

Aviation Council of Alabama, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday October 21, 2009
Gulf Shores, Alabama

Present

Buzz Sawyer
Terry Capps
Roosevelt Lewis
Wayne Cameron
Menzo Driskell
Rick Tucker
Phil Perry
Russ Kilgore
Art Morris
Stephanie Blankenship

Absent

Bill Hutto
Ray Miller
Kent Kelly
Fred Sington

Also present was Dr. John Eagerton from ALDOT.

Vice-President Menzo Driskell called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.

Rick Tucker made a motion to amend the minutes of the previous meeting and to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Roosevelt Lewis. The amendment provided for a correction in the spelling of an individual's name. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Terry Capps. Terry noted that some budget items had been added to reflect the changes in the fiscal year. A motion was made by Roosevelt Lewis and seconded by Phil Perry to approve the report as submitted. The motion carried.

Old Business

Legislative Committee Report

Rick Tucker began the Legislative Committee report by giving the floor to Dr. John Eagerton. Dr. Eagerton told the Board the FAA has advised that FAR Part 77 will eventually go away and all airspace regulations will be combined in to one document. This has raised some concerns with the Airspace Safety Act since it refers to FAR Part 77. Dr. Eagerton's staff is currently working on administrative rules for the airspace legislation. Dr. Eagerton advised that the ACA should monitor the situation as FAR Part 77 is phased out. On another subject, Dr. Eagerton reported that, according to Rans Black (FAA Jackson ADO), ALPs must currently meet GIS standards only if there are changes in runway endpoints. Otherwise, the ALP does not have to be in a GIS format for the time being.

By-Laws Committee Report

Rick Tucker reported that Al Jimmerson still needs to talk to an accountant familiar with 501C corporations regarding the changes that should be made in the ACA by-laws.

Aviation Directory Report

Stephanie Blankenship presented cost information regarding the directory. She also requested further feedback on the content that should go in the directory.

Roosevelt Lewis said that the directory should include information on why airports are important to local communities and the state and the economic impact of airports.

Stephanie Blankenship said that there are plusses and minuses of making the directory available to everyone or exclusively to our membership and that we need to give this some consideration.

Russ Kilgore suggested that it should be offered as a benefit of membership in the ACA but also stressed the importance of including a section in the directory explaining the economic benefits of aviation. Mr. Kilgore said that it is important to get the directories in the hands of legislators. Mr. Kilgore also said that the directory should be more of an airports directory than an aviation directory.

There was discussion concerning the type of binder that should be used.

Rick Tucker suggested that ACA membership should be listed in a separate and easily updatable section and that we should include information that explains how to sponsor ACA events.

Stephanie Blankenship said that she would look at options for binding and advertising.

New Business

State Wide Aviation Forum

Stephanie Blankenship said that a state wide aviation forum would be a great way to partner with other entities and to garner positive publicity on behalf of the ACA.

John Eagerton reported that Arkansas did a similar event that was like a jobs fair. He believes that Alabama can do much better than Arkansas. Dr. Eagerton said that the event should showcase the relationship between aviation and jobs and that the event venue should be at an airport to get as many people as possible to attend.

Ms. Blankenship suggested that the ACA could partner with power companies and suppliers to host the event.

Roosevelt Lewis suggested that schools and the state EDA should be involved.

Dr. Eagerton said that sometime in the spring of next year may be a good time for the event since it would coincide with the centennial of powered flight in Alabama.

Art Morris suggested that perhaps smaller regional events could be planned to supplement the major event in order to increase local community participation.

Ms. Blankenship said that she will organize a planning committee.

Ms. Blankenship said that Madden and Associates had submitted a proposal for ordering printed materials such as letterhead, envelopes and business cards. Ms. Blankenship requested permission to purchase the largest volume in order to get the best unit pricing. Roosevelt Lewis made a motion to authorize Ms. Blankenship to order the large volume purchase of letterhead, envelopes, business cards and related materials through Madden

and Associates. The motion was seconded by Russ Kilgore. There being no further discussion, the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

ALDOT

Dr. John Eagerton reported that the Consultant's Conference went well. All firms that do business in Alabama were represented. There is proposed legislation to add more oversight to EMS helicopter operations and it is attached to the FAA AIP reauthorization legislation.

Rick Tucker reported on the status of the ARFF legislation. The FAA has told the Congress that they do not need the proposed legislation. It is possible that a watered down version of the legislation may pass at some point.

Dr. Eagerton reported that when you do pavement rehabilitation, you will have to do a friction test as well.

A general discussion of various ALDOT projects followed. A question was posed concerning the general safety of funding. Dr. Eagerton said that the fund pool is in good shape for this year.

Executive Director's Report

Stephanie Blankenship reported on the FAA/ALDOT Consultant's Workshop. She said that all went well and the consultants appreciated the ACA's sponsorship of the lunch. Ms. Blankenship submitted the following three organizations for membership renewal: KBR, St. Clair County Airport, Dothan Regional Airport. Rick Tucker made a motion to accept the membership renewals. Wayne Cameron provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Blankenship gave a report on the passing of Ray Miller's wife on the previous day. All board members extend their prayers and sympathy to Ray Miller.

Ms. Blankenship asked the board if there was interest in making another legislative trip to Washington in March. The unanimous answer was in the affirmative.

Ms. Blankenship reported that the contract with the Renaissance in Montgomery has been signed for the annual conference.

A suggestion was made to draft a resolution to thank Seth Hammett for his service to Alabama and to aviation to be presented to him on February 10, 2010.

Ms. Blankenship said that the website needed to be updated and that Madden and Associates will be put in touch with Dr. Chris Joiner, the website caretaker.

Ms. Blankenship passed around copies of the new logo for board members to view.

Dr. Eagerton offered his congratulations to Buzz Sawyer and Bill Benton for their induction into the Alabama Aviation Hall of Fame.

Wayne Cameron reminded board members that Part 139 airports will have to begin thinking about adding a SMS section to their Certification manuals in the near future.

The date and time of the next meeting was determined to be November 18th at 10:00 am at the Montgomery Regional Airport.

Ms. Blankenship said the Glen Zorn (candidate for Ag Commissioner) will attend our next meeting. Russ Kilgore suggested that Mr. McMillan should also be invited.

Terry Capps made a motion to adjourn at 12:07. The motion was seconded by Roosevelt Lewis and subsequently passed unanimously.



Art Morris III
Secretary