

**ACA June Board Meeting Minutes
Montgomery Regional Airport, Montgomery, AL
June 18, 2014, 10:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Stephanie Blankenship | Ray Miller |
| Jerry Cofield | Mike Smith |
| Phil Perry | Russ Kilgore |
| Kevin Vandeberg | Ken Gilbert |
| Art Morris III | Bobby Odom |
| Nikki Jordan | Jed Blackwell |
| Courtney Tomberlin | Todd Storey |
| Rick Tucker | Menzo Driskell |
| Col. Roosevelt Lewis | Fred Sington |

Absent:

Dr. Wayne Cameron

Minutes

On the Financial report a \$750 charge was amended from monthly to annual. Todd Storey recommended listing Board meeting attendees so they may earn credit for membership. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Fred Sington, Mike Smith seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

Art Morris presented the financial statement.

- There may be some duplicate charges to the account that Art is looking into with Regions.
- An update on the Executive Director credit card was presented. An option of a debit card was discussed.

Motion to approve report was made by Fred Sington, Mike Smith seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Legislative Report

No Report

Old Business

- A. Legislative Committee Report: no updates to report (State funding to be discussed in New Business).
- B. ACRP Leadership Training Course.
- C. Membership Committee: Ray Miller discussed the assignment to Board members for contacting new members. Ray has contacted Jasper, Roanoke, Ashland, and Fort Payne. Out of the four he feels one may be interested. Todd Storey contacted Tallassee, Lannett and is pursuing Tuskegee, and Eufaula. Nikki reported Pine Hill is closed (for Thomasville), contacted Addison and Folsom Field. Stephanie reported that Cullman had paid and joined.

New Business

State Funding Deficiencies: Jerry Cofield presented an update on the state funding deficiencies. In 2012, when the tax changed, the burden to report exempt status was put on the carriers and fuel providers. Reimbursement to exempt carriers was retroactive back to 2012 when asked for and the State Revenue Department depleted the account. 13 of 57 projects were funded by ALDOT. Stephanie Blankenship reported that currently there were no numbers as to which airports, which projects and the amounts funded.

Bobby Odom reported that at the time the ALDOT letters came out the FAA ADO was not aware of the funding issues. The topic as to how projects were prioritized was discussed as there has been no information released by ALDOT. Roosevelt Lewis discussed alternative means of ALDOT and State funding options. After 2012 the wholesaler had to collect the tax and each user had to file for exempt status.

Rick Tucker reminded the Board that in 2011 at the ACA Annual Meeting Dr. Eagerton presented his projections that the change in the fuel tax would have on funding availability basically raising revenue from \$650,000 to \$1,800,000. Rick also reported that in Huntsville the air carriers have made an adjustment, possibly because of the increased tax, and have begun more tankering through of fuel. Phil Perry concurred that Montgomery is experiencing the same decrease.

Jerry Cofield and Stephanie Blankenship recommended the Board get educated on this issue and be prepared to take a unified stand on this issue when ALDOT hosts local information meetings. Jerry Cofield suggested we request financial information from ALDOT and the State; Todd Storey recommended that the Board also offer to help in any way. Jed Blackwell asked for some history on the 2011 tax legislation. Art Morris and Rick Tucker reviewed the past events leading through today.

- Changed the way the tax was collected.
- Increased Jet and AVGAS taxes.
- Exemptions initially were changed; later in 2013 amended (fuel and excise taxes) to continue to include international in addition to hubbing.

ALDOT Report

No Report

President's Report

Jerry Cofield discussed the status of wind towers and wind evaluation towers. There is a concern that there are no legislative guidelines to apply to wind tower erection. The Bill that was killed last year was discussed along with whether it should be re-introduced.

Executive Director's Report

- A. 2014 Alabama Airport Conference: Stephanie Blankenship will be on site next week to meet and coordinate the conference at the State Park.
- B. Web Site: The current site is not able to allow direct access to change information. A revised site is recommended that allows prompt changes by ACA staff and Board. Todd Storey recommended links to Alabama Aviator and adding a member's only section, but do this after the annual conference. Until then provide current information on the annual conference. Stephanie Blankenship presented an option to spend \$1,500 to upgrade the current web site now and then add various content after the conference. Motion to update the website and content up to \$1,500 prior to the conference was made by Todd Storey, seconded by Fred Sington. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.
- C. Letter to the Governor about conference and proclamation. Motion to send a letter to the Governor inviting him to the conference and issue a proclamation recognizing the virtue of aviation in Alabama was made by Ray Miller, seconded by Rick Tucker. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Next meeting will be July 16, 2014 in Montgomery.

Motion to adjourn made by Nikki Jordan, Jed Blackwell seconded.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kevin Vandeberg

Secretary, ACA Board of Directors

7/15/2014