

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Aviation Council of Alabama

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on May 6, 2003, at the Montgomery Regional Airport. Board members present were Mr. John Lehrter, A.A.E., President; Colonel Roosevelt Lewis, Vice President; Mr. William Hutto, A.A.E., Secretary; Ms. Betty Meyer; Mr. Kent Kelly; Mr. Phil Perry; Mr. Russ Kilgore; Mr. Daniel Boone, Esq.; Mr. Bill Parker; and Ms. Luanne Hayes. Others in attendance were Dr. John Eagerton, Director of the Aeronautics Bureau, and Mr. Hal Bloom, President of the Bloom Group.

President John Lehrter, A.A.E., called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

President Lehrter then declared a quorum.

The minutes from two previous meetings, the February 12, 2003, Board of Director's Meeting and the March 29, 2003, Annual Meeting, were considered. Colonel Roosevelt Lewis motioned to approve both sets of minutes; Mr. Kent Kelly seconded the motion. All voted aye.

Ms. Betty Meyer presented the financial report (copy attached). During the presentation, she reported that the revenues from the 2003 Annual Conference are expected to exceed expenses by approximately \$5,000. Mr. Russ Kilgore motioned to approve the financial report; Mr. Phil Perry seconded the motion. All voted aye.

President Lehrter welcomed the two new Board members: Ms. Luanne Hayes, Guntersville, Alabama, and Mr. Bill Parker, Headland, Alabama.

Ms. Betty Meyer gave an overview of the 2003 Annual Conference. A large number of new members attended, and it was an overall success. In addition, favorable comments have been received on the conference's location.

In the Executive Director's report, Ms. Meyer reported on the recently held League of Cities Conference. Ms. Luanne Hayes, Ms. Robin Jones, Mr. Daniel Boone, and Mr. Tom Sharp assisted Ms. Meyer in representing the Council as an exhibitor. The conference was valuable as they were able to discuss the Council and its mission with elected officials from various parts of the state. In addition, the Council has been invited to attend the League of Cities' Legislative Day on September 4, 2003.

Dr. John Eagerton presented the Aeronautics Bureau's report. He complimented the Council on a successful conference and announced he may send a letter to the state's airports strongly recommending they attend next year's conference since answers to key questions are provided during the sessions. He discussed changes that have been made to HB 122 and presented a summary of the adjustments (copy attached). Dr. Eagerton said that the changes have been made due to requests by various legislators and representatives from the Huntsville Madison County Airport Authority.

Mr. Hal Bloom further elaborated on the status of HB 122. He informed the Board that the Director of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Mr. Joe McInnes, has agreed to support the bill and has sent a memo to the Governor expressing his support. Also, the Chairman of the committee where the bill must be considered has requested that the Governor include it in his upcoming tax package. Mr. Bill Hutto asked if the proposed provision to abolish the international airport authority will be controversial. Colonel Lewis said the issue has a history of being controversial. Dr. Eagerton said that Huntsville has a proposed bill changing some aspects of their airport authority and that it may be possible to include this provision in their bill. He suggested that the Council ask Mr. Bloom to discuss this with the Huntsville representatives. Colonel Lewis motioned to remove that provision from the bill and to support the other four items. Mr. Hutto seconded the motion for discussion. After further review and discussion, it was agreed that the Board members should first review the bill in detail before voting. Colonel Lewis then withdrew his motion. Ms. Meyer will email copies of the bill to the Board members for their review. President Lehrter asked the members to email him their comments.

Ms. Meyer stated the next issue of the newsletter is being developed. She requested input from the Board members.

President Lehrter reminded everyone that two Board vacancies remain; he asked the members to begin thinking about good candidates and to focus on the west side of the state.

Ms. Meyer said the tentative location plans for the 2004 Annual Conference are to return to the gulf coast. The location and dates of the conference are to be determined.

Ms. Meyer read over the list of new members (copy attached). Mr. Kilgore motioned to approve them as new members; Colonel Lewis seconded the motion. All voted aye.

Several additional items were discussed:

- President Lehrter announced that he is looking for a volunteer from the Board to become Membership Director.

- The Director's and Officer's insurance is up for renewal. Mr. Kilgore motioned to renew the insurance; Colonel Lewis seconded the motion. All voted aye.
- President Lehrter reminded the Board that Ms. Meyer had agreed to temporarily serve as Executive Director through the conference. She has indicated a willingness to continue on a temporary basis if someone else will perform the membership duties, but she recommends a professional be retained. This item will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Ms. Meyer informed the Board that the website is being updated. The work will be done over time as funds allow.
- The next meeting will be June 3, 2003, at 10:30 a.m. in the offices of the Montgomery Regional Airport Authority.
- Mr. Daniel Boone reinforced earlier, positive comments about the League of Cities conference. He said it was a good opportunity to talk with elected officials that we may not otherwise be able to reach.
- Colonel Lewis announced upcoming events at the Tuskegee Municipal Airport.
- Dr. Eagerton stated that the economic impact statements and video are now being officially released.
- Mr. Bill Parker said the economic development convention will be held in June at Orange Beach. He suggested that the Council consider being represented at the conference; he will forward the information to Ms. Meyer.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

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

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