

REGULAR MEETING  
ASHEVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY  
FEBRUARY 22, 2008  
8:30 AM

The Asheville Regional Airport Authority ("Authority") met on Friday, February 22, 2008, at 8:30 AM in the Conference Room at the Authority's Administrative Offices, Asheville Regional Airport ("Airport"), 61 Terminal Drive, Suite 1, Fletcher, NC 28732.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** David R. Hillier, Chairman; Rhett Grotzinger, Vice-Chairman; Susan Fisher, Gerard P. Mozian and Chuck McGrady (Ex-Officio Member)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** James E. Ellis, Secretary/Treasurer; David Gantt and Brownie Newman

**STAFF AND LEGAL COUNSEL PRESENT:** Victor Buchanan, Authority Legal Counsel; David N. Edwards, Jr., A.A.E., Airport Director ("Director"); D. David Nantz, Director of Operations and Maintenance; Royce Holden, IT Manager; Kevin Howell, Development Manager; Patti Michel, Director of Marketing and Public Relations; Beverley Vassell, Director of Administration and Finance; Kevan Smith, Public Safety Captain, and Debra Roman, Recording Secretary.

**STAFF ABSENT:** C. Jeffery Augram, Chief of Public Safety

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Chairman welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 8:31 AM.

**APPEARANCES:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**A. Approval of the Asheville Regional Airport Authority, January 18, 2008, Regular Scheduled Meeting Minutes:**

Mr. Grotzinger moved to approve the minutes for the January 18, 2008, Regular Meeting. Mr. Mozian seconded the motion, and it carried by a unanimous vote.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Approval of Conflict-of-Interest and Code-of-Conduct Policy:** Mr. Buchanan relayed to the Board that on November 27, 2007 the Authority presented proposed revisions to the Joint Agency Agreement to the Asheville City Council for approval. The Proposed revisions included conflict of interest language that would have

restricted the appointment of persons to the Authority Board which may have a known direct or indirect business relationship with the Authority at the time of appointment.

The City of Asheville approved the revisions to the Joint Agency agreement at the November 27, 2007 meeting will the requirement that a formal conflict of interest policy was to be adopted by the Authority.

Authority's Legal Counsel had drafted a Conflict-of-Interest and a Code-of-Conduct Policy for the Authority Board's review and approval.

Mrs. Fisher moved to approve the Conflict-of Interest and Code-of-Conduct Policy. Mr. Mozian seconded the motion, and it carried by a unanimous vote. Staff will incorporate the policy into the Authority's Administrative Policies and Procedures manual.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**A. Resolution of Appreciation for Bryan Freeborn:** The Chairman read a Resolution of Appreciation to Bryan Freeborn regarding his service to the Authority. The Chairman reflected on the past two years of accomplishments by Mr. Freeborn. The Resolution read as follows:

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*Asheville Regional Airport Authority*

*~ Resolution ~*

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**WHEREAS**, the Asheville Regional Airport Authority was created by the City of Asheville and the County of Buncombe for the purpose of maintaining, operating, regulating and improving the Asheville Regional Airport; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Asheville appointed Bryan Freeborn as a Member of the Asheville Regional Airport Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, Bryan Freeborn served as a Board Member of the Asheville Regional Airport Authority from February 2006 through January 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, Bryan Freeborn served as Chairman of the Authority from July 2006 through January 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, during his tenure the Authority focused on growth and development, customer service, and environmental improvements and has strengthened its role and image in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the leadership by Bryan Freeborn in his capacity as Chairman allowed the Authority to continue its success, especially in the area of becoming increasingly independent in its operation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Asheville Regional Airport Authority expresses its sincere thanks and gratitude for ***Bryan Freeborn's*** tireless and dedicated efforts in serving the needs of the Asheville Regional Airport Authority and the community.

**Adopted this 22nd day of February, 2008**

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David R. Hillier  
Chairman

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The Authority thanked Mr. Freeborn for his dedication and accomplishments while serving the Asheville Regional Airport Authority.

**DIRECTORS REPORT:**

**A. Status of Potential Northwest/Delta Merger:** – The Director relayed to the Board that a merger could take place soon. However, the Director stated that the pilot unions appear to be the major hurdle at this time which may impact the merger outcome. The Director also stated that there are discussions going on concerning which of the hubs would be retain. Members of Congress have expressed a negative view towards a proposed merger, but the ultimate decision rests with the United States Justice Department.

There was a discussion regarding the possible affect the merger could have on air service at the airport.

**B. Update on the Selection of the Deputy Airport Director Position:** The Director relayed to the Board that Mr. Frank Miller (Pensacola Regional Airport Director) and Mr. Joe McKinney (Executive Director of Land of Sky Regional Commission) assisted in the interview process. The Director stated that four candidates had been chosen to be interviewed and that Mr. Lew S. Bleiweis (Louisville International Airport Properties Manager) had been chosen unanimously by the Interview Panel. The Director relayed that Mr. Bleiweis would officially start on April 21, 2008 and then gave a brief background on him. The Director hoped to introduce Mr. Bleiweis at the March Board Meeting.

C. **Upcoming WLOS Airport Story:** The Director relayed to the Board that he was interviewed by Mr. Larry Blunt (WLOS News Reporter) about air service here at the Asheville Regional Airport. The Director stated that this would be a two part series that would start on February 25, 2008. The Director stated that he felt this would be a good and fair story.

The Director relayed to the Board that when Staff sent a notice of termination to Republic Parking concerning the current parking contract, Republic challenged the timing of the notice. Staff provided 30 days notice, however the month-to-month contract between the Authority and Republic sets out a 90 day written notice sent by certified mail. Staff felt that the Request for Proposals (RFP) should have been official notice that the contract may be terminated if Republic failed to be the successful proposer. The RFP was issued in September/October of 2007. However, the RFP was not sent by certified mail. As such, the Director stated that he would honor this clause in the contract and give Republic Parking 90 day's termination notice. The new operator (Standard Parking) will take over parking operations May 1, 2008.

#### **INFORMATION SECTION:**

Mr. Howell gave an in depth report/presentation on each of the construction projects currently underway at the airport.

The Director stated that Mr. Mozian had requested information on why there was such a large dip in the Overall Satisfaction with Airport Facilities Report in the June/July time frame. The Director relayed to the Board that there was nothing specific to attribute to the low ratings, it was an anomaly.

There was a discussion regarding the possible addition of larger aircraft and additional flights during the upcoming busy season.

**AUTHORITY MEMBERS REPORT:** The Chairman firstly relayed to the Board that he had requested that Mr. Howell give a more in depth report/presentation on his department's operations this month. The Chairman then requested that at future Board meetings he would like to see this done by other departments as well, continuing with the Marketing Department next month.

Secondly, the Chairman relayed to the Board that under the old operating agreement the Authority was obligated to meet every month. The Chairman stated that under the new agreement the Authority was not obligated to meet each month and that the Chairman or 4 Board Members could cancel a meeting. The Chairman continued to state that he may, along with the input from the other Board Members, use his authority to cancel any meetings that are not necessary.

**PUBLIC AND TENANT'S COMMENTS:** None

**CLOSED SESSION:** At 9:31 AM Mr. Grotzinger moved to go into closed session pursuant to subsection 143-318.11 (a) (3) of the General Statutes of North Carolina, in order to consult with the Asheville Regional Airport Authority's Legal Counsel, and during this closed session, or a portion thereof, the Asheville Regional Airport Authority expects to receive advice from its Legal Counsel concerning an existing lawsuit pending in the Buncombe County Superior Court, file number 08 CvS 697, the parties to which are Asheville Jet, Inc., d/b/a Million Air Asheville, as plaintiff, and the City of Asheville, the Asheville Regional Airport Authority, and the County of Buncombe, as defendants. Mr. Mozian seconded the motion and it carried by a unanimous vote.

**OPEN SESSION:** Open session resumed at 10:14 AM.

Mr. McGrady requested to be included in more of the e-mail correspondence that has been recently going around.

The Director stated that he would look into this.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mrs. Fisher moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 AM. Mr. Grotzinger seconded the motion, and it carried by a unanimous vote.

The next regular meeting of the Authority will be on Friday, March 14, 2008 at 8:30 AM in the Conference Room at the Authority's Administrative Offices, Asheville Regional Airport, 61 Terminal Drive, Suite 1, Fletcher, NC 28732.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fisher  
Acting Secretary-Treasurer

Approved:

David R. Hiller  
Chairman