

Aviation Council of Alabama, Inc.  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday January 20, 2010  
Gadsden, Alabama

Present

Fred Sington  
Ray Miller  
Buzz Sawyer  
Wayne Cameron  
Rick Tucker  
Russ Kilgore  
Phil Perry  
Menzo Driskell  
Terry Capps  
Art Morris  
Stephanie Blankenship

Absent

Roosevelt Lewis  
Kent Kelly  
Bill Hutto

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Honorable Sherman Guyton, Mayor of Gadsden, welcomed the board to the City of Gadsden.

President Fred Sington called the meeting to order at 10:25 am.

Ray Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as amended. The motion was seconded by Wayne Cameron. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Terry Capps. A motion was made by Ray Miller and seconded by Menzo Driskell to approve the report as submitted. The motion carried.

**Old Business**

**Legislative Committee Report**

Fred Sington reminded everyone to contact their respective legislative delegation to remind them of the reception at the Renaissance on the tenth of February. There was a brief discussion of budget problems in Montgomery. The bill concerning aviation funding has been stalled for the time being. Stephanie Blankenship reported that Bill Hutto called and said that AOPA wants to know what the ACA position is on HB70. Since no one was yet familiar with HB70 it was decided that the board will investigate and provide a report at the workshop in February.

**By-Laws Committee Report**

Rick Tucker advised that the board needs to take action to recommend changes to the By-Laws to the general membership. Rick Tucker made a motion to recommend the changes proposed by the By-Laws Committee to the general membership at the February workshop. Ray Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Tucker also reminded the board that at least two thirds of the board must be present when the changes are presented.

### Aviation Directory Report

Stephanie Blankenship reported that the directory will not be ready in time for the February workshop.

### Statewide Aviation Impact Forum

A brief discussion of the forum ensued. No action was taken.

### Washington DC Trip

There was a brief discussion concerning the selection of a hotel for the group which resulted in the selection of the Washington Court Hotel. The group will travel to Washington in March to visit with Alabama's legislative delegation.

### ACA Website

Stephanie Blankenship reported that Carl has all of the new information and that hopefully the new website will be up next week. Fred Sington recommended that the Washington trip should be mentioned on the website so that the membership will be aware of the efforts the board is making on a national level.

### Conference Registration

The board resumed the discussion that was tabled in December. The discussion concerned raising registration fees which are currently \$150 for members in advance, \$175 for non-members in advance and \$200 at the door for anyone. Fred Sington recommended raising the fee by \$25 for each category. Phil Perry suggested that the advance member fee should remain at \$150 and the other categories should increase by \$25 each. Ray Miller made a motion to raise each category by \$25. Russ Kilgore seconded the motion. Rick Tucker proposed an amendment to the motion to adjust for hardship situations. This sparked a discussion of defining a hardship and the point at which a cut off should be established. Russ Kilgore said that the Council is here to help any airports that are willing to help themselves and that \$175 should not be out of the ballpark for the type of conference that is provided. Stephanie Blankenship said that we have been able to work with individual members in the past who attended only a portion of the conference. Rick Tucker pointed out that \$150 does not cover the cost of an individual attending the conference and that is why we have to so many sponsorships. Ray Miller called for the question. Fred Sington called for a vote to raise the conference registration fee from \$150 to \$175 and to raise each other category by \$25 each. The majority of the board voted in the affirmative.

Stephanie Blankenship reminded board members that the workshop fees are as follows:

Workshop - \$30

Reception - \$60

Both - \$75

On another note, Ms. Blankenship said that she needs photos of events at airports for the website.

Ms. Blankenship reported that the large prizes need to be purchased for the conference. Russ Kilgore made a motion to spend up to \$1500 to purchase the prizes. Menzo Driskell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ray Miller suggested that the board may wish to consider the possibility of not having a dinner speaker at the conference at some point in the future in order to bring the costs down.

#### ALDOT

There was no report from ALDOT this month.

#### President's Report

President Sington reported that he had nothing further to report that had not already been reported.

#### Executive Director's Report

Stephanie Blankenship presented a proposed agenda for the workshop. The board will meet at 1:00 on the ninth to visit the Statehouse. There was a discussion of assignments for the agenda. Rick Tucker will get Al Jimmerson to discuss the bill that passed last year. Fred Sington will discuss what we are trying to do to improve state funding for aviation.

Stephanie Blankenship displayed the new shirts and took orders for them.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 17<sup>th</sup> in Montgomery.

Menzo Driskell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Phil Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 12:00.



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Art Morris III  
Secretary