

Aviation Council of Alabama, Inc.  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday May 20, 2009

Present

Menzo Driskell  
Rick Tucker  
Fred Sington  
Buzz Sawyer  
Ray Miller  
Bill Hutto  
Wayne Cameron  
Art Morris  
Stephanie Blankenship  
John Eagerton

Absent

Terry Capps  
Russ Kilgore  
Roosevelt Lewis  
Kent Kelly

Meeting was called to order at 9:10 am by President, Fred Sington.

Ray Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as submitted. After a brief discussion the motion was changed to accept the minutes with two corrections. The motion was approved.

John Eagerton provided the following information in his report to the Board.

The Department of Aeronautics is working on its web site so that airports will be able to check on the status of any projects or issues concerning their airport and the Department. Now that the legislation has passed, what will be next? Dr. Eagerton reported that some of the changes that were made to the bill were not desirable but were necessary in order to compromise to get passage. The definition of an "airport hazard" is not as clear as the airports desire and there is a "ticking time bomb", or a reverse serviceability clause in the bill. The reverse serviceability clause basically requires that if any portion of the bill is found to be unconstitutional or unenforceable, then the entire law will be void. The definition of an airport hazard can be determined by administrative rules, essentially using the handbook for FAR part 77. The Department of Aeronautics will meet with a committee to get the administrative rules approved.

Stephanie Blankenship reported that 1622 bills were introduced in this past legislative session and only 400 became law.

Dr. Eagerton reminded everyone that this legislation is a preventive law and not a punitive one. Strong zoning ordinances are to be encouraged.

Rick Tucker said that it is important that we provide information to the ACA membership to explain what was passed and the restrictions on it.

Stephanie Blankenship pointed out that even though the legislation was not perfect; a victory was won simply by obtaining passage and gaining recognition from the legislators.

Bill Hutto recognized the efforts of John Eagerton, Rick Tucker and all of the airports that came together to get the bill passed.

Rick Tucker gave special recognition to Stephanie Blankenship, John Eagerton and Phil Perry for working so hard in Montgomery at the last minute to help get the bill passed. On another note, Dr. Eagerton informed the Board that 12.2 million dollars of stimulus money is on its way to state airports.

Art Morris provided the Treasurer's Report on behalf of Terry Capps. Ray Miller mad a Motion to accept the balance sheet and budget as presented. Wayne Cameron provided a second. The Motion was approved.

Art Morris also presented a proposed budget for the new fiscal year for discussion. Several issues surfaced during the discussion. It was noted that since the annual conference will be conducted in the next fiscal year rather than this one, it should be removed from the current budget. The possibility of changing our fiscal year to coincide with the state and municipal fiscal years was also discussed. Rick Tucker suggested that we may wish to have some type of total resource campaign to help strengthen the revenue of the ACA. Ray Miller suggested that it may be time to study registration fees once again and make adjustments if needed. Fred Sington said that it would be advisable to separate the workshop income and expenses from the legislative reception income and expenses. No action was taken.

Under the subject of Old Business, Fred Sington congratulated everyone for a job well done with the legislation. The Annual Conference Report showed a surplus of \$14,605.68 which exceeded expectations. There was a brief discussion of the past year's activities.

New Business – Fred Sington suggested that we may wish to look at the By Laws to see if we have the maximum number of board members at this time. If it is possible, adding two or three additional members would help the organization to broaden its representation. If we already have the maximum number of board members, then we may wish to consider amending the By Laws.

Fred Sington suggested that we may wish to extend our fiscal year to September this year or change the fiscal year to run from October through September.

Bill Hutto said that it would be beneficial to the Board to have representation from the Mobile and Birmingham areas.

Fred Sington added that there are areas like Albertville and other that would bring a lot of experience to the Board. Rick Tucker, Ray Miller and Fred Sington will review the By Laws and report back to the Board.

Fred Sington extended profound thanks to Rick Tucker for his year of outstanding service as President and to Stephanie Blankenship for the great job that she did in managing all of the various tasks and doing the hard work to get the legislation passed.

A Motion to adjourn the Bard Meeting was made by Ray miller and seconded by Rick Tucker. The Motion was unanimously approved



Art Morris III  
Secretary