

MINUTES

SOUTH CAROLINA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

December 16, 2022

Commission Members in Attendance

Anne Esposito, District 1
David Anderson, District 2
Skeets Cooper, District 3
Lara Kaufmann, District 4
Doug Barnes, Vice Chairman/District 5
Marco Cavazzoni, District 6 (via telephone)
Chris Bethea, District 7

Aeronautics Staff in Attendance

Gary Siegfried, Executive Director
Melody Mikell, Finance Director
Austin Wagler, Associate Engineer

Visitors

Frank Murray, Director of Planning & Development, Columbia Metropolitan Airport
Judy Elder, Talbert, Bright & Ellington
David Edwards, GSP (via online meeting)
Kevin Howell, GSP
Hernan Pena, CCAA
Jon Rembold, HXD/ARW
John Hodge, SC Aeronautics Legal Counsel
Judy Olmstead, Myrtle Beach Airport (via online meeting)
Connie Anderson, Florence (via online meeting)
Senator Josh Kimbrell

Welcome & Call to Order

Vice Chairman Barnes called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., welcomed everyone, and announced a quorum in attendance.

Following the invocation by Commissioner Bethea, all attendees introduced themselves.

Executive Session

A motion was made to go into Executive Session. The regular meeting resume at 10:40 am.

Senator Josh Kimbrell addressed the group regarding the intent of the legislators for this special funding allocation. He stated what happens at this meeting will have a huge impact on what happens in the future for funding for the Aeronautics Commission.

Senator Kimbrell recognized that South Carolina lags behind other states in funding and we need to do better. The legislator's intent, when it comes to funding like this is that decisions about how it is allocated is up to the Aeronautics Commission, who are considered to be the experts in this regard. As such, the Commission need to present a unified front that represents the needs of all the commercial airports. The legislation allocating this money was intentionally vague to let the agency decide how the funds are distributed. His hope is the commissioners decide who gets funding and come up with a plan for distributing this money and any future funds. What is decided at this meeting will impact the future funding. He recommends the agency be an advocacy arm with a single point of representation.

The commercial airports were then given the opportunity to speak.

- Columbia Metropolitan Airport – Frank Murray
There needs to be a balance of our needs. Each airport serves a different need, and the allocation should be fair.
- Charleston International Airport – Hernan Pena
The funds should be for the benefit of South Carolina. Their project is needed and is one part of their master plan. They just completed a Master Plan showing a significant development plan.

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- Florence Regional Airport – Connie Anderson
They are thankful for the opportunity. They were approached last year to come together with the 6 airports. Florence airport is small but is still significant.
- Greenville/Spartanburg Airport – Dave Edwards
The two projects they submitted are critical. A sustainable allocation is important. They suggested a base amount similar to one the FAA uses and to put in applications each year.
- Hilton Head Island Airport – John Rembold
They want what is fair and sustainable. Their economic development is people and tourist.
- Myrtle Beach Airport – Judy Olmstead
They are grateful for the funding. They are in favor of a base allocation and a formula for the remainder of the funds.

Some discussion followed. A motion was then made by Commissioner Bethea to go into executive session. This was seconded by Commissioner Cooper. The commissioners went into executive session and everyone else left the room.

The meeting was resumed at 1:48 pm.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cavazzoni and seconded by Commissioner Kaufman as follows:

- 35% of the funds be allocated equally as a baseline amount.
- 45% of the funds be allocated proportionally based upon enplanements, as reported annually to FAA.
- 20% of the funds be allocated proportionally based upon reported cargo tonnage as reported annually to FAA.
- The minimum amount of funding for any of the commercial airports to be \$3 million with any shortfall made up out of the 20% allocated to cargo.
- If an airport does not spend their allocation in a given year, they can carry the funding over.
- Projects that are requested will follow Aeronautics guidelines for eligibility. Some projects will not be eligible for funding.

The motion was approved 4 to 3. Commissioners Cooper, Bethea, and Esposito opposed the motion.

Next Meeting Date

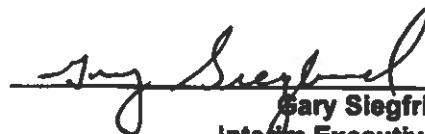
The next regular Commission Meeting will be held on January 17, 2023.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Commissioner Cooper moved that the meeting be adjourned, Commissioner Bethea seconded, and all approved.



Doug Barnes
Commission Vice-Chairman



Gary Siegfried
Interim Executive Director

01/17/2023

Date