

## SPRINGFIELD AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Springfield Airport Authority was called to order by Chair Vala at 5:01 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, in the Conference Room at the Authority's offices at Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport.

PRESENT: Frank J. Vala, Chair  
Elizabeth Delheimer, Commissioner  
Dianne Hardwick, Commissioner\*  
Mike Houston, Commissioner  
Susan R. Shea, Commissioner  
R. Beverly Peters, Secretary\*  
Jim Lestikow, Attorney  
Mark Hanna, Executive Director  
Ken Boyle, Deputy Executive Director  
Roger Blickensderfer, Director of Facilities & Maintenance  
\* Attended remotely via telephone or video conference

ABSENT: Tim Franke, Commissioner  
Mark Kinnaman, Treasurer

VISITORS: None

Chair Vala asked for a motion regarding the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 20, 2021. Commissioner Houston made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 20, 2021, seconded by Commissioner Shea and carried with a roll call vote of 5 ayes/0 nays.

In the absence of Treasurer Kinnaman, Commissioner Houston gave the Treasurer's Report. Commissioner Houston also presented the Committee Chair Report. Commissioner Houston praised staff by stating they have done an excellent job of putting the budget together and had also done a very good job of holding expenses.

Executive Director Hanna presented the Board the proposed FY 2022 Budget. Commissioner Houston made a motion to direct and authorize the Executive Director to place the proposed budget on file not later than June 18, 2021, seconded by Commissioner Delheimer and carried with a roll call vote of 5 ayes/0 nays.

Commissioner Delheimer discussed a proposal to update the Authority's Wildlife Hazard Assessment and ongoing mitigation efforts. Commissioner Delheimer made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a Cooperative Service Agreement between the USDA-APHIS-WS and the Authority for the Wildlife Hazard Assessment and the Wildlife Hazard Management Plan, seconded by Commissioner Shea and carried with a roll call vote of 5 ayes/0 nays.

Chair Vala gave an update on the construction projects.

Commissioner Hardwick reported a 16.62% decrease in year-to-date passenger activity compared to last year; however, comparing April 2020 to April 2021 the airport reported an increase of 1,158%. The year over year decrease is a result of the continuing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, but traffic is expected to climb in coming months.

Commissioner Hardwick reported that fuel sales for the month of April were 98,011 gallons with revenue of \$12,256. Airline sales were down compared to the previous month with the Allegiant flight schedule resuming a normal pattern after the spring break season. Retail Jet fuel sales increased for the month along with Avgas sales that benefited from the return of the seasonal aerial photography contractors operating out of Stellar Aviation.

Commissioner Hardwick discussed an article on Delta cutting flights due to profitability of certain routes. This is an example of airlines choosing destinations based on bookings and the resulting financial yield. Executive Director Hanna reported United is bringing back a flight beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> and that Allegiant will not take a hiatus this year and will fly through August and September. Allegiant's schedule is now posted to January 2022.

Commissioner Shea commented that she and Executive Director Hanna are part of the Lincoln Land Community College Advisory Board and she wanted to report that LLCC's Aviation program is starting to work with the State Board of Education and also that LLCC is going to start recruiting and talking about different positions they need.

Executive Director Hanna reported continued meetings with SEIU Local #15 representatives regarding the Custodial collective bargaining agreement; TSA has extended the

mask mandate to remain in effect until September 13<sup>th</sup>; Staff submitted a proposal in response to an RFI from United Airlines for a potential maintenance base to support its regional affiliates; attended a round table meeting hosted by the Chamber of Commerce to discuss community projects where the airport advocated for the inclusion of a project to expand the aircraft parking apron to support additional IL Army Guard air operations; the relocation of the TSA checkpoint to its new, permanent location has been completed; the passenger boarding bridge at Gate 1 has malfunctioned due to normal wear and tear at a cost of \$47,000 and repairs have been scheduled.

Chair Vala reported that he has had some public disputes with Mayor Langfelder where he had to clarify and provide corrections to representations made by the Mayor. He wanted the Board to understand that he is representing the Board and that this is not just a personality conflict between Frank Vala and Jim Langfelder. He continues to correct the Mayor's misunderstandings of the law and his misunderstandings of his appointments, citing an example where the Mayor said that his sister-in-law was harassed. The Mayor told the media she was harassed in her position as Auditor, which was false; and, where the SAA never had an auditor's position, but had a comptroller position. He asked the Board if anyone felt he was overstepping his bounds as Chair to let him know as he honestly believes he is doing what is best for the whole Board.

Commissioner Houston made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting,

The meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

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Frank J. Vala, Chair

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R. Beverly Peters, Secretary