

Aviation Council of Alabama
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2006

The Board of Directors met in session Wednesday, December, 18, 2006 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the Montgomery Airport Authority.

Those members and guests present were:

President: Phil B. Perry
Vice President Russ Kilgore
Past President Bill Hutto
Wayne Cameron
Terry Capps
Col. Ro Lewis
Fred Sington
Menzo Driskell
Kent Kelly
Executive Director: Stephanie Blankenship
Aeronautics Director: Dr. John Eagerton

Members Absent:

Treasurer: Art Morris
Secretary Rick Tucker
Kent Kelly
Ray Miller

President Perry called for the approval of the minutes from the regular meeting on November 15, 2006. Motion for approval of the minutes, as presented, was made by Terry Capps and seconded by Ray Miller, the vote was unanimous for approval of the December 18, 2006 minutes.

President Perry noted that in the absence of Treasurer Art Morris the board would review the financial statements provided by Executive Director Stephanie Blankenship. A total of \$44,765.16 was reported in the bank; a Reconciliation, Balance Sheet and Deposit Statement were also presented to the Board. VP Russ Kilgore moved to accept the report and the motion was seconded by Fred Sington. The vote was unanimous for acceptance of the report.

President Perry introduced Aeronautics Bureau Director, Dr. John Eagerton for his report. He stated that the general consensus is that the Democratic New Congress has a favorable view of General Aviation. User Fees are not expected to receive favorable support and the FAA is uncertain about AIP budgetary issues beyond 2007. He also discussed at length the New system put in place by the Aeronautics Bureau to streamline, simplify, and improve: Handling of Invoices from Contractors, Payment Procedures, and Administrative Procedures by airports and contractors. He advised that his staff has reviewed the Current FAA advisory Circulars and existing procedures to minimize adverse user impact in setting up the new process.

Special emphasis by the FAA IG, due to Hurricane Katrina experiences, has prompted a closer look at record keeping, documentation, and oversight roles. DOT has worked closely with Rans Black, and his FAA District Office and the newly enacted procedures have speeded up in recent weeks.

He also stressed the need to have written contracts with Contractors, Attorneys, and Accountants and have them reflect their specific charge for work done, by specific project. All costs must be identified and tracked by Airport Project, Contractor, and Consultant. The goal is to get the sloppiness out of the system. Further, he stated that the Grants Program was doing well. He also announced that the FAA has entered into an agreement with DOT that will permit ALDOT to become a Project Sponsor; \$1.6M in seed money has been allocated to permit On-call Consultants to do Design work and Bid Services.

He also pointed out that the Bureau has emphasized runway approaches lately so that our airports can comply with approach requirements; we must keep trees out of the approach zone. Additionally, he stated that the inspector has passed out a self-inspection checklist to facilitate periodic reviews of airport operations. Also, an E-Z Pay Plan is available for these smaller projects; Albertville will host the first project. He concluded his remarks by stating that it had been a good year and wishes everyone Happy Holidays. President Perry thanked Dr. Eagerton for his report.

OLD BUSINESS:

President Perry reported that he had sent a letter to Secretary Ron Sparks regarding the accuracy of fuel meters at airports. The Board was concerned regarding the apparent communications gap concerning this issue. Perry advised that we have been advise that no one should be shut down and that we have one year to come within compliance of Agricultural metering rules. He promised to provide Board Members with a copy of an expected Secretary of Agriculture Letter, outlining policies.

The president next asked Fred Sington to report on the planned Legislative Day program. Plans are ongoing, but a Motion by VP Russ Kilgore and seconded by Wayne Cameron unanimously approved up a \$5000.00 budget to put on a Luncheon at the RSA Building on April 4, 2007 provided all the details with this date could be worked out.

Next, the Tall Structures Legislation was discussed. President Perry and the Board concluded that we must support Airport Authorities and Sponsors the ability to use Eminent Domain laws for airports. Fred Sington, Chair of the Legislative Committee was directed by the president to closely track this issue and keep the Board advised.

President Perry stated that the Directors and Officers insurance has been ordered, but the \$1150.00 had not been paid. We expect insurance to be in place by the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:

2007 Airport Conference: Discussed speaker for the Thursday night Airport Awards

Banquet to be Dr. Wayne Ates through Happy Talk International for a fee of \$2,000 plus expenses. Motion was made and seconded considering \$1,000 has been raise through sponsorship with a promise of the other \$1,000 coming from another sponsorship. Stephanie was given the power to sign the contract.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Perry appointed Terry Capps to Chair the Membership Committee. Others members are Rick Tucker and Col. Ro Lewis.

President Appointed Dr. Wayne Cameron as Chair of the By-Laws Committee. Members are VP Russ Kilgore and Art Morris.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2007 at 10:00 am back at the Montgomery Regional Airport and lunch will be served. **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

Respectfully Submitted by

Roosevelt Lewis