

CHARLOTTE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – JULY 9, 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, Herston and Seay; Executive Director Quill; Attorney Garrard; Ms. Cauley; Ms. Desguin; Mr. Laroche; Mr. Mallard and Mrs. Smith. **Others present:** Jim Kaletta, Ned Rose, Commissioner Doherty, Councilman Cavanaugh, Mike Hirsh, Jim Deutsch, Bob Mauti, Gary Harrell, Bob Herrington, Bobby Diehl, Jeanette Worth-Dugan, Jerry O’Halloran, Scott Brady, Kelly Rubino, Dave Goode, Carl Parsons, other people from the private sector and a member of the press. **Absent:** Commissioner Hancik and Assistant Executive Director Parish.

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5. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

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6. Citizen’s Input

7. Consent Agenda

30 **Commissioner Seay made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Herston seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

8. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report

35 Mr. Quill reported that the Income Statement for the month of May had an operating gain and is over projection. He commented that it is a very good month. He commented that the Accounts Receivable is the best since pre-recession. Commissioner Herston commented that it is great to see that the operating revenues are greater than what was budgeted and the expenses stayed the same.

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9. Committee Reports

a) **Land Use** - Commissioner Herston reported that Sarasota, Charlotte and Lee Counties are popping.

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- 5 **b) Economic Development** - Chair Andrews reported that Charlotte County had a spike in building for the month of May with a 22% increase over last year. He commented that sales have been phenomenal and have been higher than any month since June 2005. He stated that is definitely a good sign. He commented on unemployment and that Cheney Brothers will make a big change in the unemployment for the County. He reported that Fuccillo car dealership is going vertical.
- 10 **c) Personnel** - Commissioner Coppola read a letter from the Experimental Aircraft Association thanking Mr. James Parish for his efforts in obtaining and installing the signs for their chapter making it more visible and easier for people to find them. She commented on the extraordinary accreditation presented to Mrs. Sandra J. Cauley from the American Association of Airport Executives. She read the designation. She opined that it is phenomenal and is glad that Mrs. Cauley is with the Authority.
- 15 **d) Public Relations/Special Events** - Commissioner Coppola commented on an article in the Charlotte Sun about the safe pilot program that was here 40 years ago. She commented on the pilot flight clinic recently held in Punta Gorda and 61 members from various squadrons in the Civil Air Patrol attended. She commented that EAA Chapter 20 565 and Warbirds provided their facility for the exercise with easy access to their aircrafts. She read an article about Mr. Frank Moss embarking on a special mission from Punta Gorda to Moscow and an article in the Florida Trend profiling the Punta Gorda Airport.
- 25 **e) Governmental Liaison** - Commissioner Seay complimented the Charlotte Sun on the articles that have been presented which have been fair and well done. She commented that it is good to see and read that there are more than one side to every issue and the Charlotte Sun has done the utmost to make that presentation done well. She welcomed the County Commissioner Doherty and City Councilman Cavanaugh and thanked them for attending the meeting. She commented on the opportunity of having a lobbyist and 30 Mr. Jerry Paul has done extraordinary work for the Airport. She commented that one of his key components in working with the city is cooperation, coordination and for the opportunity of the people in Tallahassee to know that when they help out Punta Gorda they are helping the Airport, when they help the Airport they are helping the County and when they help the County they are helping the City and it identifies who they can call. She commented that she has been in contact with the tax office regarding the 35 questions that were raised on taxes and a meeting is scheduled for next week to discuss how the Authority can better coordinate the taxes with the tenants and issues related to delinquent taxes. She commented that taxes for non-aviation tenants is relatively new and it has been a long difficult transition. She opined that the steps taken by the 40 Authority have been helpful by incorporating that into the leases to make sure of that notification. She commented on an article on Western Michigan University in the Charlotte Sun paper. She commented that they are on track but on an academic track and they do take their time making decisions. She commented that she maintains contact with them on a regular basis making sure the Authority has all the information, and the County maintains contact with them weekly. She commented that there are a 45 lot of good things in sight for the Authority and it does take time. She opined that the

article is a positive thing and she was happy to see that. She commented that Mr. Quill is working with Florida Aviation System plan which is coming up soon. She commented that now is the time to be thinking of any concepts and ideas that needs to be brought to the legislative delegation for the upcoming session. She commented that Mr. Paul will be able to meet the commissioners individually or information can be brought to Mr. Quill and he can take it to Mr. Paul to start working on things that need to be done for the upcoming session. She commented that doing it early is the best method.

f) Metropolitan Planning Organization - Commissioner Herston reported that since the last meeting there have not been an MPO meeting and the next meeting will be in August. He reported that the MPOAC state board meeting will be held on July 23rd in Orlando. He commented that Director Herrington is in attendance and he will be attending the meeting with him. He commented that he had sent a couple of emails out on the status of the transportation bills working through Congress.

g) Aviation Activities Report - Chair Andrews reported that 585,000 passengers had passed through the airport last year and this year through June 437,400 passengers have passed through. He commented that it will not be too difficult to reach the 800,000 passenger projection for the year. He reported on a spike in Jet A fuel sales in May which is attributed to the C130 that was here for fighting the fires. He commented on airline gallons pumped and avgas sold. He commented that year over year there has been an increase in passengers. He commented that things are looking very good for the Airport.

10. Attorney’s Report

Attorney Garrard had nothing to report.

11. Executive Director’s Report

a) Development Update - Mr. Raymond Laroche reported that the terminal is moving along well and on track to open middle of September. He reported that terrazzo tile was laid inside and will be completed next week. He reported that the inside of terminal is being painted and the outside of the building is almost completely painted. He reported that the hangar buildout has begun. He reported that the carwash extension will be started soon. Mr. Ron Mallard reported that the Authority the radar will be installed and operational by December 4th, 2015. He reported the ILS project is currently being worked on and should be completed and flight check on August 19th, and the FAA publication will come out October 15th. Mr. Quill pointed out that the ILS has been on the master plan for forty years.

b) Miscellaneous Items - Mr. Quill reported that the parking design is underway. He commented that over July 4th weekend there was over 100 cars parked on the grass. He commented that the timing is excellent. He reported that the switch in the terminal is September 14th to shift the passenger function into the new portion and gutting the

5 existing portion. He reported that the kiosk is up and running and there was some preliminary results and it will be a continuing function. He commented that there will be a meeting next week in regards to the Speedway taxes with the property appraiser and the tax collector. He stated that the Authority's tenants who are taxed, generally non-aviation, the tenant is responsible for the tax under the lease. He commented of Mr. Haase took over the Speedway in fall of 2013 and he will be responsible for that part going forward. He commented that the tax collector will have to collect the taxes from the previous tenants if they owe money. He reported that the Piper Road to US 10 17 will be completed in two years which is the penny sales tax project, and the Authority is real happy about that. He opined that everybody sees the potential for distribution facilities coming similar to Cheney Brothers and he thanked the County for that. He commented that the passenger count is through the roof. He commented that the Board authorized the Authority to go forward on the RFP for food. He thanked the Board and all the staff, maintenance, FBO and security administration for doing a heck 15 of a job. He commented that the Punta Gorda Airport is getting noticed by other airports and it is fun to hear the comments of doing it different. Commissioner Herston asked if the 2017 date on Piper Road was for construction completion or design. Mr. Quill understood that it should be in the ground in two years.

20 12. Old Business

a) **RFP Airport Display Advertising Concession** - Mr. Quill commented that the terminal will be open before all the advertising can be up. The Authority wants to select a company to sell advertising in the terminal similar to what was done for the 25 RFP for food and gifts. He asked the Board if they want to do it as a Board or appoint a selection committee to evaluate the proposals and bring it back or how the Board wants to do the RFP for advertising in the terminal. Commissioner Seay prefers to have staff look around to see what is available and bring to the Board some ideas on what needs to be done to go forward. Mr. Quill stated that the proposals are due July 30 16th and the Authority would like to award it at the August 13th meeting. He suggested that the Board can either meet and evaluate or appoint a staff committee or a mix of some Board and staff. There was discussion on the RFP. Commissioner Seay would like staff to review the RFPs and eliminate those that do not meet the specifications. Commissioner Coppola asked who on staff would review the RFPs. Mr. Quill 35 commented that staff could through the criteria and advise the Board which RFPs met the specifications. Commissioner Coppola asked if it is specified when it goes out. Mr. Quill commented that it is. Commissioner Herston commented that the problem with that is somebody on the staff is making the decision that a firm is not qualified because they have not provided all the specifications and maybe it was provided somewhere. 40 He opined that the Authority may be opening themselves up to a lawsuit. He commented that the Authority should talk with the councilmen and commissioners. He opined that the concession RFP was well done. He is proposing to do the RFP Advertising concession the same as the RFP for food was done. He commented that a special meeting needs to be set up at the beginning of August. **Commissioner Herston made a motion to approve a special meeting date of August 5th, 9:00 a.m. in the** 45

meeting room for review of the RFP Airport Display Advertising concession. Commissioner Seay seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

13. New Business

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a) **Change the Date of the November Regular Monthly Meeting** - Mr. Quill is requesting to change the date of the November meeting. He explained that November 11th is Veterans Day and some of the staff will be taking vacation days after that. He asked if the Board want to change the date. **Commissioner Herston made a motion to approve the November Board regular scheduled meeting date from November 12th, 2015 to November 5, 2015 9:00 a.m. in the meeting room. Commissioner Seay seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

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b) **Change Order for Installation of Baggage Belts** - Mr. Quill commented that when the Authority was sprinting to get the terminal under-construction some things were going to bid later. He commented that the Authority received a bid for additional baggage work in the amount of \$762,693.00 by the contractor who is doing the work in the terminal, and it will be 90% federal, 5% state and 5% airport. Mr. Laroche commented that it was not included in the original bid because of the time frame and it is a necessity. He commented that it includes the temporary baggage belts at the temporary ticket counter in the new building and moving the ticket counter back and installation of the new baggage belt. He commented that it covers all three phases of the baggage belt system. Commissioner Herston asked if the design was in the original plans. Mr. Quill commented that the Authority had to quickly make things work and he explained the project phase of shifting into the new building with a temporary set-up and the shifting back into the combined building where the baggage belt will be permanent. He explained that the baggage belt will move two times. Mr. Laroche explained that the existing baggage belt will be moved into the new building and that will stay there and rest of the baggage belts will be new. Commissioner Herston asked where the design came from. Mr. Quill commented that the design was done later and he explained that things were moving quickly. Commissioner Herston asked if the design was done by the same consultant that did the terminal. Mr. Quill commented yes. Commissioner Coppola commented that the baggage belt will be installed, then uninstalled and reinstall. Mr. Laroche explained that the existing baggage belt will be moved to the new building and a temporary baggage belt will be installed behind the temporary ticket counter and that will be removed and a new belt will be installed that is identical to the existing belt, so there will be two belts in the new building at the completion of the entire project. He commented that they will be installing the outbound baggage belt on the opposite end of the building which will be reconfigured to provide for more bags going out of the building. Commissioner Herston asked who gave the final check-off on the design. Mr. Laroche commented the contractor that is building the terminal. **Commissioner Herston made a motion to approve of the change order by DeAngelis Diamond Construction Company for the installation of the baggage belts in the terminal in the amount of \$762,693.00 funded 90% by the FAA, 5% from FDOT and 5% from the Airport Authority. Commissioner Seay seconded.** Commissioner Herston asked who reviewed the specifications

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amounting to \$763,693.00. Mr. Quill commented that it was done by Mr. Parish.
Motion passed unanimously

5 c) **Purchase A320 Fueling Stands** - Mr. Quill commented that Allegiant will be having
Airbus aircraft flying in and the wing is higher than the aircraft wing that they are
currently flying. He commented that Mr. Mallard had done some research and came
up with a safer way to fuel the aircraft. Mr. Mallard commented that the MD80 is
10 about seven foot to hook up the fueling receptacle weighting in excess of 50 pounds
and the Airbus is another four and half feet taller. He commented that the Airport has
one old stand that is marginal to say the least and the Authority does not want the staff
to use stepladders. He commented that the cost is covered in the in-to-plane rate fee
that is charged to Allegiant Airlines and the Authority will raise the rates to cover this
15 expense, and the Authority has a return on investment in less than a year for the two
stands. Chair Andrews asked how many stands are being purchased. Mr. Mallard
commented that two stands will be purchased and the Authority is putting in the budget
an additional two stands for next year. He commented that the Authority is getting
ready for the Airbus to start coming in and there is a 10 week lead time, 8 weeks to
20 build and 2 weeks for delivery. He commented the stands will be coming from the
West coast. He commented that normally the fuel stands are twice the price because
the fuel hose is already hooked up, however a company has developed a stand much
more efficiently. He explained that the employee would walk up, hook the goose neck
into the bracket and push a lever and brings it up to the perfect height of the aircraft,
and this removes any possible injuries to staff. Commissioner Herston asked if the lift
25 is motorized or mechanical. Mr. Mallard commented that you just push the lever and
it automatically goes up. Mr. Mallard commented that this design was just patented
and the Authority's staff has gone to St. Pete to look at the same design and had
thoroughly tested it. He commented that it is a really good unit. **Commissioner
Herston made a motion to approve the purchase of two A320 Fueling Stands to
30 fuel Allegiant Air's A320 aircraft in the amount of \$12,800.00. Commissioner
Seay seconded.** Commissioner Coppola asked where the stands will be stored. Mr.
Mallard commented that they are stored on the ramp. Commissioner Coppola asked if
they are weather worthy. Mr. Mallard commented that they are. Commissioner Seay
commented that everybody will be so much happier with an A320 because they are a
much quieter aircraft. Commissioner Coppola asked when the A320's will start flying
35 in. Mr. Mallard commented that there are few on the schedule that come in during the
week now and the first based aircraft that is scheduled in will be the first week of
October and their fleet will be converted by the end of the year. Mr. Mallard stated
that the MD80 is at 83 decibels and the A320 is at 71 decibels. He commented that
there will always be the perception of aircraft flying over you and that will not go away.
40 Commissioner Herston asked if they going to change out their entire fleet. Mr. Quill
commented that the fleet that will be based at the Airport will be all Airbuses and there
will be inside turns during the middle of the day from other locations with the MD80
aircraft series. **Motion passed unanimously.**

45 d) **Resolution #15-04 Support of Airport Improvement Plan Renewal** - Mr. Quill read
Resolution #15-04, attached, that Commissioner Hancik had suggested this as a means

5 to send to the Authority's congressional delegation support for renewal of several
items. He commented that this shows the Authority's request to continue the existing
programs and to make some changes. Commissioner Seay asked if there are other
airports that are preparing and submitting similar resolutions. Mr. Quill commented
10 that there are. Commissioner Seay asked where it originated. Mr. Quill commented
that over the years it has been typical for airports to do this. Commissioner Seay
commented that this was not done before and focusing on something that the Airport
does not participate in seems awkward to her with and with so much emphasis on the
passenger facility charge that the Airport does not use. Mr. Quill commented that the
15 Authority would like it if their neighbor would increase theirs. Commissioner Seay
commented that she does not have a problem with that and it is a good thing. She
commented that she does not want it to look like the Airport is partaking of something
that the Airport is not. She commented that the Airport does not partake in the passenger
facility charges and it sounds like we are promoting it. She commented that she
20 understands that and it is great because a lot of the airports really do need that. She
commented that the Authority might be covered by saying that the Punta Gorda Airport
has been able to make important strides benefiting the Airport users and the
community, and the Authority has done that without the passenger facility charge.
Commissioner Coppola commented that was her thoughts too. She commented is it
25 something the Authority can do, don't have to do or maybe want to do sometime in the
future. Mr. Quill commented that it provides an option for the Airport in the future.
Chair Andrews commented that it was addressed last year at the FAC conference. He
commented that it states the passenger facility charge is an option to the airports and
the Authority is supporting the option. Commissioner Coppola asked if that would
30 lessen the funding from other agencies. Mr. Quill commented that there is a formula
that could be affected depending on the changes they do in federal legislation. He gave
an example. He opined that this is encouraging them and there were a number of
continued resolutions over the years for FAA grant funding. He commented that the
Authority would like a longer funding bill so there are not stops and starts.
35 Commissioner Coppola asked if this would help. Mr. Quill opined that it would help
and it would make the congressional representatives aware of the needs of airports.
Commissioner Seay opined that it will strengthen the representative's position. She
commented that she does not have a problem with it but wants to make sure that the
Authority is not biting themselves by doing it. Commissioner Coppola is concerned
40 that if someone comes back stating that you have this in the resolutions, so do it.
Commissioner Seay commented that the Authority has benefited all along and have
done it without the PFC. She commented until the Authority needs the PFC she would
not want the Airport to jump into it because the Authority is doing very well. She
commented that she does not want to cause any ripples with Allegiant, and the
Authority is trying to attract new airlines. She commented that the formula the
Authority has works and she does not want to change that. She commented that she
45 wants to make sure that the Authority is not taking steps down a road that will cause
the Authority to make changes before the Authority is ready. Chair Andrews
commented that this it has been in the works and he supports the option of the passenger
facility charge. He does not see it affecting the Airport and the grant processing.
Commissioner Herston asked if the Authority knows for sure that Congressman Rooney,

5 Senator Nelson and Senator Rubio support the increase of that charge and the indexing. Mr. Quill commented that he did not know. Commissioner Herston commented that it is kind of a red flag and he is not sure if the Authority supports an increase, but the Authority does support an indexing. He commented on the 1912 dollar being worth
10 three cents. He commented that the problem on some of the fuel taxes that the state has and there are some 1932 taxes on a gallon of gas locked in to the penny. He commented that the MPOAC had studied that and reported it to the legislature. He is not sure if the Authority supports an increase in the fees, and he opined that the government takes in enough money. He commented that the Authority supports
15 indexing. He hopes that if the Authority sends this out that they are supporters of this issue. There was discussion on the passenger facility charges. Commissioner Herston proposed to table the resolution. Mr. Quill commented that the proposed legislation is tweaking that. Commissioner Seay stated that the Authority is making a claim in the resolution that Senators Nelson and Rubio and Congressman Rooney have done something but there is no verification, and the Authority does know that they are strong
20 supporters of the Airport. She commented that she is not comfortable naming them directly without them saying that they actually would do this. She opined that it would be beneficial and helpful if they had this going forward, and she suggested tabling it for the next meeting when they will have more information. Commissioner Coppola opined that the Authority needs to investigate more. She commented that it is to be more revenue to the Authority. Mr. Quill commented that it is to keep the program intact so you could move along avoiding the interruptions with continued resolutions. He commented that a number of airports have talked about increasing it because it has
25 not been increased in many years, and the indexing was another aspect of it. There was discussion on the purpose of the resolution and what the Authority's goals are. Chair Andrews opined that the Authority needs more of an explanation so everybody understands exactly what it means. Commissioner Coppola stated that it needs to show how it benefits the Airport. **Commissioner Seay made a motion to postpone the support of resolution #15-04, Support of Airport Improvement Program Renewal, until staff does some further research and to put it on the agenda for the next meeting after staff has an opportunity to review and make recommendations. Commissioner Coppola seconded. Motion passed unanimously.** Commissioner Coppola asked if there was a timeframe. Mr. Quill commented that he is not aware of any other than Congress is holding hearings on it now.

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14. Citizens' Input

40 **Vic Poitrias** - Commented that the passenger numbers seems to be missing for the last quarter of 2014 on the Authority's website. He commented that he had written an article in the paper earlier this year for the Curmudgeon Club on passenger fees. He commented in reference to the passenger services fees, the fees will raise from \$4.50 to \$8.50. He commented that out of 21 airports in Florida nineteen collect passenger service fees and the Punta Gorda Airport is one of the two that do not. He commented that fees are collected by the airlines and turned directly over to the Airport Authority for airport improvements.
45 He commented that the charged is based on numbers leaving the airport. He commented that the Airport does not have to charge \$4.50, but can charge \$2. He commented that most

of the airports are charging \$4.50. He commented that in looking at the embarking passengers over the last two years and multiply that by \$2 that is a lot of money. He opined that \$2 is not going to break the bank. He commented that the Authority can charge anywhere from a \$1 to \$4.50. He commented that he is not aware of any administration fees that the airlines are charging.

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Bobby Diehl - Commented on the speedway property at the beginning of his comments but did not address at the podium and were inaudible. He commented that being a previous operator of the facility there are opportunities for the local Charlotte County community and for the state of Florida to make money. He commented that there are individual teams around southwest Florida area that have invested millions of dollars depending on the airport properties to be able to bring money into their establishments. He commented that there are professional touring series that can't come to the speedway because there are not any grandstands. He commented on the scoring tower holding up the installation of the grandstands and on the bond being waived and the installation of the grandstands is not happening. He commented on the taxes owed by current tenant and previous tenants of the speedway. He commented on the tires sitting on airport property. He commented that when he was a tenant it cost him \$8,000 to have the tires taken away. He commented that is the responsibility of the lessee. He commented that the tenants of the speedway are using the offices as a living area. He commented that when he was a tenant he was reprimanded for having to live on the property. He commented that they are allowed to use the scoring tower every weekend even though it is not approved. He asked Commissioner Herston if he heard anything from the County on the approval of the scoring tower. He commented that it has been an ongoing nightmare when the tower was built without permits. Commissioner Herston commented that he did ask the Building Department. Mr. Diehl asked if they can have other permits because he understands the reason they don't have the grandstands is because they have an outstanding permit. Commissioner Herston commented that it was not understood by anybody he had talked to. Mr. Diehl asked the board to address these issues for the next meeting. He commented that the speedway has races and other activities going on and they must have insurance. He commented that Charlotte County Airport Authority is a custodian of that property where taxes are being owed and the possibility of not having a hold harmless to the Airport's area. He commented that the Federal government will come after the people with the money, not the guy that is broke trying to run a racetrack that owes \$36,000 in taxes. He was wondering there the Authority is at on his security deposit he put up in 2007.

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Bob Mauti - Commented on the support he has gotten from Mr. Quill, the Board and the Airport staff for the entire time since 2001. He appreciated the support and he wants to go on record that EAA appreciates it. He commented on the use of the EAA's facility for a recent pancake breakfast. He commented that the organization has been expanding and this is the first year they did not have to cancel the pancake breakfast during the summer months. He commented that the EAA building is being used quite often, such as the Civil Air Patrol had their big annual function which was a terrific success. He commented on the different uses of the EAA building. He commented on the new signs pointing to EAA 565. He commented that Mr. Parish helped with the design, ordered and got the signs installed. He commented that you will see two beautiful signs that point not only to the EAA 565,

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but to their sister organization the Warbirds. He thanked Mr. Mallard for not saying it is not his job, and he thanked Mr. Parish by taking the bull by the horns and getting the job done. He commented that this is another sample of the continued support that the Airport gives. He commented as a small token of their appreciation he invited the Board and the Authority's staff to come and have a free pancake breakfast on them. Chair Andrews thanked Mr. Mallard for working very hard within the airport community.

Bobby Lamoreaux - Commented on Chair Andrews comment on the speedway at the last meeting where Chair Andrews was going to put a timeframe on the bleachers, and he wanted to know if a time frame has been set. Chair Andrews commented that the Authority will have to decide on the timeframe and that has to be discussed. He commented that he will meet with Mr. Quill for discussion.

Kelly Rubino - Wanted to clarify a couple of things as the Authority does their research on the passenger facility charge. He commented that the most that can be charged is two PFCs on a one way trip or four PFCs on a round trip. He commented that for a round trip a passenger could pay a maximum of \$18.00. He explained that if you make a connection in Atlanta you pay here and in Atlanta, and if you do two connections you do not have to pay on the third leg. He commented the big issue in the industry is the airports claim that they have thirteen billion dollars in annual improvements and only get about ten billion dollars between AIP, PFCs and other sources, so their argument is that they need additional funding for capital improvement projects at airports. He commented that the airport could fund with PFCs anything that is eligible under the AIP program and the airport's argument is that they need more money because the PFCs have been in place for fifteen years and it has never changed so it has half the purchasing power that it had previously. He commented that the airports needs that type of support. He commented that the airline's position is just another tax. He commented that they support anything the airports want to do and the airports have never lost a project because they don't have enough money. He commented that the airline lobby is very strong and have the upper hand at the present time versus the airports. He commented currently the big issue in congress is privatization of air traffic control and taking it off the budget. He commented that it continues to be kicked down the road. He commented that there will be a continuing resolution or try to get the continuing resolution to go through next year past the elections. He opined that the Authority's legislators supporting this do not have a position right now, and everybody is trying to see where everybody's position is before they take a position.

Jerry O'Halloran - Commented that there are great things going on and it is great to hear this. He commented that the pilots will be very happy to see that the radar is coming in because it is a great help to the pilots and the traffic controllers. He commented on the A320 and how much quieter it will be. He opined that Commissioner Seay is correct stating that it is a perception and airplanes do fly overhead and people look up and say noise and stating he sits back and says great economic development. He commented that the more passengers the Airport has the fewer noise complaints are received. He commented that it is hard to complain about something that you are participating in. He commented on a video that was done by a real estate developer and talking about how much better Charlotte County has done because of the Punta Gorda Airport. He commented that two really bad

things can happen to pilots when they are flying. He commented that it gets really quiet up there when the engine stops and you have to come down rather quickly and you would like to think you are in contact with someone. He mentioned this because it happened to him a couple of weeks ago and fortunately he was able to make the correction. His concern is being able to contact somebody for help in case of an emergency. He commented that the pilots are to monitor the FBO for their assistance and not a lot of activity is going on in the early mornings the pilots have to be careful that they are monitoring that frequency. He asked if the fire department monitors that frequency. He commented then there are two entities monitoring it that will hear the pilots if there is an emergency. Mr. Mallard commented that the Authority found that one of the antennas on the Unicom was somewhat subpar and that was replaced this last week.

15. Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Herston – Commented that it was good to see everyone including Councilman Cavanaugh, Commissioner Doherty, Mr. Rubino and Mr. Brady. He thanked staff for a good job. He commented on a personal note that there is a lot going on and not to just watch certain news channels but look at some of the alterative channels.

Commissioner Seay – Congratulated Mrs. Cauley. She commented that she missed last month's meeting because she had surgery. She commented that she is a race fan and is a sponsor of a race car. She opined that the racetrack is good for the community. She commented that there are issues with the racetrack. She commented that the grandstands need to be addressed. She commented that the sponsors of the cars want their names to be seen and they cannot be seen without grandstands. She commented that the speedway owners have not been paying their taxes and their insurance. She commented that the speedway had misrepresentations made to the Board stating they would have grandstands and events. She commented that she is not happy and would like to see something happen sooner rather than later. She commented that she sent information to Attorney Garrard and for him to meet with Mr. Quill and Chair Andrews to see what can be done as quickly as possible. She commented that the passenger facility charge is a tax. She commented that the airport is funded by user fees and that is a tax too based on usage. She commented that if the Authority is thinking about doing Passenger Facility Charges (PFC) the Authority needs to look at the impact it will have on the community and the people that fly in and out of the airport. She commented that the Punta Gorda Airport is a low cost airport and the Authority needs to pay closer attention to what they are doing. She commented that she is not in favor of Passenger Facility Charges, certainly not now, and it would take a lot of convincing for her to think it is a good thing. She commented that she did not see requiring the passengers at this airport to pay an additional fee. She commented that if the Authority is looking at how much more money they will make then the Authority is not doing it the right way. The Authority needs to make sure they are doing what is best for the community, make sure the Authority is operating in a fiscally responsible manner and not living beyond their means and making sure that the Authority operates within the money the Authority can make here for the appropriate facilities and people that are here.

5 **Commissioner Coppola** – Congratulated Mrs. Cauley and thanked Mr. Parish and Mr. Mallard for the signs and Mr. Mauti for acknowledging that the Authority has good people on staff. She commented that when you add a tax or passenger facility charge they never go away. She commented that she has concerns with it too and would have to prove to her that it is a really good thing. She commented that she is concerned with the insurance issue at the speedway. Commissioner Seay commented that the Authority is additional named insured on the policy and if anything should happen the Authority is covered, but if there is no insurance the Authority is not covered. She commented that the person who is running the speedway has some money issues and the first person with deep pockets that they would look at is the Authority if something should happen. She commented that she understands that there was an event held and there was no insurance. She commented that the Authority could be in deep trouble. She commented that the previous operators of the speedway all had insurance because they understood the importance of it. Commissioner Coppola asked if there is a cease and desist until they get it. Mr. Quill said that there is one now. She commented on the press coverage and she has had people in the community tell her how nice their trips were in and out of this airport.

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20 **Chair Andrews** - Thanked everyone for coming. He commented that he will continue to do research on the Passenger Facility Charge (PFC). He commented that he has some concerns with the speedway and wants to do what is best for the airport and community.

16. Adjournment

25 Meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

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Paul Andrews, Chair

Kathleen Coppola, Secretary/Treasurer