

**ERIE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
MEETING
Wednesday, June 22, 2022**

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 Debbie Bowen
Brian Slawin Michelle Magee Lou Aliota, Millcreek
Andrea Zdaniewski James Pacansky Val Myers, Times-News
Richard Wagner Ian Bogle Annette Mossberg, Wilkins Rd Neighbors
Gregory Hayes Timothy Wachter Terry Scutella, County Council Dist 1
David Hallman, Jr. Jack Bendig, Hangar 20
Sue Weber Debbie Bowen
Marybeth Smialek Brad Peganoff, Stonegate Community
Grayson Patterson, NCA
William Patterson, NCA
Ed Tropper, Aviation Flyers
Fred Rush

Participated By Zoom: Aaron Susmarski

Board President Daniel Giannelli opened the meeting at 12:10 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America. He announced that the Board met in an Executive Session at 11:00 am this morning to receive legal advice related to the Wilkins Road property lawsuit and other items.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Giannelli asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Brian Slawin made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and Andrea Zdaniewski seconded. Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Gregory Hayes, Andrea Zdaniewski, Brian Slawin, David Hallman, Jr., and Sue Weber.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Giannelli asked for a motion to approve the minutes of last month's Board Meeting. Marybeth Smialek moved to approve, and David Hallman, Jr. seconded.

Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Gregory Hayes, Andrea Zdaniewski, Brian Slawin, and David Hallman, Jr.
Abstained: Sue Weber

Mr. Giannelli asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2022, Special Board Meeting. Brian Slawin moved to approve, and Andrea Zdaniewski seconded.

Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Gregory Hayes, Andrea Zdaniewski, Brian Slawin, and David Hallman, Jr.
Abstained: Sue Weber

Public Comments

Mr. Giannelli made the following statement prior to Public Comments:

Public Comments are an opportunity for members of the public to speak on the policies and business of the Authority. It is not an opportunity to defame any specific individual.

Mr. Giannelli reminded the public that they have five minutes to speak.

Lou Aliota of Millcreek Township stated that the Board is aware of what he has been asking for the past 18 months. He stated that his appointment to this Board was rejected by Kathy Dahlkemper back in 2021. Mr. Aliota went on to describe himself as an individual who takes pride in the community, he lives in. He is very interested in school districts as well as the gaming authority. He stated that an email he sent on June 21, 2022, has received no response orally or written. Mr. Aliota stated that the Board members here took an oath of office to protect the United States Constitution. Regarding Wilkins Road, the developer has now sued the Airport Authority. The cost to taxpayers is rising. He went on to say that the mistakes made by this Board, a Board that took an oath, are embarrassing. Mr. Aliota stated the OIG or Auditor General should investigate. Mr. Aliota strongly suggested to Mr. Giannelli that meetings are video taped or recorded so the minutes are true.

Annette Mossburg of Wilkins Road stated that it is no surprise that the developer is taking the Airport to court. She urged the Board to pay the money the developer has into the deal because it is not the developer's fault. Mr. Martin signed the agreement weeks before the Board approved it. Ms. Mossburg again asked the Board to pay the developer the \$50,000 and end this! Remove the property from sale! The FAA said the Airport can keep it. Ms. Mossburg also asked the Board to pass a resolution so this will never happen again. The emotional stress on the neighbors of Wilkins Road has taken its toll.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Finance Committee Chair Marybeth Smialek reported that the Committee met on June 21, 2022. The Committee reviewed the financial report, current Cash Forecast and AR Summary, Capital Fund Transactions, Bills to be Paid, and the Business Expense Reports with no concerns. We had a good month in May. Even with revenue under budget, expenses are very controlled. Load factors are strong with American Airlines at 97%!

Ms. Smialek stated the Finance Committee recommends approval of the bills and the Committee makes the motion to approve. Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Gregory Hayes, Andrea Zdaniewski, Brian Slawin, David Hallman, Jr., and Sue Weber.

Financial Report- James Pacansky reviewed the May Finance Report. The net surplus for the month of May was \$48,859. Year to date, the net surplus is \$25,1112. We are favorable to budget year to date \$95,299 with revenue unfavorable to budget \$115,730 and expenses favorable to budget \$211,029.

Personnel Committee Meeting- Committee Chair Aaron Susmarski stated that the Committee held a meeting on June 9, 2022. During the meeting, the Committee agreed to recommend the use of the same survey as last year.

Ad-Hoc Public Relations/Marketing- Committee Chair Dan Giannelli reported that the Committee held a meeting on June 13, 2022, to interview finalists- two firms. The Committee is waiting for final proposals which should be received within the next week then the Committee will make final recommendations to the full Board.

There was no **Unfinished Business**.

Resolutions

Resolution 2022-14 Approval of Change Order No. 3- Terminal Apron Rehabilitation and Expansion Project- Mr. Martin explained that during the construction of the terminal apron rehabilitation and expansion project, it was discovered that five concrete pavement slabs were broken. This change order approves the repairs to the areas of slab failure and will be paid for with federal CARES funds. In response to a question from Ms. Smialek, Mr. Martin stated that the contractors did not cause the slab failure. In response to a question from Mr. Slawin, Chief Bogle explained that the age of the concrete varies depending on the area with some areas as old as 30-40 years.

David Hallman, Jr. moved, and Brian Slawin seconded. Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Giannelli, Gregory Hayes, Andrea Zdaniewski, Brian Slawin, David Hallman, Jr., and Sue Weber.

There was no **New Business or Liaison Comments**.

Board Member Comments

Mr. Wagner thinks it might be time to put the brakes on some of our projects due to the rising cost of everything. We need to stretch this remaining CARES money a little bit. Mr. Wagner added that maybe some of these projects don't need to be done immediately. He asks that we look at doing some of them in the future so we can stretch the money and get more value for our money. Mr. Slawin asked if Mr. Wagner had specific projects in mind that should be deferred or is he just making a general comment. Mr. Wagner said his comment is in general. He asked if the runways have to be repaired? Ms. Smialek noted that our capital fund transactions are down significantly. Mr. Martin explained that we have approximately \$1 million left in CARES funds for operations and maintenance reimbursements. Funds for the taxi lane and general aviation ramp have been earmarked by Congressman Kelly. No additional CARES money is being used for projects other than the slab repairs approved today in Resolution 2022-14. When bids are too high, we throw them all out and start over. Mr. Slawin stated that we should let the professionals do their jobs. Mr. Giannelli added that we still have about \$3.5 million in unrestricted cash plus the \$1 million of CARES. Mr. Pacansky confirmed and stated that we are still owed for three federal reimbursements awaiting approval. In response to a question from

Ms. Zdaniewski, Mr. Martin reiterated that our reserves are not tapped to be used for any upcoming projects.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Martin reported the following:

- In 2013, the Authority hosted the annual conference for the Aviation Council of Pennsylvania. We are looking to host the Northeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives (NEC AAAE) annual conference in 2023 at no cost to the Authority. More information to follow should we be selected.
- We are working with American Airlines and United Airlines for a one year extension on their current airline operating agreements (AOA). Sheri Ernico is assisting our effort. He reported that he and James Pacansky have an upcoming call scheduled with Sheri.
- The meeting with County Executive Brenton Davis was held June 1, 2022. Mr. Giannelli and Ms. Zdaniewski attended as well. An overview of the Airport's financials was discussed. Mr. Davis indicated that he is interested in securing additional funds for the Airport and taking a more regional approach to the authorities. Mr. Giannelli added that it was a very positive meeting.

Marybeth Smialek made a motion to adjourn, and Andrea Zdaniewski seconded.

Approved by Yeas: Marybeth Smialek, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Daniel Gianelli, Gregory Hayes, Andrea Zdaniewski, Brian Slawin, David Hallman, Jr., and Sue Weber.

Adjournment: 12:40 PM

David Hallman, Jr., Secretary