

# MINUTES

## Beaufort County Airports Board

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February 20, 2025 | 10:00 am | Meeting called to order by Chairman Chris Butler

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### ATTENDANCE

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**Present:** Chris Butler, Jim Starnes, Howard Ackerman, Leslie Adlam Flory, Brian Turrisi, Nick Mesenburg, Thomas Sheahan, David Nelems, Rich Sells and Mark Bailey

**Absent:** Anne Esposito

**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.

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### AGENDA ADOPTION

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Rich Sells made a motion to adopt February 20, 2025, BCAB meeting agenda. Leslie Adlam Flory seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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Howard Ackerman made a motion to approve January 16, 2025, meeting minutes. Jim Starnes seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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### PUBLIC COMMENTS

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There were no Public Comments

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### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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- **DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

**New Staff: Wesley Theobald and Joel Cody**

Rembold welcomed both staff members to the Airports team. He stated that they are firefighters at the ARFF and were hired as part-time employees to help reduce overtime.

**New Staff: Sandy Muller**

Rembold mentioned that Sandy is the third member of the Airport Finance team. He explained that she was hired as an Accounts Payable Specialist and to assist with daily financial tasks.

**Inspiring for the Future:**

Rembold shared that Mike Waters' grandsons, Bennett and Chase, were invited by the Fire Chief to return for a tour of the ARFF.

**Snow Days:**

Rembold explained the impact of the snowstorm on both airports. He noted that they cleared the snow at HXD within a couple of days using a motor grader and that the airport was open for business by midmorning on Saturday following the storm.

**Annual Conferences:**

Jon Rembold and Steve Parry attended the South Carolina Aviation Conference in Greenville, SC, and Chief Bobby Davidson and Charles Neeson attended the FAA Southern Region Airports Conference in Atlanta, GA.

- **TERMINAL UPDATE:**

Rembold reported that the project is progressing smoothly and remains on schedule.

- **AIRPORTS' BUSINESS UPDATE:**

**RBC Heritage Volunteers:**

Rembold encouraged the Board members to volunteer at the Airport's sponsor tent during RBC Heritage week.

**American Airlines Terminal Tour:**

Jon shared that the property representative from American Airlines visited and toured the terminal. Rembold noted that the representative was highly impressed with the progress of the terminal construction project.

**Board, Legislator Tours:**

Rembold suggested organizing a joint tour of both airports for Board members and Legislators to build relationships in anticipation of Phase II of the Terminal Project.

**March 4 Legislative Reception:**

Rembold announced that the SCAA is hosting a Legislative Reception in Columbia, SC, and highlighted that it will be a great opportunity to engage with local legislators.

**Military vs. GA Safe Practices:**

Rembold mentioned that the opening session at the conference was led by a pilot from the Air National Guard. Rembold pointed out that the speaker and his team travel to airports to give shows and presentations upon request. He proposed considering the idea of inviting them to both airports to keep best practices up to date.

**Military-Business Alliance:**

Rembold shared that this is a new committee aimed at deliberately and intentionally connecting the transitioning military community with the business community.

There was no Unfinished Business.

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## **NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS**

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1. **HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) – RECOMMENDATION TO APPLY FOR TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND ACCOMMODATIONS TAX (ATAX) GRANT FOR TOURISM MARKETING**

Nick Mesenburg made a motion to approve a recommendation to apply for the Town of Hilton Head Island Accommodations Tax Grant for Tourism and Marketing. Rich Sells seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

2. **HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) - RECOMMENDATION TO APPLY FOR COUNTY HOSPITALITY TAX (HTAX) GRANT FOR TOURISM MARKETING**

Nick Mesenburg made a motion to approve a recommendation to apply for the County Hospitality Tax Grant for Tourism and Marketing. Rich Sells seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

3. **BEAUFORT EXECUTIVE AIRPORT (ARW) – RECOMMENDATION TO APPLY FOR COUNTY HOSPITALITY TAX (HTAX) GRANT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE**

Nick Mesenburg made a motion to approve a recommendation to apply for the County Hospitality Tax Grant for Infrastructure. Rich Sells seconded the motion. Rich Sells seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

4. **NON-TENANT COMMERCIAL OPERATING AGREEMENT (HXD) – RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A NON-TENANT COMMERCIAL OPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND PALMETTO ACES FLYING CLUB**

Brian Turrisi made a motion to approve a recommendation for a resolution authorizing a Non-tenant Commercial Operating agreement between Beaufort County and Palmetto Aces Flying Club. Leslie Flory seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

5. **NON-TENANT COMMERCIAL OPERATING AGREEMENT (ARW) – RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A NON-TENANT COMMERCIAL OPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND PILOT SPECIALTIES, LLC**

Rich Sells made a motion to approve a recommendation for a resolution authorizing a Non-tenant Commercial Operating agreement between Beaufort County and Pilot Specialties, LCC. Nick Mesenburg seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

6. **OFFICE SPACE LEASE AGREEMENT (ARW) – RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN OFFICE SPACE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND PILOT SPECIALTIES, LLC** Brian Turrisi made a motion to approve a recommendation for an ordinance

authorizing an Office Space Lease agreement between Beaufort County and Pilot Specialties, LCC.  
Howard Ackerman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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## **CHAIRMAN UPDATE**

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### **1. Finance Committee**

Members: Howard Ackerman (Chair), Chris Butler, Tom Sheahan, Rich Sells 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: Jim Starnes (Chair), Mark Bailey, David Nelems, Chris Butler, and Nick Mesenburg

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

### **4. HHI Airport Improvement Committee (HXD)**

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.

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## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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There were no Public Comments.

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

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The motion to adjourn was made at 10:46 a.m. It passed unanimously.

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## **NEXT MEETING**

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March 13, 2025 | 10:00 am

Town of Hilton Head Island, 1 Town Center Ct., Hilton Head Island, SC 29928