

**AVIATION COUNCIL OF ALABAMA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MONTGOMERY REGIONAL AIRPORT BOARD ROOM
March 21, 2007
MINUTES**

The Board of Directors met in session Wednesday, March 21, 2007 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 (10:15 a.m.)
Vice President	Russ Kilgore
Secretary:	Rick Tucker
Treasurer:	Art Morris
Past President	Bill Hutto (at 10:30 a.m.)
Members:	Wayne Cameron Terry Capps Buzz Sawyer Fred Sington Ray Miller Menzo Driskell
Executive Director:	Stephanie Blankenship

Members Absent:

	Col. Ro Lewis
AL Aero Director:	Dr. John Eagerton

Vice President Russ Kilgore called on Secretary Rick Tucker for the Minutes of the February 21, 2007 meeting. Secretary Tucker explained there had been technical difficulty with the recording of the February 21st meeting and the minutes as presented are in draft form. A transcript of the meeting has been provided by Susan in Phil Perry's office and will be used to update the draft version. He requested the board delay action on the minutes until the April Board Meeting. A motion was made by Member Ray Miller to delay action on the February 21, 2007 Board of Director's Minutes until the April meeting, and seconded by Member Menzo Driskell, the motion was approved unanimously.

Vice President Kilgore called on Treasurer Art Morris for the March Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Morris presented the balance sheet and profit and loss statements for February for review. He noted that approximately \$16,000 had been received for memberships and conference registrations in February; pointed out that the expense for the accounting review had not been budgeted for in 2007 but would be included in the budget for 2008; and the deposits paid for the 2008 conference had also not been anticipated and budgeted in 2007. Following general discussion, a motion was made by Member Ray Miller, seconded by Board Member Menzo Driskell to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, and the vote was unanimous for approval of the March Treasurer's Report.

Vice President Kilgore stated that there were no representatives from the ALDOT Aeronautics Bureau attending the meeting as Dr. John Eagerton was in Washington, DC attending a NASAD Conference. He asked whether anyone had any particular issues that needed to be addressed by Dr. Eagerton's office. Member Ray Miller asked whether anyone knew of resources for construction of new hangars. Following discussion, it was recommended to request entitlement monies.

Member Fred Sington noted he had discussed with Vice President Russ Kilgore scheduling a meeting with Representative Seth Hammett to discuss possible upcoming tall structure (height) legislation. The Retirement System of Alabama has developed a directory of the Alabama Legislature with contact information and he will try to provide copies to the rest of the Board. General discussion indicated that it would be difficult during this legislative session to get any new legislation passed but efforts should be made to at least get the legislation introduced and to the committee level.

President Phil Perry called for any new business. Member Ray Miller inquired about FAA grants for 2007. Following discussion, it was noted that the grants for 2007 have been released as well as official notification and that funding for 2007 was going to be tight. Vice President Russ Kilgore asked any board members attending the AAAE Conference in June to make an effort to meet with Alabama Congressional members regarding issues relative to Alabama airports and the Aviation Council of Alabama.

President Phil Perry presented his President's Report. He announced he had been on Troy Public Radio twice recently and scheduled again this week with Stephanie Blankenship discussing airport issues. He noted the Troy Public Radio Program began when Bill Hutto was president of the association and provided excellent coverage for the association and airport issues. He encouraged incoming President Russ Kilgore to continue with the radio program and offered to substitute for him as needed. President Perry also participated in "Car Talk" on the Public Radio Station which is scheduled to air later this month.

Stephanie Blankenship presented the Executive Director's Report. She distributed a draft of the program for the upcoming Alabama Airport Conference and reviewed the anticipated program participants. Following discussion, it was agreed that President Perry would call to invite Ashley Moore, NATA to speak at the Conference on the topic of fueling system requirements as well as send a formal letter to Ron Sparks, Commissioner on Agriculture & Industries confirming their participation as program speakers at the conference. She noted that the breakout sessions will be set up as roundtable discussions to stimulate discussion from the participants. She reported to-date there are 89 registrants for the conference with revenue of \$16,850; 7 sponsorships for a total of \$6,000; and 12 exhibitors and she is continuing efforts to solicit additional sponsorships and exhibitors. Name tags for this year's conference will identify the participants by categories such as directors, exhibitors, sponsors, etc. For next year's conference the cost for guests should cover the expenses for that guest. Following discussion, it was decided not to seek a new sponsor for the conference's keynote guest speaker and to use the overall sponsorship funds to pay those expenses.

Vice President Russ Kilgore will work with Phil Perry, Rick Tucker and Art Morris to develop a draft position paper on the FAA Reauthorization Bill. The draft position paper will be included in conference packages with a questionnaire asking for members to provide input. Vice President Kilgore will address the position paper at the Opening Session as well as the Closing Session. A final position paper will be presented for consideration at the regular May Board of Directors Meeting in anticipation of presenting to members of the Alabama Congressional Delegation during the AAAE Annual Conference in June 2007.

President Perry submitted the suggestions, as provided by ALDOT, for the Airport Awards to be presented at the upcoming Annual Conference: Airport of the Year – Ozark and Fairhope. Following discussion, member Ray Miller moved to select Fairhope for the Airport of the Year Award, there being no second on the motion, said motion failed. After further discussion, member Fred Sington made a motion to award the Career Contribution in Aviation Award to Bill Benton and to table the Airport of the Year, Airport Management and Front Door Awards, said motion was seconded by Vice President Russ Kilgore, and upon vote, the motion passed unanimously. A motion was made by member Wayne Cameron for the Board to establish the criteria and selection process for the awards to be presented in the future, seconded by Fred Sington, and upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Stephanie Blankenship announced she will be attending the League of Municipalities Conference which is scheduled for April 22 and 23, 2007 in Huntsville.

The next meeting of the Board of the Aviation Council of Alabama is scheduled for Thursday, April 12, 2007 beginning at 8:30 a.m. in Birmingham. Any board members who can be present are asked to attend a pre-conference meeting at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 11th prior to the kick off of the conference. Location to be determined. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

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