made to Auburn University Department of Aviation to state the Flight Training Program was moved from the College of Business to the AU Aviation Center in July 2014. The Aviation Degree Programs will move from the College of Business to the University College in August 2017. Subject to these changes Mike Smith made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Menzo Driskell. All members unanimously approved.

**Committee Reports:**

**A. Financial Report**

Art Morris reviewed the June 2017 FS. Art and Misty will meet and work on next year's budget to be presented at the August board meeting for approval at September's board meeting. Misty stated that Lynn now has the debit card. Jed Blackwell will contact McClintock, Nelson & Associates concerning the completion of 2015-2016 audit review. Blackwell stated that a year to year comparison will be included on the FS beginning with the new fiscal year. A budget versus actual will be included on the July 2017 FS. Col. Roosevelt Lewis made a motion to approve the financial statement with a second by Bobby Odom. All members approved.

### **B. Legislative Committee Report**

Jeff Powell stated the proposed ATC privatization bill continues to move forward in the House of Representatives. The Senate has not included privatization. In the coming weeks they will discuss the possibility of a continued resolution/extension or consider a multi-year bill. Several board members provided their thoughts on the proposed privatization bill. In the June 2017 board meeting the board authorized Jed Blackwell and Kevin Vandeberg to draft a letter stating ACA's concerns about the bill. Following the discussions today the board is still in agreement to approach this subject in the same way. Jed Blackwell and Kevin Vandeberg agreed to prepare the letter and send to all board members for further review.

### **C. Workshop/Annual Meeting Committee Report**

Russ Kilgore reviewed the list of presenters scheduled for the conference. He stated that sponsorships are greatly needed. Todd Storey mentioned the ballistic parachutes, air bags and shoulder harnesses being used in aircraft and how that affects rescue and recovery efforts. Russ Kilgore will contact Richard Henry, Birmingham FSDO, and suggest that he cover this topic in his conference presentation. Jed stated that Lynn would have the conference registration packets mailed out and information put on the website by Friday, July 14, 2017.

### **D. Website Committee Report**

Todd Storey said progress has been made on the council website over the past few weeks. Additional board meeting minutes have been uploaded. Lynn Weldon has worked on fixing the dead links. Todd will continue working to load additional ALDOT links so they will be easier to access and navigate. Board meeting dates will be added to the calendar along with updated photos. Todd plans to add a membership tab that will have last and current year's members listed.

### **E. Membership Report**

Nikki Jordan stated that the council was invited back to The Bright Star Restaurant in November. Misty Jones said the 500 letter size and catalog envelopes for Membership Certificates had been ordered. Nikki asked the Board to approve a \$250 membership fee for Women in Aviation and Pilots Association of Bessemer. Art Morris made a motion to approve the request with a second by Menzo Driskell. All members approved.

### **F. Academic Relations Committee**

Jerry Cofield requested that the Budget Committee consider a \$3,000 budget item for 2 scholarships next year. He plans to introduce an initiative at the conference to request donations from the membership to support the scholarship fund. Ken Gilbert asked if the donations would be tax deductible. Jed Blackwell will discuss with accountant about setting up a scholarship foundation in order to allow donations to be tax deductible. Blackwell requested the board notify a member of Buzz Sawyer's family regarding the scholarship recipient for 2017.

### **G. Corporate Liaison Committee**

Ken Gilbert stated that he would send to the board members via email the questionnaire to be included in the packet given out at the conference. Thomas Hughes suggested including a door prize for those who complete and return the questionnaire at the end of the conference.

Ray Miller updated the board on Fred Sington's health. Fred is currently going to physical therapy and plans to return to work once his therapy is complete. He plans to attend the board meeting in August.

### **President's Report:**

Jed Blackwell discussed the appointments to the Nominating Committee. This committee will be Kevin Vandeberg as Chairman, Ken Gilbert and Col. Roosevelt Lewis. He stated that at next month's meeting he would

present the board with potential award recipients for this year's conference. He suggested honoring Mr. Phil Perry for his years of service on the ACA.

**ALDOT Report:**

Jed Blackwell said that Dr. Eagerton plans to attend future ACA Board meetings when held in Montgomery. Kevin Vandeberg told the board that Jason Hare is no longer working at the Aeronautics Bureau. He is now working at Auburn University.

**Open Discussion/New Business:**

Ray Miller asked the board for guidance and suggestions on how to handle an abandoned aircraft at his airport. Art Morris advised him to check local abandoned property ordinances. It was also suggested that he send the aircraft owner a certified letter and have the announcement published in the newspaper.

Todd Storey discussed the Air Race Classic. The two ladies that participated for Auburn University finished 28<sup>th</sup>. He also stated that Auburn would be hosting the NIFA competition Oct. 30 – Nov. 4, 2017.

Russ Kilgore stated that Gulf Shores Airport is on the short list to host one of AOPA's Regional Fly-In's.

Todd Storey stated that Auburn University is trying to establish a presence in Gulf Shores by working with the two year college system for something in aircraft maintenance. Col. Roosevelt Lewis mentioned the resistance from the two year college system for aviation related topics.

**Date/Time for Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Board will be held on **Wednesday, August 16, 2017**, at 10:00 a.m. in Alexander City at the Wellborn Muscle Car Museum. The address is 124 Broad Street.

**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn was made at 11:25 a.m. by Russ Kilgore with second by Menzo Driskell. Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mike Smith, Secretary

August 16, 2017

Date