

MINUTES

Beaufort County Airports Board

January 16, 2025 | 1:30 pm | Meeting called to order by Chairman Chris Butler
[Video and Transcript](#)

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chris Butler, Howard Ackerman, Anne Esposito, Brian Turrisi, David Nelems, Thomas Sheahan, Mark Bailey and Rich Sells

Absent: Leslie Adlam Flory, Jim Starnes and Nick Mesenburg

County Staff: Jon Rembold, Airports Director; Stephen Parry, Deputy Airports Director and Rocio Rexrode, Administrative Specialist.

Beaufort County Council Liaison:

Hilton Head Island Town Council Liaison:

Public: Judy Elder, Talbert, Bright and Ellington, Inc.

AGENDA ADOPTION

The January 16, 2025, BCAB meeting agenda was adopted with unanimous consent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Brian Turrisi made a motion to approve the November 21, 2024, meeting minutes. Rich Sells seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Guy Foulkes: He had a question about hangars at HXD and the mechanisms for expanding the airport to construct more hangars. He commented that the waiting list is six years long.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

Post-Hurricane Helene Relief Supplies: Rembold mentioned the nice article that was written about pilots at the ARW taking supplies to North Carolina Post-Hurricane Helene. He said it was a big effort, and the pilots delivered over 6,000 pounds of relief supplies. He stated that pilots from HXD also delivered supplies.

Hilton Head Christian Academy Fieldtrip: Rembold commented on the Hilton Head Christian Academy field trip. He stated that this was their second time visiting the airport and that they are making this visit an annual event.

Future Aviation Guys: Rembold shared that the ARFF Chief personally invited Bennett and Chase (who previously toured the tower) to come back to visit the firehouse and ride in the truck. He said Chase and Bennet are scheduled to visit in a couple of weeks.

Dan's New Truck: Rembold shared that Dan, the Ops Chief, got a new work truck. Rembold stated that Dan is constantly checking things out, and moving and towing equipment, so it is good to have reliability in the fleet.

EL Leaders Class of 2024: Rembold highlighted that two airport staff members (Marlene and Rocio) successfully completed the Emerging Leaders program and graduated from the 2024 class. He mentioned that the county administrator recognized the graduating class during the county council meeting.

- **TERMINAL UPDATE:**

Rembold noted that the structural steel is almost complete, the slab has been poured, the roof decking is up, and the rest of the roof system is being installed. He said the stud walls are being put on the structure, and it looks and feels like a building. He said some of the rooms are taking shape inside the terminal, and plumbing and electrical are going in.

- **AIRPORTS' BUSINESS UPDATE:**

Title VI Plan: Rembold said that the Title VI plan has been approved by the FAA, and it is in the final steps to make it publicly available.

Tower Renovation Grant: Rembold stated that this grant would be used to provide some new working items for the tower cab. The cab roof will be replaced, the stairwell that drops down to get access to the roof will be replaced, and the desks and consoles will be replaced. He said that this grant takes care of the working environment issues that our controllers need while they're up there.

ARW Hangar Project: Rembold explained that the approval is being pulled back from the County Council process, for now, to work with Staff to try again to figure out the best way to fund the project. Rembold stated that the site work part of the project is moving forward.

ARW Manager Search: Rembold mentioned that the search for a new manager has started, and applicants have been interviewed.

2025 BCAB Meeting Schedule Discussion: There was a consensus to adopt the new meeting schedule: The BCAB meetings will now take place on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 10:00 a.m., alternating between Hilton Head and Beaufort locations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

There were no Action Items.

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. Passenger Service Committee

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

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

3. 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.

4. HXD Airport Improvement Committee

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn was made at 1:52 p.m. It passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

February 20, 2025 | 10:00 am

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