

MINUTES

Beaufort County Airports Board

July 18, 2024 | 1:30 pm | Meeting called to order by Chairman Chris Butler
[Video and Transcript](#)

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chris Butler, Jim Starnes, Howard Ackerman, Leslie Adlam Flory, Anne Esposito, Brian Turrisi, Mark Bailey, David Nelems, and Rich Sells

Absent: Nick Mesenburg and Thomas Sheahan

County Staff: Stephen Parry, Deputy Airports Director; Eric Townsend, Airport Manager; and Rocio Rexrode, Administrative Specialist.

Beaufort County Council Liaison: Thomas Reitz

Hilton Head Island Town Council Liaison:

Public: Judy Elder, Talbert, Bright and Ellington, Inc. and Derek Roth, Signature Aviation

AGENDA ADOPTION

Rich Sells made a motion to adopt the July 18, 2024, BCAB meeting agenda. Howard Ackerman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

David Nelems made a motion to approve the June 20, 2024, meeting minutes. Jim Starnes seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

New Staff - Mark O'Brien: Steve Parry informed that HXD has a new staff member. Parry mentioned that Mark was hired for a full-time position as a Maintenance Tech. He is a 12-year Marine veteran and has experience in HVAC and electrical work.

Beaufort Water Festival: Parry noted that the ARW was a Beaufort Water Festival sponsor.

ARFF Training: Parry mentioned that the ARFF conducted a "Plane Down" simulation during their regular scheduled training.

Chase Driver's License: Parry announced that our young volunteer Chase got his driver's license and will investigate job opportunities at the airport.

Terminal Updates: Parry described the lane shift at the terminal. He said this is a temporary traffic flow to feed people to the current arrivals and departures lane. He stated that it is challenging, but

things are running fairly smoothly even though it is a temporary solution to lay the facilities in front of the terminal. He mentioned that most of the slab is finished and that the steel is on-site and ready for the contractor to begin erecting it.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

1. **GRANT ACCEPTANCE - RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT FAA BIL AIG GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$825,757 FOR AIRPORT LAYOUT PLAN UPDATE (HXD)**

Rich Sells made a motion to approve a recommendation to accept the FAA BIL AIG grant in the amount of \$825,757 for HXD Airport Layout Plan Update. Howard Ackerman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

2. **GRANT ACCEPTANCE - RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT FAA AIP GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$325,769 FOR ST. JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH RELOCATION ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION PHASE I (HXD)**

Rich Sells made a motion to approve a recommendation to accept the FAA AIP grant in the amount of \$325,769 for St. James Baptist Church Relocation Environmental Documentation Phase I. Jim Starnes seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

3. **GRANT ACCEPTANCE - RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT SCAC 24-0XX GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$750,000 FOR AIRPORT TERMINAL PROJECT (HXD)**

Howard Ackerman made a motion to approve a recommendation to accept the SCAC 24-0XX grant in the amount of \$750,000 for Airport Terminal Project (HXD). Brian Turrisi seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

4. **RESOLUTION - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A NON-TENANT COMMERCIAL OPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND STEVENS AEROSPACE AND DEFENSE SYSTEMS**

Brian Turrisi made a motion to approve a recommendation to approve a Non-Tenant Commercial Operating Agreement between Beaufort County and Stevens Aerospace and Defense Systems. Rich Sells seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

5. **RESOLUTION - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND APPLE TRANSPORTATION**

Rich Sells made a motion to approve a recommendation to approve a Letter of Agreement between Beaufort County and Apple Transportation. David Nelems seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

6. **RESOLUTION - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND FERGUSON TRANSPORTATION**

Rich Sells made a motion to approve a recommendation to approve a Letter of Agreement between Beaufort County and Ferguson Transportation. David Nelems seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

7. RESOLUTION - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND NATIVE ISLANDER'S TRANSPORTATION

Howard Ackerman made a motion to approve a recommendation to approve a Letter of Agreement between Beaufort County and Native Islander's Transportation. Jim Starnes seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

8. RESOLUTION - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND S & J EXPRESSWAY TAXI

Leslie Flory made a motion to approve a recommendation to approve a Letter of Agreement between Beaufort County and S & J Expressway Taxi. Brian Turrisi seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

9. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ARW HANGAR PROJECT DESIGN

Jim Starnes made a motion to approve a recommendation to approve ARW Hangar Project Design. Rich Sells seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

10. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ARW HANGAR PROJECT FUNDING

David Nelems made a motion to approve a recommendation to approve ARW Hangar Project Funding Option C (Borrow funds from the County and pay them back). Brian Turrisi seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

CHAIRMAN UPDATE

1. Finance Committee

Members: Howard Ackerman (Chair), Chris Butler, Tom Sheahan, and Brian Turrisi.

The Committee had nothing new to report this month. They will keep the board informed of any new developments.

2. Communications and Marketing Committee

Members: Anne Esposito (Chair), Howard Ackerman, and Leslie Adlam Flory.

The Committee had nothing new to report this month. They will keep the board informed of any new developments. There was a consensus to suspend this committee.

3. Passenger Service Committee

Members: Leslie Adlam Flory (Chair), David Nelems, Jim Starnes, and Tom Sheahan

Howard Ackerman informed that the Ambassadors Program is going great and that it helps the LEOs not be burdened with small questions like the bathroom locations.

4. ARW Facilities Use and Improvement Committee

Members: Chris Butler (Chair), Mark Bailey, David Nelems, Jim Starnes, and Nick Mesenburg

The Committee had nothing new to report this month. They will keep the board informed of any new developments.

5. The HHI Airport Improvement Committee (HXD)

Members: Brian Turrisi (Chair), Howard Ackerman, Rich Sells, Chris Butler, and Anne Esposito

Turrisi mentioned that based on the monthly reports, total operations are on a downward trend.

The Board requested the operations numbers before the pandemic be provided.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn was made at 2:47 p.m. It passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

August 15, 2024 | 1:30 pm

Beaufort County Council Chambers, 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, SC.