

CHARLOTTE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF TENTATIVE BUDGET HEARING

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SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 – 5:01 P.M.

Call to Order

10 **Pledge of Allegiance**

Roll Call

15 **Present:** Chair Stasko; Commissioners Coppola, Lee and Seay; Executive Director Quill; Attorney Garrard; Assistant Director Parish; Mrs. Cauley; Mr. Coulter and Mr. Steele. **Others present:** Paul Andrews, Gene Geronime, Jim Kaletta and Ned Rose. **Absent:** Commissioner Herston.

20 **Citizen's Input -** No citizen's input

20 Mr. Quill commented that he received notification from the Sheriff's Office that their hourly rate will go from \$26.00 per hour to \$42.00 per hour, which is a 65% increase. He explained that an adjustment was made in the budget, but the Authority will be evaluating other options. Commissioner Seay suggested the Authority have their own police department. Commissioner C
25 Coppola asked why the notice was received now and not notified earlier. She asked what they actually do. Mr. Quill stated that they patrol around the terminal. Chair Stasko asked what the pay-out was to the Sheriff's Office last year. Mrs. Cauley reported the total pay was \$65,000. Commissioner Seay asked how much they pay for the hangar. Mr. Quill reported that they pay \$67,000. Commissioner Lee suggested adjusting the rate on the hangar and the fuel. Mr. Quill
30 commented the Authority can adjust the fuel, but the hangar is leased. Commissioner Seay suggested eliminating the discount on the fuel. Mr. Quill recommended adopting the budget as amended and will report back to the Board on the alternatives. Commissioner Coppola suggested getting the details as to what is included in the \$42.00 per hour. Mr. Coulter
35 commented receiving a courtesy call from the Sheriff's Office of the increase because the Authority's contract will expire before October 1, 2011. He reported having a list of items that is required by the TSA under 1542 that requires law enforcements to be at the airport. He opined the Authority needs to look at other avenues to save this money because it is quite an increase. Commissioner Coppola commented what about negotiating this fee with them. Commissioner Seay suggested talking with the Fort Myers Airport about getting a couple of officers from them
40 rather than having our own police force. Commissioner Lee suggested talking with Cape Coral. Mr. Quill reported the Authority had emailed the City Police and they stated that they have to be authorized by the Sheriff's Office and their rate is \$39.00 per hour. He commented that the Authority will continue checking into other alternatives. Chair Stasko commented that the budget needs to be increased to cover this cost if there are no other alternatives. Commissioner
45 Seay commented on the Marketing side of the budget in regards to the Brazil program trade mission that Mr. Parish and she are attending. She commented it has grown immensely in the

last four days. She reported the first half of the trade mission is going to Brazil looking at businesses and try to persuade them to relocate to Florida. She reported the second half of the trade mission, which was not in the plan, is having the businesses that they already talked with come to Florida. She reported there are fifteen businesses signed on to come to Miami on a five day program, November 1-5, 2011. She reported that between the local Economic Development Office and the Brazilian Economic Development Office, the Charlotte County Airport Authority has been invited to be a second venue. She reported then they can see two views of Florida; 1) three days in Miami, 2) two days in Charlotte County. She reported the Authority would need to bring the businesses from Miami and show them what Punta Gorda Airport has to offer. She reported Charlotte County and the regional center for EB5 Visas have offered money. She reported that there are others that have indicated an interest, but the Authority needs to have money as part of the marketing. She reported that these are businesses that are interested in relocating to Florida. Commissioner Coppola asked if the State Governor's Office has been involved. Commissioner Seay commented that they are involved through the trade mission. She reported the same person is putting together the Governor's Trade Mission and the return trade mission. She reported that he is from the Brazil Tampa Chamber of Commerce and she has worked with him on different programs. She commented the people from Brazil need to see a different prospective of Florida. She commented that they will like it here because it's safe and affordable for a better life style. She commented that this is a great opportunity for the Airport Authority. Chair Stasko asked if the Authority has looked at the businesses individually to see if their businesses are interested in relocating to the Airport or are the businesses interested in relocating to Punta Gorda or Port Charlotte area. Commissioner Seay stated when talking with Jefferson he said the businesses are interested in relocating to the Airport. She commented that she had talked with someone that wants a foreign trade zone at the Airport. She stated if the Airport had a foreign trade zone, the Airport could establish a customs connection so they can fly from Brazil direct to this Airport. She commented if that should happen, there will be tremendous opportunities for the smaller businesses to be located at the Airport. She commented that the Board and staff need to be more actively involved. She explained that she drafted up a business plan for the Airport. She commented the County has indicated interest in wanting to help. She stated she will be talking with the City to see if they could help. Commissioner Coppola commented that there is a woman who belongs to a large Latin American group attending the Peace River Forum that might be able to help when we bring people to the Airport. Chair Stasko commented that they are getting off track as to what they are meeting for. Commissioner Seay commented that there might be some additional costs within the budget for Marketing. Chair Stasko commented that the Marketing budget is \$212,000. Commissioner Lee commented that the foreign trade zone will be expensive and will need to know what the cost will be. Mr. Quill commented on the CIP portion of the budget. He stated the Authority has \$90,000 for a tractor and \$20,000 for a small truck. He stated canopies will be installed over the parking lot entrance because it is difficult to read the meter due to reflection from the sun. He stated the rental car facility includes the AIP project. He stated there is \$1,360,388 of which \$50,000 is for the canopies, \$250,000 for the car rental facility and \$1,060,000 for a project which will be the terminal until the grant is approved. He stated the Authority is expecting to get some grants which are not shown on the budget. Chair Stasko asked for details on the rental car facility expense. Mr. Quill stated that it will be a car wash and a vacuum center. Mr. Parish stated the budgeted \$250,000 for the car rental facility is for a new parking lot which is not AIP eligible for any of the grants. Chair Stasko asked what the income was from the rental cars.

Mrs. Cauley reported the income from the rental cars were \$745,500 with security fee of \$32,700. Commissioner Coppola asked if the car wash had a system to recapture the water. Mr. Quill stated the water from the car wash is not recaptured. Commissioner Coppola asked if it would be difficult to recapture the water. Mr. Parish stated that the Authority has looked into it with an automated car wash system and they were very expensive. He stated the Authority would have had to install three automated car washes because it couldn't hold enough cars during peak season. He commented with the hand wash system they will not use much water and it will not be cost effective to recycle. **Commissioner Lee made a motion to adopt the tentative budget. Commissioner Seay seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

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Citizen's Input - No input.

Adjournment - Commissioner Lee made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Seay seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

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Gary Stasko, Chair

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Don Lee, Secretary/Treasurer