

ROANOKE REGIONAL AIRPORT COMMISSION

July 19, 2022

8:30 a.m.

The Roanoke Regional Airport Commission met in the Airport Conference Room, Second Floor of the Terminal Building on Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. Dr. Bishop, Chair, presided.

PRESENT: Commission members NL Bishop "Chair", Robert Fralin (via Zoom), Randy Clements, Bill Gust, Dale Guidry, Cynthia Lawrence, Gary Powers.....7.

ABSENT:0.

MINUTES

The minutes of the regular monthly meeting held on June 21, 2022 were before the body.

Mr. Gust made a motion that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with and approved as recorded. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lawrence and unanimously approved.

COMMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Stewart explained that Mr. Boettcher is attending the quarterly update for the Roanoke Regional Partnership this morning. Jason El Koubi, President and CEO of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership is there discussing VEDP developments and priorities at the State and Regional levels.

The Virginia Airport Operators Council Annual Conference is Aug. 10-12 at Hotel Roanoke. If Commissioners would like to attend, please let Dani know and we will take care of the registration and fees for you.

Mr. Stewart was out of town for the June Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization (RVTPO) Policy Board, and the July meeting has been canceled, therefore no updates

A few air service updates. Preliminary TSA checkpoint counts indicate July was 6% higher than July 2019, despite capacity being down 9.7%.

Capacity continues to be an issue at other airports in the region, LYH is down 9.7%, CHO is down 22% with AA having stopped service to ORD and PHL and United dropping their ORD service. GSO is also down 31.7% and has lost G4 to SFB, NK to FLL, MCO, and TPA and United to IAD.

Our August capacity versus 2019 will be down 9.3%, September 8.9% and October is down 14.7% based on current schedules.

Competition has proven to be a great thing, LGA passenger volume has more than doubles compared to pre-pandemic levels from 44 to 90 PDEWs.

In other Airline news, the network carriers continue to cut. In the last month American has stopped service to Islip, Ithaca, Toledo and Dubuque. Delta has dropped ATL-COS, ATL-OAK, BOS-MEM, and DFW-SMF. United has stopped service in Texarkana and Flagstaff.

Mr. Stewart spoke briefly about Senator Warner's visit and also was encouraged by the Senator's mention of the possibility of raising the mandatory retirement age for pilots a couple of years, while not a long-term solution it could help while replacement pilots are being trained.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Mr. Stewart recognized and expressed thanks to the following employees for their service to the Commission:

Jenny Clark, Jared Cypher and Randy Brookshier, were each recognized for five years of service with the Commission.

Sandy Newman and Jay Ball were each recognized for ten years of service with the Commission.

Diana Aesy was recognized for twenty years of service with the Commission.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Jeavons updated the Commission regarding our fiscal year ending June 30 and closing out the year in preparation for the upcoming audit.

PLANNING & ENGINEERING UPDATE

Mr. Koutchu provided a brief update on the Master Plan and working through an updated fee proposal. Requests for proposals will be going out for on call consultants to assist with program support and project management, architectural design, civil design, grant management and environmental planning.

INQUIRIES AND/OR COMMENTS BY COMMISSION MEMBERS

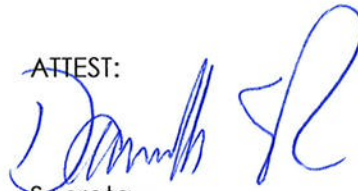
Mr. Gust inquired about public feedback from Senator Warner's visit. Mr. Stewart felt all comments were positive.

Ms. Lawrence asked for an update on regular briefings with municipal partners and discussed the idea of a Regional Transportation Authority.

Dr. Clements wants everyone to be mindful of unintended consequences of Saturdays meeting with Sen. Warner, could this money buy and flight, lower fares, etc. Ensure we clarify the messaging to the public.

Mr. Guidry spoke to the support of the airport and airport initiatives by Mayor Turk and Salem Council. Mr. Gust spoke up regarding the support of Roanoke County as well.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Dr. Bishop adjourned the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

ATTEST:

Secretary