

CHARLOTTE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 11, 2015 – 9:00 A.M.

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1. Call to Order

2. Invocation

10 Commissioner Herston gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Roll Call

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Present: Chair Andrews; Commissioners Coppola, Hancik and Herston; Executive Director Quill; Attorney Garrard; Assistant Executive Director Parish; Mrs. Cauley; Ms. Desguin; Mr. Laroche; Mrs. Smith. **Others present:** Dr. Dave Byers, Jim Kaletta, Deborah Hancik, Andy Haase, Steve Henriquez, Gary Bayne, Mark Kistler, Ned Rose, Kelly Rubino, Dave Goode, Councilman Cavanaugh, Carl Parsons, Gary Harrell, Bob Herrington, Don Lee, other people from the private sector and a member of the press. **Absent:** Commissioner Seay.

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5. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

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6. Citizen's Input

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Luther Lee Fitch, Jr. - Commented that he loaned Mr. Haase money and he is in default of his payments. He distributed a notice of demand for payment to the Board. He commented that he believes that Mr. Haase lives at the racetrack. He commented that he would like to have the lease assigned to him and there are a group of people who have knowledge in running a race track. He commented that the money he loaned was for the grandstands and some odd and ends at the race track. Commissioner Herston asked the amount of default. Mr. Fitch replied \$90,000.00. He commented that Mr. Haase never contacted him about why he could not make his payments. He commented that the loan agreement is with Three Palms Speedway and Mr. Haase.

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Bobby Diehl - Commented that he was the proprietor of Charlotte County Motor Sports Park before the economy took a turn. He commented that he is the Marketing Director of the DeSoto Speedway and they are working with other speedways and they are not receiving a call back from Mr. Haase. He commented on the years he was with the speedway, rainouts, the road coming through causing loss of parking space and the disputes. He commented on a partner who did a lot of things that brought a sour eye and taste to the Speedway. He commented that they had brought millions of dollars into the community. He commented on the grandstands and pits being filled throughout the year. He commented on taking over the lease from Leroy Davidson and the property taxes. He commented on the reason he turned the Speedway over to Mr. Kevin Williams. He stated

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5 that Mr. Quill told him that the Authority has a lock and a chain and if a payment is missed
 the Authority will lock you down. He commented that Mr. Davidson had told him to make
 sure everything is mobile so when you leave you would be able to take it with you. He
 commented on the recession. He commented that he had called the County Tax Collector
 10 on the property taxes of what is currently due on the Speedway. He commented that his
 dream was taken away with a threat of a chain and a lock if the taxes were not paid. He
 commented on taxes not being paid by Mr. Williams. He commented on the \$50,000 bond
 that he had to put up when he took over the Speedway. He commented on the \$50,000
 bond that was waived for Mr. Haase in lieu of installing the grandstands and fixing the
 wiring which would become part of Airport’s facility upon vacating the premises. He
 15 stated that he is in charge of a professional touring series and he cannot bring them to the
 Speedway because there are no grandstands. He wants to know why the grandstands are
 not installed. He commented that money is lost to the county and hotels because people
 had come from all over. He wants to know what happened to his \$50,000 bond. He
 commented that receiving \$400 back was great.

7. Consent Agenda

20 **Commissioner Herston made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.
 Commission Coppola seconded. Commissioner Hancik abstained. Motion passed.**

8. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report

25 Mr. Quill reported that April was a good month and March was a record for the Authority.
 He commented that accounts receivable is the best it has been since pre-recession.

9. Committee Reports

30 a) **Land Use** - Commissioner Herston reported that it is slow but steady on the private
 side. He commented that there is some movement in the City of Punta Gorda, Lee and
 Sarasota Counties and the City of North Port.

35 b) **Economic Development** - Chair Andrews reported that property values are on the rise
 in Charlotte County. He commented on an article regarding property values in the
 Charlotte Sun. He commented that real estate has been moving and getting into areas
 of low inventory and the demand has not gone away. He commented that Charlotte
 County is definitely recovering. He commented that property values have risen in the
 counties north and south of Charlotte County. He commented that economically
 speaking Charlotte County is doing well and he is seeing a demand from northern
 40 customers. Commissioner Coppola commented on the Charlotte Harbor project.

45 c) **Personnel** - Commissioner Coppola reported that Bob Hall had passed away and he
 was very instrumental in all the air shows. She reported that there is a Gary Steele
 memorial scholarship available through the Florida Business Association. She
 commented that Mr. Steele had worked for the Airport and he was a longtime supporter
 of the Aviation Business Association. She commented that Mr. Steele had served in

the US Air Force during the Vietnam era and he was the FBO Manager for the Authority for many years.

- 5 **d) Public Relations/Special Events** - Commissioner Coppola reported on an article in the Charlotte Sun in the section “What Happened Forty Years Ago” and an article about the airport that was republished. She commented that it is amazing what has happened to the Airport. She reported on an article in Florida Trend Magazine that ranks the Punta Gorda Airport above the North East Florida Regional, Gainesville, Melbourne and Daytona Beach airports. She commented that the Airport has been mentioned in 10 the Florida Trend Magazine almost every month. She commented on the ad placed in the SunSeekers magazine which is put into all of Allegiant’s airplanes.
- e) Governmental Liaison** – There was no report due to Commissioner Seay’s absence.
- 15 **f) Metropolitan Planning Organization** - Commissioner Herston had nothing to report. He commented that it is good to see Executive Director Bob Harrington and Assistant Director Gary Harrell in attendance.
- 20 **g) Aviation Activities Report** - Commissioner Hancik reported on the passenger traffic showing a 27% increase over last year for the month of April. He commented that it is a continued positive growth considering what is going on around the country. He reported on the fuel sales and T-hangar vacancies. He commented on the cities that Allegiant Air serves out of Punta Gorda.

25 **10. Attorney’s Report**

Attorney Garrard had nothing to report.

30 **11. Executive Director’s Report**

- 35 **a) Development Update** - Mr. Parish reported that the Forestry had set up a temporary base while they were fighting fires in the Everglades, so a C130 flew in and out of here about five to seven times a day and that’s reflected in the fuel sales. He reported that the terminal is on schedule. He reported that he had meetings to finalize the exact date for moving the TSA equipment and the TSA decided to relocate some of their equipment temporarily. He reported that completion of the new terminal will be mid-August and a move in date in September. He reported the Taxiway Alpha Extension will be going out to bid and it will be an AIP Project funded by the FAA and FDOT. He commented that the Authority has been working on issues with the taxiway Gulf 40 intersection and it was determined that it cannot be improved because of the way it sits. He commented that the Authority will have to wait until the master plan is finished to determine the exact geometry of that area. He explained that the base underneath it has failed and has to be completely rebuilt. He stated that the FAA will not approve it until the master plan is completed. He reported that the Authority is working on the JPA for 45 the parking lots. He explained that the Authority had increased the parking rates to fund additional parking. He reported that the Authority has been able to get a grant that covers 50% of the cost so the Authority’s \$200,000 will be increased to \$400,000

ending with a \$480,000 total project. He commented that the parking lot will be done in phases and with the first phase starting now. He commented that the parking lots have been 98% full since Mother's Day weekend and the Authority had to move employees out of the parking lots. He reported that the Authority will kick off a project that will redo the entrance gates on Henry and Airport Road. He explained that a center island will be installed so the badging system will change to the HID prox cards where you touch the controller to get in instead of the battery powered cards. He opined that the battery powered cards are 90% of the issues with the gates. He hopes to complete the project by the end of the fiscal year. He reported that four additional cameras were installed on the ramp which will have software enhancements allowing the Authority to track movement. He commented that it is funded 100% by the FDOT. Commissioner Coppola asked if the \$480,000 covers the complete job. Mr. Parish commented that the Authority had requested money from the FDOT and they come up with \$236,000 which is year-end money. He explained that was money for other projects which fell through. He commented that the JPA, which is on the agenda today, will design all the phases and the first phase of construction which will include 150 parking spots and re-work of the exits. Commissioner Herston asked if this is part of the master plan for the parking lot. Mr. Parish commented that the Authority will be doing a phased parking lot plan which will go from Viking to Beechcraft. Commissioner Herston had thought the Authority would have a master plan with respect to the parking lots. Mr. Parish commented that the Authority has a block diagram showing where the parking is going to be and how many spaces that can fit in there. He explained that this is the physical design including landscaping and electrical engineering.

b) **Misc. Items** - Mr. Quill asked Dr. Dave Byers to comment on the survey kiosk. Dr. Byers commented that he was contacted by Daytona Beach Airport to help them develop a way of collecting zip codes for passengers. He commented that his system has been running about 10 years at Daytona. He explained that it collects zip codes from passengers before they go through the check point. He commented that it has been very successful. He commented that it did a 20% capture rate on passengers going through the terminal. He had contacted Mr. Quill to install a system to start collecting zip code data from the passengers. He stated with the just the zip code information you get two classes of passengers, local passengers and where the visitors are going and you will get pockets of where people are traveling back to. He commented that it was very successful at Daytona in helping them to convince Jet Blue to start providing service. He commented that in entering a zip code a question will be asked, such as is your trip business or personal. He commented that you could do various demographics. He commented that on their upgrade if you enter a zip code that is not in the system a different set of questions will come up. He commented on the Canadians zip codes which are totally different. He commented that there is a button with a Canadian flag on it and by hitting that button it will bypass the zip code but it will still collect the information and can ask Canadian questions. He commented that there is a button for international and it will ask international questions. He commented on what can be done with the collected information. He opined that it is a very valuable product to have to be able to convince airlines to service the airport. He commented that there is a six months lease and it will be set up this afternoon. He commented that after the first 30 days you will get an idea of what where your passengers are going. He

commented that it will be only one question which will take seconds to complete and it is totally anonymous. He commented that people are more inclined to participate when they see somebody ahead of them completing the survey. He commented that 20% in survey data is huge statistically. He commented that you don't have to mess with it, it is a wireless connection and data can be accessed remotely. He commented that a week before when the Board's agenda package comes out a report can be provided. He explained that it will be a table report and maps showing where the people are coming from. He commented that after a while you will be able to see patterns of what is going on with the people going through the terminal. Commissioner Hancik asked if the kiosk is going to be for going or arriving passengers or both. Dr. Byers commented that it will be for departing passengers. He commented that it is easier to get the passengers to take the survey while in line and trying to get them arriving will be a challenge. Commissioner Hancik asked if the staff provided Dr. Byers the package from the University of Missouri where the survey was designed by the students. He commented that it has a lot of good information on how they justified the statistics and the questions that were answered. He commented that the important thing the Board wants to know is where the people went. Dr. Byers explained what some of the questions that will be asked to be able to tell where the person went when they were here. He commented the kiosk is totally automated, it is unobtrusive and people seem to gravitate towards it. Commissioner Hancik asked where the kiosk will be put. Mr. Quill commented it will be at the final turn before you get to the TSA. Commissioner Hancik suggested that it would be great to have two units and put the other one in the holding area. Dr. Byers suggested to offer incentives to the passengers who participates in a deeper survey. He commented the passengers answer a lot more questions and then contact information will be captured. There was discussion on different surveys and different ways to set up surveys. He commented that when you see what is captured he opined that the Authority will feel a lot more comfortable seeing who is using the terminal. Commissioner Herston asked if the contract is with the Airport. Dr. Byers commented that it is. Commissioner Herston asked about liability insurance if it would fall over. Dr. Byers commented that the kiosk is sturdy. Commissioner Herston asked if there was more than one kiosk you would risk the potential of contaminating the information because of duplicate entries. Dr. Byers commented that it can be coded to differentiate which kiosk it came from. He commented that if a family is traveling together with the same zip code and doing the survey, the questions will rotate. Commissioner Herston asked if there will be a lot of typing on the questionnaires. Dr. Byers commented that it would be six touches of the screen and in case of the international there will be two touches to the screen. Mr. Quill commented that the flights to Portsmouth will return in November and he is hoping that it will be year around.

12. Old Business

a) **Food, Beverage, News and Gifts RFP Scoring July 2nd 9:00 a.m.** - Mr. Quill commented that RFP for the food, beverage, news and gifts is due on June 30, 2015 at 2:00 pm. He commented because of the tight timeframe the RFPs will be available for pick up by the Board members or it can be arranged to have it delivered to your house for review. He is recommending the Board meet on July 2nd to go over the scoring and

award the RFP on July 9th. Commissioner Hancik asked how many RFPs are out. Mr. Parish commented fifteen. Commissioner Coppola asked what is the reason for the short timeframe. Mr. Quill commented that the terminal project is moving along. He is recommending that the board set a special meeting on July 2nd at 9:00 a.m. to record the scores. **Commissioner Hancik made the motion to approve a special meeting on July 2nd at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Herston seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

13. New Business

- a) **Set Dates for Budget Workshop, Tentative Budget Hearing and Final Budget Hearing** - Mr. Quill presented proposed dates for the Budget Workshop and Hearings to make sure it works for everybody and the dates need to be schedule. Mr. Quill is recommending August 25th for the Budget Workshop. He is recommending the public hearings for September 3rd and September 17th at 5:01 p.m. **Commissioner Hancik made the motion to approve the proposed Budget Workshop to be scheduled August 25th at 9:00 a.m. and the two proposed Budget Public Hearings at 5:01 p.m. on September 3rd and September 17th in the meeting room. Commissioner Herston seconded. Motion passed unanimously.** Commissioner Hancik asked when can the Board expect to receive the working budget documents. Mr. Quill commented at the Budget Workshop, but there will be some drafts ahead of that. He explained that at the budget workshop they go through the tentative drafts and if there are any comments the drafts will be tweaked before the first Budget Hearing. He commented that at the second Budget Hearing you can only vote so any changes need to be made before or at the first Budget Hearing. Commissioner Hancik commented that it would be nice to have a document ahead of the Workshop to get a feel of what is in that budget. He asked if a commissioner wanted to include an item in the budget would they send a note to Mr. Quill. Mr. Quill commented that would be fine.
- b) **Resolution #15-03 Joint Participation Agreement with FDOT** - Mr. Quill commented that the Authority received some additional money from FDOT which has lowered the Authority’s portion to half of \$400,000. He commented that over Mother’s Day weekend there were some challenging situations in the parking lot. Mr. Parish commented that the Authority will add a second long term parking lot that can be used for employee parking during peak times and cell phone parking. He commented that on any given day there are between 75 to 100 employees parking in the lot. **Commissioner Herston made a motion to approve Resolution #15-03. Commissioner Coppola seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- c) **Contract with URS for Parking Lot Design** - Mr. Parish commented that the contract with URS is for the design of the overflow and employee Phase I parking lot. He commented that it would be located south of the existing long term parking lot, and the exit facility will be located north of the current exit from long term and short term combining them into one. He commented that if a machine goes down the Authority loses 50% of the capacity to exit, and this will put a manned pay station so it can function when a machine does go down. He commented that there will be four exit lanes and it will be shared by long term and short term. Commissioner Hancik asked

the cost of the contract. Mr. Quill commented that it is \$155,000. Commissioner Herston asked what will be the size of the parking lot. Mr. Parish commented it will be an additional 500-600 spaces. Commissioner Herston asked if it is the master plan. Mr. Parish commented that the Airport master plan is a significant project and that will be next year. He commented on the first, second and third phases of the parking lot. He commented that the Authority has a tenant that has a lease in that area and the plan shows that area becoming parking at some point in time and the Authority will not move the tenant. Commissioner Hancik asked about the design time. Mr. Parish commented that scheduling has not been set because the phasing plan has not been determined. He commented that the contract has to go to the FDOT for approval before the Authority can move forward. **Commissioner Herston made a motion to approve the contract with URS for the design of the overflow and employee parking lot. Commissioner Hancik seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

d) **Three Palms Speedway** - Mr. Quill stated that a letter had been sent to Mr. Jamie Haase asking why the grandstands were not in. He commented that a check had bounced, which was made good, the water bill is behind and property tax money is owed. He commented that the property tax owed is a challenge because previous operators did not pay the taxes. He commented that the current tenant is not responsible for the previous operators. He commented that the taxes owed is around \$14,000 and it is mostly informational. He stated depending on what the Board hears the Authority will get with Attorney Garrard. Commissioner Herston asked if the taxes due are real estate taxes or business tax. Mr. Quill commented that it is real estate and it is complicated. Commissioner Herston commented that if the County does not get their money then they sell the certificates. He asked if it is one or two years on the certificates. Mr. Quill opined that it is the current year but the lease was signed in October 2013 and whoever was occupying the premises on January 1, 2014 gets that bill and he does not know if it is pro-rated. Mr. Andy Haase from Three Palms Speedway commented on the grandstands. He commented that the scoring tower has been rebuilt since the hurricane in 2004 and the County found out about it in 2008 and asked for a blueprint. He commented that one of the previous operators had a welder certify the welds but he was not a certified welder from Florida, and when Three Palms Speedway took over the contract they were not made aware of having to fix the scoring tower. He commented that Three Palms Speedway found out about the welds when applying for permitting the grandstands. He commented that Three Palms Speedway took appropriate action and had the scoring tower fixed. He commented they presented the information to the County and have been waiting months for final approval. He commented that the bleachers have been purchased and are in a warehouse. He commented that they have an investor and have made payments to the investor. He commented on the loan amount and have made initial payments towards the loan. He commented that the original design of the bleachers was to be permanent seating with a masonry underneath the bleachers. He explained why the bleachers could not be used. He commented that the bleachers that are being torn out of the Daytona Super Speedway and will be installed however they are not able to do that without clearing final permitting for the scoring tower. He commented that once they get the final permit they will be able to go forward with the bleachers. Commissioner Herston asked if they had a building permit with Charlotte County on the scoring tower. Mr. Haase

commented that when they went to the County to get a permit for the bleachers there was an anonymous phone call stating that the scoring tower had issues, and the County told them what needed to be fixed. Commissioner Coppola asked how long have they been waiting. Mr. Haase commented about three months. Chair Andrews commented that three months for a final inspection on the scoring tower is a long time. Mr. Haase commented that the County did not approve it because a certified welder was not used, and Three Palms Speedway had to bring in a certified welder who said the welds were good and that the building would withstand any issues. He commented that Three Palms Speedway is upset about this because it was an issue three operators before Three Palms Speedway and the Authority never stepped in fix the problem. He commented that Three Palms Speedway never complained/argued but took care of the problem. He commented that Three Palms Speedway is trying to improve the track by doing a lot of different things. He commented on the events that was brought in and people who flew into the Airport. He commented that Three Palms Speedway is trying to make the airport a gem of what it should be in southwest Florida. He commented that in lieu of putting down a performance bond the fence was installed costing over \$125,000 and by doing that the Airport has a fence that has been quoted as one of the best in the nation for short track fencing. He commented that Three Palms Speedway is trying to improve the track and would like to finish the track, and they would like to be at the track for a long time. He opined that Three Palms Speedway have proved themselves to the Authority to be proper tenants and to handle themselves in a professional manner. Chair Andrews asked if Three Palms Speedway is pursuing the bleachers from Daytona. Mr. Haase commented that the company Three Palms Speedway originally purchased the bleachers from is Bleachers Builders Inc. out of Muncie, IN and they are currently tearing down the back stretch seating bleachers at Daytona. Chair Andrews commented that they have not finalized anything. Mr. Haase commented that they are trying to finalize the metal under structure. He commented that the bleachers at Daytona were more vertical so adjustments have to be made. Chair Andrews commented that you don't have any paperwork in trying to acquire the bleachers. Mr. Haase commented that they have the purchased bleachers and they will sell them back to the company for the Daytona bleachers which is all part of the contract. Chair Andrews commented that you don't have the contract. Mr. Haase agreed. He commented that they are having races every Saturday night and are drawing crowds. He commented that the people are actually enjoying sitting in their lawn chairs. He commented that great things are being done at the racetrack. He commented that it may not be the old track racing, but they were asked to try different things and they have done that. He commented that they will continue to keep doing those improvements and bring the track to what the Authority will be proud of. Chair Andrews commented that until the scoring tower is signed off you cannot proceed with the bleachers. Mr. Haase commented that a previous permit has to be finished before you can move forward and this permit has been opened since 2008. Commissioner Herston asked why you could not be able to have two permits going at the same time with different contractors. Mr. Haase commented that the County stated that they are not allowed to until the scoring tower is fixed because of the liability factor. He commented that if the scoring tower would have fallen he opined that it would fall onto the Authority no matter who the tenant was. He commented that they have done the work, submitted all the paperwork to the County for approval before they can move

forward to build the bleachers which will attach to the scoring tower. Commissioner Coppola asked if they advertise. Mr. Haase commented that do a lot of advertising on the radio in Naples and Bonita Springs area and are working with the newspaper and they are hit or miss. He commented they have been relatively successful doing social media getting the younger crowds and more people to the races. He commented that they are part of Charlotte County Chambers, flyers are posted around town and have connections with the local hotels to make sure that Charlotte County knows that the racetrack is open. Commissioner Coppola commented that she didn't know that they were racing and she asked what time they started. Mr. Haase commented on the times for the summer and winter months. Chair Andrews commented that the Board would like to see the scoring tower finished and the bleachers installed to become in compliance with the agreement. Mr. Haase commented that they fully anticipate in doing that and they would like to have the bleachers in. He commented that in the lease agreement there was no set date on when the bleachers had to be installed. He commented that they are working at this day and night and it is his father and himself doing things from cutting grass to cleaning bathrooms. He suggested that the Board take a tour of the racetrack to see the improvements to the interior. Commissioner Coppola asked if the County has to come out again once the bleachers are installed. Mr. Haase commented that they do. Commissioner Coppola commented then you would have another three month wait. Mr. Haase commented quite possibly. He commented that as soon as this permit is cleared for the scoring tower the bleachers can be installed and blueprints have been submitted to speed the process. Commissioner Herston commented that he is at the Building Department every day and he will try to push it along. Chair Andrews commented the he would like to see a timeframe. He stated that this was approved November 21, 2013. Mr. Haase explained that the first nine months involved a lot of clean-up and a lot of things needed to be fixed before they could get to operations. Chair Andrews commented that he understood that but they are operating a business in racing and the Authority would like to see an anticipated date. Mr. Haase commented that their goal is not to keep it open ended but to finish everything off so they can host bigger races and things. He commented that a nationwide concert promotor would like to bring in a concert that would rival the Florida Tracks and Trails. He commented that he cannot give a finalized date until he gets more involved with the County in trying to get them to speed things up. Commissioner Coppola asked who was at their last concert. Mr. Haase commented that it was a heavy metal rock band. Commissioner Herston commented that in looking at the accounts receivable they are current. He commented that it is tough out there for business. Mr. Haase commented that it is tough at all the tracks in the racing industry and that is why Three Palms Speedway is not solely depending on track racing. He commented that they are trying to make it family friendly and people are enjoying it and that is what racing is all about. Commissioner Coppola commented on the Islip Speedway when they had demolition derby. Mr. Haase commented that they have one scheduled on the 27th. Commissioner Herston commented that he will check with the Building Department. Chair Andrews commented that this is open ended and it has to be addressed and brought up to the agreement.

14. Citizen's Input

5 **Luther Lee Fitch** - Commented that he has received two payments from Mr. Haase and he is \$36,000 behind on payments. He commented that Mr. Haase has no tools and no knowledge of building fences. He commented that the two business partners designed and built the fence and local business support by donating pipe and concrete. He commented that Mr. Haase kept telling everybody to get the fence up, get the grandstands in and everything will be good and that did not come. He commented that Mr. Haase has given everybody a lot of talk and not a lot of action. He commented that he deals with the County Building Department in Indian River County and closed six permits in one day. He commented that it is pretty simple to close a permit. He commented that all you have to do is call them and they come out to inspect and you either pass or fail it. He commented that they do not have grandstands but bought planking. He commented that he is a racer and has raced at that racetrack when there were 100 cars in the pits and Three Palms is lucky to get 10 cars on a Saturday night. He commented that Three Palms had a race two weeks ago and six cars showed up and the show was cancelled. Commissioner Hancik commented that this is a very complicated issue which could lead to lawsuits and the Authority will turn it over to legal console to look for direction. Chair Andrews commented that that the loan agreement is between Mr. Fitch and Mr. Haase.

20 **Jim Kalleta** - Commented on a pilot clinic being held in June and seventy plus CAP members are coming. He explained that the pilots will be brought up to date on maneuvers. He thanked the Airport for the use of the south ramp, the EAA 565 and the EAA Warbirds for use of their buildings. He commented that a command trailer will be parked in front of the EAA warbirds hangar in case of an emergency they can operate without any other equipment. He thanked Nino's Bakery for catering the event and Walmart. He commented that the EAA has asked me to invite everybody to the pancake breakfast on Saturday from 8:30 am to 11:00 am.

30 **Don Lee** - Commented that the problem with the racetrack has been going on for years and suggested that the Board look into whether the Authority wants a racetrack. He commented that it has been costly and it could get more costly in the future. He commented that he has not heard anything about the trailer to promote the airport. He commented that from experience it has been very successful and the Authority should continue.

35 **Bobby Diehl** - Commented that the Authority should check with Dan Roe because the taxes this year is \$19,000. He commented on the ability of bringing money into Charlotte County when the racetrack is up and running. He suggested the Authority talk to the tourism people about how much of an impact the racetrack did throughout the local community. He commented that the racetrack has been a lot of problems but it does have a viable interest to the community. He commented that Mr. Don Lee has gone through a lot of issues and when he operated the racetrack and those were tough times. He commented that there are not very many racetracks left. He commented that this racetrack is a crown jewel when put together right and it will draw a lot of interest to the area.

45 **15. Commissioner's Comments**

Commissioner Herston - Commented that it is great to see everybody. He thanked everybody for attending especially Councilman Cavanaugh and Executive Director of the

MPO. He welcomed all visitors. He commented that it is great to see Mr. Don Lee. He thanked staff for another great month. He commented that when he flew to Youngstown there were a lot of people in the terminal. He commented that it was a great flight and he is going to send a letter to the president of the company to let him know how great the staff was.

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Commissioner Coppola - Commented that she had flown to Islip, Long Island and Allegiant does not fly there anymore and wishes that they'd reconsider. She commented that on one of the flights there were six couples from Long Island flying to Florida for mini-vacation weekend. She commented that Southwest instituted flights from Fort Myers to Islip and she opined that it cut into the passengers south of Punta Gorda. She commented that the staff on Allegiant was terrific right from start to finish and she had no problems. She commented that she has been through a lot of airports in Atlanta and Minneapolis and there is always a hitch and never had a problem with Allegiant with ticketing and all the way through. She commented on the racetrack and wished Attorney Garrard good luck. She hopes that the Board will do something with the parade airplane and asked if anything is being done. Mr. Quill commented that it is signed up for the Englewood Parade. Commissioner Coppola asked if the airplane will be refurbished or cleaned. She commented that it is fun to do, the kids love it and it lists all the cities that Allegiant flies to. She commented the most startling was when people commented on cities and it is terrific advertising.

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Commissioner Hancik - had no comments.

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Chair Andrews - Thanked everybody for coming to the meeting and everybody's input. He is looking forward to a continued success with the airline, the airport and the community. He hopes that Mr. Don Lee will attend the Englewood parade and see the helicopter cruising through.

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Commissioner Herston asked when the graphs and charts were presented on all the gas and passenger numbers how many people could not see the screens. He suggested to consider another monitor so people can see.

16. Adjournment

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Meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

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Paul Andrews, Chair

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Kathleen Coppola, Secretary/Treasurer