

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Aviation Council of Alabama

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on October 1, 2003, at the Montgomery Regional Airport. Board members present were Mr. John Lehrter, A.A.E., President; Colonel Roosevelt Lewis, Vice President; Mr. Tom Sharp, Treasurer; Mr. William Hutto, A.A.E., Secretary; Ms. Betty Meyer, Acting Executive Director; Daniel Boone, Esq.; Ms. Luanne Hayes; Mr. Kent Kelly; Mr. Russ Kilgore; Mr. Bill Parker; and Mr. Phil Perry. Others in attendance were Mr. Hal Bloom, President of The Bloom Group, and Ms. Robin Jones, Padgett Business Services of Huntsville.

President John Lehrter, A.A.E., called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

President Lehrter then declared a quorum.

Minutes

The minutes from the August 12, 2003, regular Board of Directors meeting were considered. Mr. Parker motioned for approval; seconded by Colonel Lewis. All voted aye.

Financial Report

Mr. Tom Sharp presented the financial reports for August and September, which included the list of checks written over this time period. Colonel Lewis motioned for approval of the financial report; seconded by Mr. Perry. All voted aye.

Old Business

ACA Annual Conference – Ms. Meyer made a site visit to the Perdido Beach Resort on August 25th. Careful coordination will be required since the meeting rooms and the exhibits will be on different floors. The exhibit packets are now available for prospective exhibitors. Mr. Jim Tooms has agreed to be the master of ceremonies again this year.

Legislative Update – Mr. Bloom announced that Colonel Lewis and Ms. Meyer appeared before the League of Municipalities’ Legislative Committee. They were well received, and the committee has agreed to endorse the ACA’s proposed legislation. Mr. Bloom also stated that the Speaker of the House, Mr. Seth Hammett, has become an advocate for airports; an attempt was made by the Bloom Group to “line item” some matching money working with Speaker Hammett. The legislature, however, did not wish to move away from the Governor’s direction in his proposed budget. Mr. Bloom recommends that the revised legislation have a more narrow focus in an effort to secure a dedicated source of revenue for airports; he says that the Bloom Group is now recognized as the ACA’s spokesman, and he looks forward to continuing the education process in the legislature necessary for successful passage of the bill.

Channeling Committee – no report at this time.

New Business

New Members – Ms. Meyer read the list of applications received since August. Colonel Lewis motioned for approval; seconded by Mr. Kelly. All voted aye.

Membership Committee – Mr. Perry has asked to be excused from the committee due to work constraints; he regrets not being able to give the committee the time it needs. Ms. Hayes and Mr. Kelly agreed to serve as co-chairs of the committee. They will discuss options and make a report to the board.

Executive Director’s Report

- Ms. Meyer announced that the website, www.flyalabama.org, is two years old this month. It has been successful; it receives, for example, over 3,000 visitors per month. Possible updates to the website, such as changing servers and adding the ability to do ecommerce, were discussed.
- Ms. Meyer attended the Tennessee Airport Conference in August; many good contacts were made that may prove helpful to the ACA.
- Ms. Meyer also said that good publicity was obtained at the Shelby County Airshow.
- The fall issue of the newsletter needs another sponsor; it is scheduled to be mailed by November 1st.
- Mr. Brian Smith, President of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., has responded by telephone to the letter of support sent by the ACA. He will follow-up the positive, verbal comments in a letter to the board.
- The Economic Development Association of Alabama has invited the ACA to participate in their October workshop.
- The Alabama Aviation Hall of Fame ceremonies will be on October 25th.

- The Tennessee Aviation Hall of Fame ceremonies will be on November 8th.
- The board was reminded by Ms. Meyer to check the website's calendar for upcoming events.
- Ms. Meyer reminded the Nominating Committee that the nominating process should soon begin to remain in compliance with the bylaws.

Next Meeting – The next meeting will be December 10, 2003, at 10:30 a.m. in the offices of the Montgomery Airport Authority.

Mr. Hutto asked about the status of the Madison County Executive Airport Authority's potential lawsuit with the Aeronautics Bureau. Mr. Sharp said it has not progressed due to the Aeronautics Bureau's efforts to allow airports to become exempt from the channeling requirements.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

John B. Lehrter, A.A.E.
President

William T. Hutto, Jr., A.A.E
Secretary