

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 17, 2013 – 9:00 A.M.**

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**1. Call to Order**

**2. Invocation**

10           Commissioner Andrews gave the invocation.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Roll Call**

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**Present:** Vice Chair Lee, Commissioners Andrews and Seay; Executive Director Quill; Attorney Garrard; Assistant Director Parish; Mrs. Cauley; Mr. Mallard; Mrs. Smith. **Others present:** Jim Kaletta, Robert Hancik, Lionel Schuman, Commissioner Doherty, Rick Keeney, Jim Deustch, Bob Thompson, Andy Stultz, Carl Parsons and a member of the press. **Absent:** Commissioners Coppola and Herston.

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**5. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda**

**6. Citizen's Input**

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**Lionel Schuman** - commented that he liked the idea of Mr. Jerry Paul being a radar detector in Tallahassee for the Airport and he hopes that the Board and staff will follow through.

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**7. Consent Agenda**

**Commissioner Seay made the motion to approve the consent Agenda. Commissioner Andrews seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

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**8. Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Quill commented that there is a big difference on the Accounts Receivable compared to eighteen months ago. He commented that Arcadia is continuing to make significant payments on their back rent. He opined that patience and working with the tenants has paid off. He commented that the Authority lost money for the month of September which was expected with the improvements that the Authority is doing. He commented on the Income Statement and the Authority finished the year to the good. He commented that is about to experience increase in flights.

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**9. Committee Reports**

**a) Land Use** - Nothing to report.

b) **Economic Development** - Nothing to report.

c) **Personnel** - Nothing to report.

5 d) **Public Relations/Special Events** - Nothing to report.

e) **Governmental Liaison** - Commissioner Seay congratulated the Authority's staff and Board for entering into an agreement with Mr. Paul. She commented that Mr. Paul will be available to the Authority in the event that the Authority needs him to represent the Authority in Tallahassee. She commented that the Authority needs to be on the agenda to speak at the Legislative Delegation. She asked Mrs. Laishley to call and have the Authority put on the agenda. She welcomed Mr. Paul.

10 f) **Metropolitan Planning Organization** - Nothing to report.

15 g) **Aviation Activities Report** - Commissioner Andrews reported on the avgas fuel sales for July. He reported that there was an increase in August and in September fuels sales were slightly down. He opined that it was attributed to the weather. He reported that jet fuels sales and airline gallons pumped dropped in August and September. He opined that it is seasonal and he is expecting that to change. He reported that for the month of July enplanements were higher than March, which is a nice surprise. He reported that enplanements were down as were airline operations in August and September. He reported that the air taxi operations went from 41 to 26 during the three month period and was not certain what caused the drop. He reported no change in the military operations and general aviation had increases each month for the three month period. He reported on the hangar vacancies and he expects to see a decrease in the vacancies in the next few months. He reported that Allegiant Air added a city making it 21 cities that they service.

## 30 10. Attorney's Report

Attorney Garrard had nothing to report.

## 35 11. Executive Director's Report

a) **Development Update** - Mr. Parish commented that the rental car building is finished and they are operational as of today. He commented that the new entrance to the TSA screening area will have a roll-up door and a partial wall will be built where the rental car area was. He commented that the Authority had to rip out a couple of walls in TSA's break room to get the new equipment in. He explained that the Airport will have three passenger screening lanes and two semi-inline bag checks. He explained that they are not true inline because they are not automated so when the bags go through an alarm can go off shutting the machine down and then someone has to manually pick the bags up to inspect them. He commented that the automated inline equipment that checks bags, kicks the bags out and keeps on going. He explained that the semi-inline can handle four times what a person can do with a manual scanner. He commented that with two of the semi-inline machines and the five manual scanners TSA uses, they will be able to handle about 650 passengers an hour. He

commented that in November the peak flow will be 630 passengers per hour going through TSA. He commented that the temporary hold room, a six wide trailer, will be connected by a corridor to the existing hold room. He commented that there are 220 seats in the main hold room and the trailer will add another 280 seats and there will be four gates. He commented that the entire ramp has been repainted and the SIDA fence has been moved to make seven plane positions. He commented that the Authority has worked with Allegiant Air on their crew space. He commented that Allegiant's crew will be moving this week-end to the FBO. He commented that the Authority will build a new commissary area inside the FBO hangar. He explained that there are some changes with regards to offices inside the FBO and the automated SIDA fences are going in. He commented that the Authority had executed a contract for the long term parking lot expansion which will give the Authority an additional 240 parking spaces. He commented that area will be designated for employee parking and with the help of Allegiant, the Authority will get all the Allegiant employees out of short term and park in the new long term parking lot. He commented that there will be a walk-way to the FBO where Allegiant's crew space will be located. Mr. Quill commented that Mr. Parish has been leading the orchestra. He recognized Andy Stultz and Brett with Halfacre. He commented that everything is going smoothly when you look at everything that could have gone wrong. Mr. Parish introduced Ron Mallard who the Authority hired for a newly created position that will be in charge of the Aviation Services, which handles the terminal, airside and landside operations and the FBO operations. He commented that Mr. Mallard has 40 years of aviation experience with airports and airlines. He commented that Mr. Mallard has been a huge help and he has 40 years of contacts. He commented that Mr. Mallard is getting things organized and when things get crazy in November he'll be able to handle everything. Commissioner Lee commented that he had the pleasure of touring the area with Mr. Mallard. He commented that he is going to be a great addition to the Airport. Mr. Quill commented that a year ago the Airport served three cities and as of February 2014 the airport will serve 21 cities. He commented that the Airport is going through a lot of changes, both physically in construction and staff. He asked for patience because in the next few months there will be a tremendous expansion. He commented that the Authority is very happy about it. He commented that the Authority is in really good shape and needs to stay on the course. Commissioner Seay commented that the Authority has been working on Piper Road. She commented that in going back in the records there was talk about changes that needed to be made, and recommendations from the County that the Authority had agreed to. She commented that one of the things that the Authority agreed to was to have a corridor that went from Jones Loop Road to US17 thinking that it would be an aid to the automobile navigation around the Airport. She commented that part of that came through with the assistance of the sales tax. She commented that her colleagues are at the Charlotte Assembly and they will be discussing the continuation of the sales tax extension and using some of that funding to extend Piper Road. She opined that the completion of that project would be an enhancement to the Airport and an opportunity for economic development in Charlotte County and throughout the Charlotte Airport Park. She commented that the one cent sales tax is not that much. She commented that the Airport needs something that would allow for the Airport to continue the terrific economic growth that it has been having and with the support of the County would go a long way. She suggested talking with members of the

Charlotte Assembly, County Commissioners, City of Punta Gorda and people that you meet within the various organizations about how important it is for access to the Airport. She opined having Piper Road completed would be a tremendous benefit for the Airport.

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## 12. Old Business

## 13. New Business

- 10 a) **Letter of Support for the City of Punta Gorda's reverse Osmosis Water Plant Funding** - Mr. Quill explained that the Authority received a request from the City of Punta Gorda for a letter of support to obtain grant funding for a reverse osmosis water plant. Commissioner Seay commented that we all rely on good quality water and a reverse osmosis plant would go a long way towards assisting Punta Gorda and the area it serves. She commented that it will become a positive part of the services that the City of Punta Gorda offers. She opined that it is one of the best things that the City of Punta Gorda has going and it would be beneficial to the Authority. Commissioner Seay made the motion to approve preparing and submitting a Letter of Support for the reverse osmosis water plant for the City of Punta Gorda. Commissioner Andrews seconded. Commissioner Lee commented that it was discussed for a long time and it is time to do it. **Motion passed unanimously.**

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## 14. Citizens' Input

- 25 **Lionel Schuman** - Asked if anything has developed from the Brazilian contingent. Commissioner Seay commented that there have been several potential companies that are coming to Punta Gorda. She commented that one of the biggest problems the companies are having is that the work force is older and that the companies are looking for younger workers. She commented that the Authority and Tom Patton's office are looking at the statistics, the information and the demographics. She commented that when you walk around you do not see a lot of young people and that has been the biggest stumbling block that the Authority has come across. She commented that Kay Tracy is talking with a company regarding being part of the new incubator that is being planned. She commented that the companies are coming but the Authority does not have any definite information and are not giving up. Mr. Schuman commented that if the businesses come the youth will come.

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- 40 **Jim Kaletta, CAP** – Explained the that the CAP squadron is involved in an Air Force Mission and what they do. He commented that these missions will be ongoing on Wednesdays and their objective is to get the pilots in the local squadron qualified. He commented that there are four qualified. He commented that the cadet squadron in Fort Myers will close and merge with the local squadron. He commented that there are 30 cadets from that squadron. He commented that the commander of the Fort Myers squadron will be the commander of the local squadron.

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**Commissioner Ken Doherty** - Commented that it is critical for the community to stay on top of the projects that will be potentially funded. He commented that the list has not been created. He commented that Piper Road and Burnt Store Road will be on that list.

He commented that it is important for everyone to understand that approximately \$340,000,000 of projects have been constructed in Charlotte County because of that one cent sales tax. He commented that the revenue is \$17,000,000 annually and if the County loses that, it will be difficult to keep the projects on track. He commented that it is a treat for him to attend the meeting today because 40 years ago he had worked at the Airport as a commercial pilot and flight instructor. He stated that he remembers the day the first gallon of jet fuel was pumped and it was a Lear jet.

**15. Commissioner’s Comments**

**Commissioner Seay** - Commented that it was a good year and a job well done. She commented that to be to the good financially at the end of a fiscal year is tremendous. She congratulated Mr. Quill and the Authority’s staff for doing a tremendous job of keeping track of the money. She commented that the Authority is blessed to have such good folks working for the Authority. She commented that the Authority is only as good as the people that do the jobs. She commented on the additional city to Cincinnati, OH. She commented on the Airport doing better in June than in March. She opined that it shows the industry what a tremendous potential the Airport has. She asked Mr. Parish to keep up the good work on the growth of the Airport and she welcomed Mr. Mallard.

**Commissioner Andrews** - Thanked everybody for attending and agreed with Commissioner Seay’s comments. He commented that things are happening and it is exciting. He commented that Mr. Parish is doing a great job moving the Airport forward and he is pleased to see it. He thanked Commissioner Doherty. He commented on the Lear jet and when he was in the military servicing T33s the same way.

**Commissioner Lee** - Agreed with Commissioner Seay’s and Andrew’s comments. He commented that the Authority’s staff is great and have done a super job on the Airport. He commented that the Airport has come a long way since some of the Authority’s Board members first came on the Board. He commented that it is amazing how well the Authority is doing and that is because the Board and staff work together to get things done that are helpful to the Airport and the community. He commented that the Authority has no place else to go but up, and the Authority is going up. He thanked everybody for coming.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

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James W. Herston, Chair

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Kathleen Coppola, Secretary/Treasurer