

**Commonwealth Of Massachusetts  
County Of Dukes County, S.S.  
MARTHA'S VINEYARD AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING**

**July 14, 2022, 2:00PM  
Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission Conference Room  
and by Zoom Conference**

**PRESENT:**     **Commissioners:** Bob Rosenbaum (Chair), Geoffrey Wheeler, Kristin Zern, Don Ogilvie (zoom), Richard Knabel (zoom), Bob Zeltzer (zoom – arrived at 2:07pm)  
**Staff:** Geoffrey Freeman – Director, Denise Tawa – Executive Assistant, Joan Shemit - Business Manager, Edward Christoforo – Comptroller  
**Other:** Matthew O’Brien- McFarland Johnson, Aidan Pollard- MV Gazette, Eunki Seonwoo- MV Times, Norm Werthwein- Public

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Rosenbaum called the meeting to order at 2:04pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A motion was placed on the floor by Mr. Wheeler to approve the 6/9/22 draft minutes. Ms. Zern seconded the motion, no further discussion, vote taken and approved 5-0 (unanimous). Ogilvie – Aye, Knabel – Aye, Zern – Aye, Wheeler – Aye, Rosenbaum – Aye. (Zeltzer not present at time of vote)

Mr. Rosenbaum updated the Committee on the ability to meet via zoom. The Legislature needs to vote to extend the option. Mr. Knabel stated that an extension to 12/1/22 had been approved.

III. FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

The Sub-Committee met last Friday. The P&L showed a healthy surplus through the end of May. Year-end numbers for the close of fiscal year 22 are not yet available. The cash flow forecast continues to grow and will show more growth before the end of the season.

Over 1 million gallons of Jet A fuel and 90k gallons of Av fuel have been sold through the end of June. The Committee discussed the Wastewater Treatment Plant and whether Airport funds could be used to offset the cost of the work. Based on discussion, the Commission can make a decision about how much to contribute to reduce the debt. Bid documents for the project are live; the total cost of the project will be much clearer after bids are opened. The bidding dates are as follows: pre-bid meeting will take place on 7/18/22, sub-bids will be opened on 8/3/22 and general bids will be opened on 8/17/22. Mr. Rosenbaum clarified that any Airport funds put towards the project would not affect grant funding assurances. Mr. Wheeler followed up by stating that any Airport funds used for the project could be considered a grant and the money could either be used as cash or could amortize the debt. Either way, it would not involve the FAA.

Ms. Zern asked why there was an increase in fuel sales. Mr. Freeman responded that there is more activity at the Airport and the planes require larger quantities of fuel.

IV. LAND USE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Wheeler stated that the Land Use Sub-Committee did not meet because they had nothing to meet about.

## V. OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Zern stated that the Outreach Sub-Committee also did not meet for the same reason but they do have a meeting with [Sand Park?] on the 21<sup>st</sup> and will have more information to provide after that.

## VI. MVY DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Freeman reported the June statistics: Airlines are up 16% from last year. Delta has become the dominant passenger airline and is staying consistent with three flights per day (they have not always been consistent in the past). Additionally, American and Jet Blue are operating with consistent schedules but offer fewer flights than they did last year.

Air traffic counts are down by 5%. Air traffic includes air carriers, air taxis, small aircrafts and military activity. Small aircrafts account for the biggest decrease in activity, potentially due to higher fuel prices. Operations in the terminal are running smoothly and the concessions have been a success while not impacting the existing restaurant.

The Airport's current Comptroller is moving on to another opportunity so his position was advertised and his replacement has been secured. Ms. Metcalf, former County Treasurer, has been selected. Mr. Freeman said they are excited to have her and are working toward a smooth transition and maintaining the good working relationship with the County.

Mr. Freeman stated that he doesn't have anything to report on the terminal upgrades at this time but will be reviewing the proposed changes over the next few months.

Ms. Zern asked about the traffic situation leaving the Airport. Mr. Freeman responded that traffic can be significant at times but it is not worse than it has been. He continues to work with the West Tisbury Police Department to have a detail in front of the terminal to keep things moving and will continue to monitor the situation.

## VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Rosenbaum stated that he contacted the Chairmen of the Nantucket, Hyannis and New Bedford Airport Commissions to try and organize periodic, informal gatherings to discuss common issues. Nantucket is currently also dealing with PFAS issues and collaboration could be helpful in addressing those.

The County still has about \$1 million in ARPA funds that need to be allocated. Mr. Rosenbaum is trying to get them to allow the Airport Commission to apply for some of those funds but that is TBD at this time. The debt associated with the Waste Water Plant is technically the County's debt so the ARPA funds could be used to reduce that.

The PFAS litigation continues as does the well-testing. Even wells that are not in close proximity to the Airport (or Fire Stations) have been showing low amounts of PFAS, indicating that the problem is pervasive in more areas than just around the Airport.

## IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

## XI. ADJOURN

At 2:29pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Knabel and seconded by Ms. Zern. No further discussion, vote taken and passed unanimously 6-0.

Minutes submitted by Juliet Mulinare.

Minutes approved: 8/11/22