

**ERIE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
MEETING
Wednesday, August 28, 2024**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Erie Regional Airport Authority duly posted and advertised, held in the second floor conference room of the Intermodal Center, 208 East Bayfront Parkway, Erie, PA 16507.

Attendees:

Daniel Giannelli	Derek Martin	Keith Walach, citizen City of Erie
Brian Slawin	Michelle Magee	Jack Bendig, Hangar 20
Erin Kerner	Jennifer Gornall	Ed Tropper, Aviation Flyers
Eric Rogers	James Pacansky	
Ryan Bergquist	Ian Bogle	
David Hallman, Jr.		
Dorothy Smith-Frazier		

Participated by Phone: Aaron Susmarski

Board President Daniel Giannelli opened the meeting at 11:59 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Giannelli asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Brian Slawin moved, and Ryan Bergquist seconded. Approved by Yeas: David Hallman, Jr., Aaron Susmarski, Erin Kerner, Daniel Giannelli, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist.

Public Comments

Jack Bendig of Hangar 20 stated he was not at the May 28th Board Meeting but wanted to clarify that the area outside of his hangar is specifically designed to slope coming out to easily pull aircraft. He added that if you look up his name you will see how many patents he has. Mr. Bendig also suggested that Board Members get badged, come take a look at the gate, and talk to the hangar tenants. Mr. Bendig stated that he filed a right to know request for a video that was played at the May meeting as well as notes taken during the meeting.

Keith Wallach, a citizen of the city of Erie offered his congratulations on the new service and the Fly Erie Fund. He asked the following: is this Breeze flight seasonal only, with American Airlines at 98% capacity will they add more destinations when aircraft and pilots become available, and is there a possibility of other bargain airlines to service Erie?

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Giannelli asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 24, 2024 Board Meeting. Dorothy Smith-Frazier moved to approve, and David Hallman, Jr. seconded.

Approved by Yeas: David Hallman, Jr., Aaron Susmarski, Erin Kerner, Daniel Giannelli, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist.

Announce Executive Sessions- Mr. Giannelli announced that the Board held an Executive Session on August 7, 2024, at the Knox Law Firm to receive privileged legal advice. He announced that the Board also held an Executive Session today prior to this public meeting for real estate matters.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee- Finance Committee Chair David Hallman, Jr. stated that the Finance Committee met on August 27, 2024. Mr. Hallman reported that the cash forecast, July financials, bills to be paid, capital fund transactions, and expense reports were reviewed. He added that we show a deficit but continue to outperform for the year. Mr. Hallman stated that the Finance Committee recommends approval of the bills. Brian Slawin made the motion for approval seconded by Ryan Bergquist. Approved by Yeas: David Hallman, Jr., Aaron Susmarski, Erin Kerner, Daniel Giannelli, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist.

Financial Report- James Pacansky reported a deficit of \$92,868 for the month of July bringing our year to date deficit to \$666,723. We are favorable to budget \$41,450 with revenue unfavorable \$64,351 and expenses favorable \$105,801.

Public Relations Committee- Brian Slawin announced that this committee held meetings on July 31, 2024, and August 16, 2024, for the purpose of evaluating the current provider of public relations and marketing services. Eric Rogers thanked Mr. Slawin for grabbing the bull by the horns with his efforts leading this committee. Mr. Slawin added that there has been much positive feedback pertaining to the new Breeze service including great back and forth dialogue on social media. He commended Michelle Magee for those efforts.

There was no **Unfinished Business**.

Resolutions

Resolution 2024-11 Approval of Change Order No. 1 with Kirila- Taxiway A Rehabilitation Phase 2- Mr. Martin explained that this is for the installation of the construction gate for better access to the project site. Millcreek Township approved; they did not approve the use of Shenk.

ERIE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION 2024-11

APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 WITH KIRILA- TAXIWAY A. REHABILITATION PHASE 2

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Erie Regional Airport Authority Board of Directors, that the Executive Director is authorized to execute Change Order No. 1 with Kirila Contractors, Inc. for Taxiway A rehabilitation project Phase 2 for installation of a temporary gate for construction access at Grant Avenue for a not to exceed amount of \$10,463.25.

Brian Slawin made a motion to approve, and Eric Rogers seconded. Approved by All: David Hallman Jr., Aaron Susmarski, Erin Kerner, Daniel Giannelli, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist.

There was no **New Business**, and no **Liaison Comments** (no liaisons present).

Board Member Comments

Mr. Hallman stated that he respectfully disagrees with Mr. Bendig's sentiments. He explained that in his experience the airport is incredibly generous with access to the airfield for general aviation.

Mr. Slawin announced that Board Member Peter Burton was honored with a lifetime of service to the community award by the Hagen History Center. Congratulations to Peter Burton!

Eric Rogers announced that this will be his last meeting as he has taken a job opportunity that will not allow him to attend monthly board meetings. Mr. Giannelli thanked Mr. Rogers for his service on the Board and his very valuable contributions.

Executive Director's Report

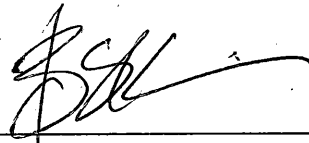
Mr. Martin reported/shared the following:

- We spoke about applying for a Small Community Air Service Development (SCASD) grant in June for assistance securing a low cost carrier to Florida. With the announcement of the new Breeze service to Orlando, the grant is no longer needed. Breeze Airways will begin service twice a week between Erie and Orlando on November 6, 2024.
- Our annual FAA Part 139 safety inspection went well. The inspector found that a truck at North Coast Air had a faded sign. North Coast replaced it immediately. Also, our Director of Airfield Operations needed to update 3 pages in the Airport Certification Manual (ACM). This has also already been completed and both items have been closed out by the FAA.
- The local media coverage of the Breeze announcement was a great bump for our marketing efforts. The promotion of the new service will include TV ads, radio ads, a direct email campaign, and online/social media.
- We will be hosting another Onboard with Autism event on August 31st in partnership with TSA, American Airlines, and Autism Society- Northwestern PA. The event filled quickly and is always well received by the participants. TSA, American Airlines, and our own staff all volunteer their time to assist with the event.

- There is an air service roundtable in September that we will be well represented at the conference.
- We are working with the Aviation Council of PA's legislative group to get another \$25 million from the state in funds for airports.
- American Airlines has a 92% load factor. They reached out after the announcement of the new Breeze service to offer their congratulations. American may consider another destination and/or larger aircraft. Low cost carriers usually do not compete against each other in any airport. Our most likely option would be to increase the number of flights and/or add more destinations.

Erin Kerner made a motion to adjourn, and Eric Rogers seconded. Approved by Yeas: David Hallman, Jr., Aaron Susmarski, Erin Kerner, Daniel Giannelli, Eric Rogers, Brian Slawin, Dorothy Smith-Frazier, and Ryan Bergquist.

Adjournment: 12:26 PM



~~Peter Burton, Secretary~~

Brian Slawin,
Vice President

