

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Aviation Council of Alabama

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on February 25, 2004, 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. Bill Hutto, A.A.E., Secretary; Ms. Betty Meyer, Acting Executive Director; Mr. Dan Boone, Esq.; Mr. Kent Kelly; Mr. Russ Kilgore; and Mr. Phil Perry. Others in attendance were Dr. John Eagerton, Chief, Aeronautics Bureau, and Ms. Robin Jones, Padgett Business Services of Huntsville.

President John Lehrter, A.A.E., called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m.

President Lehrter then declared a quorum.

Minutes

The minutes from the January 14, 2004, regular Board of Directors meeting were considered. Ms. Meyer motioned for approval; seconded by Mr. Kelley. All voted aye.

Financial Report

Mr. Tom Sharp presented the financial report for January 2004 (copy attached). Colonel Lewis motioned for approval of the financial report; seconded by Mr. Boone. All voted aye.

Meeting with Mr. McInnes and Dr. Eagerton

Colonel Lewis reported that Tom Sharp, Bill Hutto, and he met recently with Mr. Joe McInnes, Director of the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), and Dr. John Eagerton, Chief, Aeronautics Bureau. The meeting was positive, cordial; and the desire to work together on mutual interests and common goals was reinforced along with the desire to work toward improved communications between ALDOT and the Council.

Aeronautics Bureau Update

Dr. Eagerton announced that the Aeronautics Bureau is working on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Airports District Office that will outline the agreed upon “channeling” procedures. Copies of the MOU were given to the Board members; in addition, copies will be mailed to each airport in the state. Written comments will be accepted until March 23, 2004.

Old Business

ACA Annual Conference – The conference program is complete, but confirmations are still needed for a few of the speakers. Ms. Meyer encouraged Board members to promote the conference.

Membership Recruitment – Ms. Hayes, who could not attend the meeting, faxed a list of airports that have been previous members of the Council to President Lehrter. At his suggestion, the Board members volunteered to call various airports on the list to encourage them to rejoin.

Homeland Security – Mr. Kilgore reported that there have not been any additional meetings.

New Board Member – Ms. Meyer motioned to extend an invitation to join the Board to Mr. Ray Miller from Talledega; Seconded by Mr. Sharp. All voted aye.

Nominating Committee – Mr. Sharp announced the proposed slate of officers: President, Colonel Lewis; Vice President, Bill Hutto; Secretary, Phil Perry; Treasurer, Tom Sharp; and Past President, John Lehrter.

New Members – Ms. Meyer read the list of new member applications (copy attached). Colonel Lewis motioned to approve the new members; seconded by Mr. Sharp. All voted aye.

New Business

Executive Director’s Report

- Ms. Meyer announced that the Council was recently recognized by the Birmingham Aero Club.
- The Aviation Fellowship has expressed an interest in a partnership with the Council. The Board members agreed to review the information; she will let them know their proposal is under review.
- The Alabama League of Municipality’s annual convention will be held in Birmingham this year. The exhibitor days are May 24th and 25th. Colonel Lewis motioned to approve the \$800 exhibitor registration fee;

Mr. Kilgore seconded the motion. All voted aye. Colonel Lewis volunteered to work at the booth on May 24th; Mr. Sharp, May 25th.

Memorandum of Understanding – The Board agreed that an official response to the proposed MOU will be appropriate. It will be discussed at the March meeting.

Proposed Legislation – Two currently proposed bills in the state legislature, HB444 and HB369, were discussed. The Board decided that it would not be appropriate to take Council positions on them. It was agreed, however, to provide the information to the membership so individual positions can be taken as needed.

Funding Legislation – Mr. Kilgore asked Dr. Eagerton if an airport funding bill is being considered. Dr. Eagerton said one has not been proposed, but he feels that a bill with the best chance of success is one that would eliminate the “cap” and set the fuel tax rates at the southeastern average. Mr. Sharp motioned to form a Legislative Committee composed of Colonel Lewis, Tom Sharp, and Bill Hutto as Chairman; seconded by Phil Perry. All voted aye. The committee will work with Dr. Eagerton.

President Lehrter, on behalf of the Board, thanked Mr. Perry for his continued hospitality.

Next Meeting – The next meeting will be March 10, 2004, at 10:30 a.m. in the offices of the Montgomery Airport Authority.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:44 p.m.

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

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