

METROPOLITAN AIRPORT AUTHORITY OF ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS
MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
February 21, 2023

The Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Airport Authority of Rock Island County, Illinois, held its regular monthly meeting on February 21, 2023, pursuant to bylaws and meeting notice previously posted.

Commissioners:

PRESENT: Chairman Kurt Donnelly, John Malvik,
Jodi Fisk, Jennifer Radloff, Richard Stone
John McGregor, Debbie Healy, Shaun Taylor

ABSENT: None.

Others Present in Terminal Conference Room:

Benjamin Leischner, Executive Director
Joe Goetz, Operations Manager
Angela Burch, Director of Finance
Jo Johnson-Meineke, Dir of HR & Risk Mgmt.
Ashleigh Davis, PR and Marketing Manager
Jeff Swan, Public Safety Chief
Betsy Kaiser, Accountant
Brooke Rutledge, Executive Assistant
Kenneth Florey, Robbins Schwartz
Marlin Jackson, Airport Facilities Manager
Stephen Kuechel, Operations Intern
Brent Antolik, Building Maintenance Electrician
Travis Strait, CMT
Morgan Mays, HDR
Michael Witiw, HDR
Chad Pregracke, Bison Bridge Foundation
Matthew Hughes, MRH Solutions

Chairman Donnelly called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. Jeff Swan, Public Safety Chief, presented the Public Safety Officer of the Year Award to Rusty Hocker. Officer Hocker and other public safety officers attending the presentation left the meeting once the presentation was concluded.

1. Motion by Commissioner Radloff, Second by Commissioner Fisk for the Minutes of the Monthly Board Meeting and Executive Session held on January 17, 2023 to be approved. Motion carried by unanimous verbal vote.
2. There were no petitions or communications to the Board.
3. Benjamin Leischner presented the Director's Update. Mr. Leischner began by informing the Board of the recent passing of George N. Kirk, who passed away at 101 years old. George led a remarkable life, was a decorated war veteran, and the Quad City Airport manager from 1954 to 1983. Mr. Kirk was a flying ace, and received two Distinguished Flying Crosses in the Pacific theatre during WWII. Mr. Leischner continued by noting his recent attendance at the Great Lakes Chapter of A.A.A.E. winter Board retreat, where he had the opportunity to present the Quad Cities hosting the chapter's annual meeting, and is pleased to share the Quad Cities was chosen as the host site for the 2025 Great Lakes Chapter A.A.A.E. annual conference. Mr. Leischner concluded his update noting his continued commitment on working closely with community partners and Lakeshore Recycling for a land lease agreement in the Airport industrial park and is confident the project is moving in a positive direction. A copy of the written version of the Director's Update was placed on file.
4. Report of Officers and Standing Committees:

- a. Angela Burch, Director of Finance, reviewed the Treasurer's Report for January 2023. The report depicts an overall healthy cash position at approximately \$33 million, an increase of \$667,000 over the month of December. Ms. Burch noted the MAA received \$172,000 in property replacement taxes and \$86,000 in investment earnings, with interest rates continuing to rise at 4.5%. Additionally, she noted \$360,000 in grant funding was received for payroll and COVID response expenses, as well as \$76,000 in concession rent relief for Airport tenants. Motion by Commissioner Malvik, Second by Commissioner Stone, for the Treasurer's Report to be approved. Roll Call: Ayes – Commissioners Stone, Fisk, Malvik, McGregor, Radloff, Donnelly, Healy, Taylor. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.
 - b. and c. The January 2023 Metropolitan Airport Authority Financial Statements and LLC Financial and Activity Statements were placed on file. The report for the MAA presented a positive net income of \$5.8 million year-to-date. Ms. Burch stated operating revenues were up 3.4%, operating expenses were up 3.7%, and non-operating revenue and expenses were down 29% year-to-date compared to the same timeframe the year prior, primarily due to reimbursements for the ARPA COVID funds. She stated the MAA made the intentional decision to hold some reimbursements based on how its bottom line was looking, with roughly \$3 million outstanding to seek reimbursements for. Additionally, she noted the MAA continues to see large increases in personal property replacement taxes and investment income, which was up 400% over the year prior.

Ms. Burch's report included the observation of the LLC having a \$125,000 loss year-to-date, compared to a \$92,000 loss for the same timeframe the year prior. Ms. Burch attributed less fueling activity, leading to lower profit margins, and a decrease in cargo activity as factors for the big change year-to-date. Additionally, she noted the LLC is still seeing effects from wage compression.
 - d. The Airport Activity Summary for January 2023 was placed on file. Mr. Leischner reported activity was up 12% compared to the same timeframe the year prior. Tower movements were up 7%. He concluded his report noting that total passengers for 2022 were just over 500,000. The report was placed on file.
 - e. Joe Goetz, Airport Operations Manager, reviewed the Airport projects and construction report. Highlights of Mr. Goetz's review are noted in these Minutes. CMT has completed 95% design work and Valley Construction has completed 95% for the Shorten Runway 5/23 project. The report was placed on file.
 - f. The report of bills paid in January was presented. With no further discussion, Motion by Commissioner Fisk, Second by Commissioner Radloff, for the board bills to be approved. Roll Call: Ayes – Commissioners Stone, Fisk, Malvik, McGregor, Radloff, Donnelly, Healy, Taylor. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried. The report was placed on file.
5. Chairman Donnelly noted the memo regarding a Bison Bridge presentation from Chad Pregracke, President and Founder of the Bison Bridge Foundation. Mr. Pregracke presented to the Board regarding the Bison Bridge proposal to repurpose the I-80 Bridge over the Mississippi River in the Quad Cities. His team believes the Bison Bridge project would become a national landmark with the ability to draw visitors to the Quad Cities from all over the country. Additionally, they believe the project will spark economic development, create jobs, and increase the region's visibility. Mr. Pregracke concluded his presentation by asking the Board for an opportunity to support the Bison Bridge project by authorizing a discounted rate for advertising space at the Airport.
 6. Ashleigh Davis, Public Relations and Marketing Manager, gave her quarterly marketing update. Ms. Davis began her update with a winter campaign roundup. Key takeaways included testing Spotify for the first time and Facebook outperforming Instagram and is a low-cost way to reach audience. She highlighted data points of interest which included web sessions up 8% compared to FY Q1 2022, a boost in email traffic, engagement was up due to National Aviation Month trivia giveaway, and web sessions up 16% from social. She concluded her update by providing an overview of an upcoming FY24 Strategic Planning session with MindFire, to include items such as reviewing audiences, objectives, timing, and budget.
 7. Chairman Donnelly noted the memo regarding the approval of an agreement with Bohnsack & Frommelt, LLP of Moline, Illinois to provide financial audit services for fiscal years 2023 and 2024 for a total of \$65,000. Angela Burch, Director of Finance, noted that Bohnsack & Frommelt, LLP has been a strong partner, with minimal increases in pricing for fiscal years 2023 and 2024 audit services. With no questions or further discussion, Motion by Commissioner *Radloff, Second by Commissioner Healy to approve. Roll Call: Ayes – Commissioners Stone, Fisk, Malvik, Radloff, Donnelly, Healy, Taylor. Nays – None. Absent – McGregor. Motion carried.

8. Chairman Donnelly noted the memo regarding the approval of 5-year Concession Agreements for on-airport rental car services with The Hertz Corporation, Avis Budget Car Rental, Inc. and Enterprise Rent-a-Car Company – Midwest, LLC. Benjamin Leischner, Executive Director, discussed key terms negotiated for the Agreements and stated all operators are committed to the market. With no questions or further discussion, Motion by Commissioner Stone*, Second by Commissioner Fisk to approve. Roll Call: Ayes – Commissioners Stone, Fisk, Malvik, McGregor, Radloff, Donnelly, Healy, Taylor. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.
9. Chairman Donnelly noted the memo regarding the approval of the purchase of P25 Emergency Radio System from Racom Critical Communications of Moline, Illinois in an amount not to exceed \$35,000. Jeff Swan, Public Safety Chief, stated Rock Island County has already transitioned to this system, and that the Airport would have to implement this new system no matter what in the near future. With no questions or further discussion, Motion by Commissioner Malvik*, Second by Commissioner Radloff to approve. Roll Call: Ayes – Commissioners Stone, Fisk, Malvik, McGregor, Radloff, Donnelly, Healy, Taylor. Nays – None. Absent – None.
10. At 9:22 a.m., Chairman Donnelly invited board members to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel, collective bargaining, property acquisition, lease pricing, security, and pending or imminent litigation under the legal finding/factual basis supporting the application of exceptions to the Open Meetings Act; 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (1,2,5,6,8, and 11). Motion by Commissioner Radloff, Second by Commissioner Fisk, to conduct the meeting in Executive Session. Roll Call: Ayes – Commissioners Stone, Fisk, Malvik, McGregor, Radloff, Donnelly, Healy, Taylor. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

Attending the Closed Session were the Board Commissioners, Benjamin Leischner, Joe Goetz, Angela Burch, Jo Johnson-Meineke, Jeff Swan, Ashleigh Davis, Brooke Rutledge, and Kenneth Florey, Robbins Schwartz.

At 10:02 a.m., Motion by Commissioner Fisk, Second by Commissioner Healy, to return to open session. Motion carried by unanimous verbal vote.

Being no further business, Motion by Commissioner Radloff, Second by Commissioner Fisk, to adjourn the meeting at 10:03 a.m. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was concluded.

Very truly yours,



Benjamin Leischner
For: Debbie Healy, Secretary

**Motion to adopt the Airport staff recommendation as findings, with such recommendation being approved. As part of the Motion, the Airport Executive Director is authorized to execute all documents related to the approved transaction subject to compliance with all applicable regulatory authority and approval of Airport legal counsel.*