



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**AVIATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FORT LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE AIRPORT
RED TAILS CONFERENCE ROOM
6000 NW 21 AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2024 – 1:30 P.M.**

Board Members	Attendance	Cumulative Attendance 7/2023 - 6/2024	
		Present	Absent
Mark Volchek, Chair	P	4	1
William Gilbert, Vice Chair	P	4	1
David Ash	P	3	2
Kelly Gordon	P	4	1
Dr. Jeff Johnson	P	4	1
Dr. Ed Kwoka	P	4	1
Robert Laughlin	P	5	0
Kevin Macelhaney	A	4	1
Valerie Vitale	P	5	0
John Vratsinas	P	4	1
Non-Voting			
Commissioner Marlon Bolton	A	3	2
Jeff Helyer, City of Oakland Park	P	4	1

Airport/City Staff

Rufus A. James, Airport Director
Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
Khant Myat, Project Manager II
Chelsea Jones Finley, Program Manager
Angelia Basto, Senior Financial Administrator
Krystal Permanan, Airport Business Development Administrator
Miguel Laca, Financial Administrator
Linda Blanco, Senior Administrative Assistant

Others

Debbie Puia, Lofts of Palm Aire
Stephen Martin, AOPA
Travis Werth, JM Family Enterprises
Tom O'Donnell, Kimley-Horn and Associates
Matt Morrall, Outside Counsel for JM Family Enterprises
Nicholas Sonnenberg, Makers Air
Jennifer Valencia, Makers Air
John Caccamise, JM Family Enterprises
Don Campion, Banyan Air Service
Marshall Myles, FXE Jet Center
Steve Wherry, Wherry Law
Ignacio Martinez, W Aviation
Leonel Leon, W Aviation

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Volchek called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum was determined to be present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **January 25, 2024**

Motion made by Mr. Gilbert, seconded by Dr. Johnson, to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2024, meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

VOTING ITEMS

1. First Amendment to Lease Agreement - Parcel 8H JM Family Automotive LLC

Chair Volchek said the City indicated the lease amendment was not finished yet and asked the Board to pull the item from their agenda. He noted there were ongoing discussions between JM Family Enterprises (JM) and W Aviation regarding the access road.

Dr. Kwoka stated that in the past, in situations like this, they had tabled the item. Mr. Vratsinas requested a brief overview. Chair Volchek requested an overview from Mr. James and then he wanted to hear from the tenants involved so that everyone was aware of what was taking place. Mr. James stated the Airport did a title search on that section of road, pursuant to the City Attorney's recommendation and determined there were no issues with it. The title search also revealed an access easement agreement with FPL that provides power to their backup generator. The process of identifying the utility location was completed yesterday by FPL and the City surveyor would need to create a new survey, and an access easement agreement would be presented to the City Commission with review by FPL. Mr. James said there were discussions between JM and W Aviation.

Mr. Morrall, representing JM, described issues that had arisen with W Aviation regarding use of the access easement. He stated JM used the easement for fuel truck access and that W Aviation staff had been crossing the access easement and this presented safety and access issues for JM. He requested the Board approve the lease amendment and let the City Commission make a determination about W Aviation. He added that the road was used by JM for over 40 years.

Mr. Wherry, representing W Aviation, said they discussed possible alternate accesses for JM that would allow W Aviation to accommodate their expansion, which he described. He stated making the access road into an exclusive road to JM would "decapitate" their terminal from their airfield operations.

Chair Volchek said there was a need for further discussions between these tenants. Mr. Vratsinas suggested tabling the item and allowing the tenants to hopefully come to an agreement. Dr. Kwoka said the Board would not approve anything unless both parties agreed on a solution.

Motion made by Dr. Kwoka, seconded by Mr. Gilbert, to table this item to the next meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE ITEMS

A. Noise Compatibility Program

Ms. Permanan reported that in January, there were eight aircraft exceeding the recommended decibel level at Noise Monitor 2 on Runway 9, but none generated any noise reports from the community. In January, there were a total of 43 noise reports from residents.

Ms. Permanan provided an update on the status of Noise Monitor 1. It had been assigned an address and Oakland Park was working with FPL to get power to the monitor.

Ms. Puia asked about Noise Monitor 6 and Mr. James replied it was in the southwest portion of the Airport and this location was chosen to capture everything that flew in and out of the Airport. He stated it was as accurate as a monitor located in Ms. Puia's backyard would be. The equipment was sophisticated enough to differentiate noise as being from motorcycles and lawn mowers.

Dr. Kwoka pointed out that the FAA determined that the noise abatement procedures were voluntary.

Mr. James said FXE, their consultant and hopefully a representative from air traffic control would make a presentation to the Lofts of Palm Aire HOA committee in April regarding the Noise Compatibility Program.

B. Development and Construction

Mr. Harrison reported the Midfield Run-Up Expansion Project was progressing. He said paving was complete and they were awaiting the materials for the blast shield. It would take 30 days to cure the pavement before they would do the final striping.

With regard to the Runway 9 Run-Up Area Relocation and Southend Taxiways Project, Mr. Harrison stated they demolished the blast fence and were reshaping the end of Taxiway Alpha 1. They would pave the area in the next couple of weeks in preparation for the next phase.

Mr. Harrison reported on February 5, they had begun the mill and overlay on a section of Taxiway Golf. This should last approximately 100 days.

Operational data was included in the Board packet. Mr. Harrison noted growth in operations, the helistop and customs.

C. Arrearages

There are currently no rent or fuel flowage arrearages.

D. Communication to the City Commission

None

E. Other Items

Mr. James said these items would be deferred to the Board's next meeting to allow time for the Board members' FXE projects tour.

I. Community Events

II. Public Comments

Board members left the meeting room to tour the ongoing projects at 2:15 P.M. and returned at 3:07 P.M. When they returned, Board members and Mr. James discussed noise issues and how the Airport addressed them.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 3:12 P.M.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 1:30 P.M.

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.