

AVIATION COUNCIL OF ALABAMA
MINUTES

JULY 21, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Col. Roosevelt J. Lewis	President
Tom Sharp, Jr.	Treasurer
Phil B. Perry	Secretary
John B. Lehrter	Past President
Ray Miller	Director
Art Morris	Director
Luanne Hayes	Director
William J. Parker	Director

OTHERS PRESENT:

Stephanie Blankenship	Headland Airport
Russ Kilgore	JKA-Gulf Shores
Dr. John Eagerton	State Aeronautics

Meeting called to order - 10:33 a.m.

Condolences given for Mr. Donald J. Reynolds. Letter to be drafted to Mrs. Reynolds from the council.

Welcome to newest member from the Dothan area, Art Morris. Tom Sharp presented motion to postpone minutes till next meeting. Motion seconded by Russ Kilgore. President report- thanks to John Leherter for a great annual meeting. Half-ton + of boxes of records were delivered to Col. Lewis from Betty.

FINANCIAL

Tom gave financial report. April revenue \$19,651. May revenue \$17,636. June revenue \$10,488. \$37,000 total outstanding as of June. List needs to be cleaned up and current and past due invoices sent out. Discussion as to when invoices should be sent out. Remove all names of those who do not want to be a member. List is in process of being cleaned up. Once we get the list cleaned up the executive board should meet to come up with a course of action. Robin stated that there was no real follow-up to the invoices sent out in October. Executive committee will discuss and come back with a recommendation. Discussion of whether or not to charge fee according to size of individual airports. Robin stated that would require IRS approval. Luanne-\$500 is a lot of money for real small airport, maybe we need a lesser fee. Motion made by Russ to approve financial report seconded by John L.

SPEAKER (Dr. Eagerton)

Dr. Eagerton introduced as speaker. He stated that the FAA is working on grants. The State is working with the FAA to issue the States grants. When the FAA grant offer is signed and returned to the FAA send a copy to the State and that triggers them to issue the State grant. FAA to issue grants by early September Copies of signed grant offers should be sent to Aeronautics Bureau. State has received grant requests total approx. \$750 thousand dollars. State will have money left over. The State is in real good shape the DOT is putting in about \$1M dollars this year. We should have a surplus of funds to match all the federal projects. We do have a couple of small request that don't involve federal funding and we should be able to address but our decision will be made only after the FAA projects. Money from DOT to ALDOT should be used to match federal money. First lower priority project now might get funded as there is some residual money at the state level. All in all, a good funding year.

John L.- Surplus- does it get carried over?

John E. - yes, it stays in the ALDOT program.

Russ - Military funded program?

John E. - Not having to be used as much as in the past - but--some planning programs are being funded 50/50.

Russ - Is the Aeronautics Bureau stabilizing itself within ALDOT? As the head of ALDOT changes.....

John E. - institutionalize our program in DOT. That is what the Bureau is working toward, at several levels. But the ACA should always keep a dialog with the ALDOT head whomever that is.

Tom S. - Leftover money, air carrier airports

John E. - No plan to fund air carrier airports GA airports at set levels.

RO - Fund for airports is one of our (ACA) number one goal. Safety/NPIAS _____ top priority, have these airports been worked with as we have surplus money?

John E. - The number of airports with safety problems have been reduced from about 53 to 9 - NPIAS - if not on it - the surplus will find money isn't available. Goal is to get all airports into the NPIAS. Balance between helping airports get in the NPIAS and helping airports that are in the NPIAS.

RO - An ACA board member can call on these airports to see if we can help.

Tom S. - On the State website --list passing airports and violations.

John E. -- The University of AL scored rating system for airports to download to the States system. Set up like restaurant scores.

RO -- Status of State/FAA MOU now?

John E. -- Comments are coming in. Customer service standards from FAA are to be adopted.

T. S. -- Any bad comments?

John E. -- Seven (7) comments (constructive criticism), four (4) positive, and three (3) negative based on misunderstanding. Copy to be sent out, MOU signed within a month to six weeks.

RO -- Policy on in-kind services?

John E. -- In-kind has always been a problem. Airports didn't supply enough supporting documentation. Very different -- not ready to go forward with a recommendation. It's an administrative nightmare.

RO -- not "surplus money" just money that hasn't been spoken for yet. Peak season -\$750 thousand that state will use to meet

Russ - Changes in the program are working beautifully. Concerns about delays have not come to pass.

The work from ALDOT is appreciated.

William Parker -- System planning?

John E. -- working with FAA to help airports develop a "business plan". This may happen next year.

Airports must be operated as a business and must be able to sell the airport to the community.

RO -- Thanks, John, for the update.

CONFERENCE REPORT - Tom Sharp

With the increased cost of the conference location and all that went with it the cost of the conference increased considerably. We went in the hole \$10,000 on the conference.

Ray - Breakout the conference expenses separately on the September report?

Tom/Robin - We do that now.

Tom- We can maybe do something together with the state next year.

Russ - Places on the beach are expensive.

Luanne - Are there deals with the state..... Point Clear, etc.?

John E. - Luanne, your side of the state. (State Lodge)

Luanne - Closed for 18 months.

Ray - Montgomery might be best.

Tom - Perdido, rooms to comp, meeting halls, etc.

DISCUSSION -Meeting

RO - will put this on executive committee meeting agenda. Please look around, everyone. We need to lock in a date early. John (E), you may want to work with the State.

John E. I'll work with anyone from the ACA. There is a need for the "nuts & bolts" of airport operations like the SAMA - Auburn Workshop with breakout rooms.

Tom - That's where we need to be.

John E. - Hands on discussions, basic things.

RO - Mini-workshops in various parts of the state.

John L. - Betty did such a good job at the conference.

RO - Hold the Legislative Committee Report for next time.

LuAnn/Robin - no new members to report.

Luann/Robin/Tom S. - to clean up A/R list.

Russ - Alabama Homeland Security Task Force - nothing to report.

RO- Ray Miller, Art Morris - welcome

Art - glad to be a part.

RO - Executive committee - time of annual meeting, next time. Executive Board--chat about executive director.

Web page more than 4,000 hits, very active. Need to update the web page, pictures, etc. If you have any web page information direct it to RO.

Tom S. - It takes \$200 a month to maintain the web page.

RO - It's the point of contact, we want to keep it going.

Art - et. Al. - discussion on web page/hosting.

RO - Marketing initiative; need articles, state stuff as well. University imitative, projects for students, etc.

Discussion on possible projects.

Next meeting - August 18th, Talladega, 10:30 a.m.

Russ - motion to adjourn , S L - seconded.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. B. Miller', written in a cursive style.