

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

**April 13, 2023, 2:00PM
Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission Conference Room
and by Zoom Conference**

PRESENT: **Commissioners:** Bob Rosenbaum (Chair), Jack Ensor, Kristin Zern*, Richard Knabel, Geoffrey Wheeler, Bob Zeltzer, Don Ogilvie (zoom)
 Staff: Geoffrey Freeman, Denise Tawa, Joan Shemit, Kevin Brennan
 Other: Matthew O'Brien, Ron Myrick, Thomas Humphrey, Juliet Mulinare (Recorder)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Rosenbaum called the meeting to order at 2:02pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – 3/9/2023

The Commission reviewed the draft minutes of the 3/9/23 meeting.
Motion placed on the floor by Mr. Ensor to approve the 3/9/23 draft minutes. Mr. Knabel seconds the motion, no further discussion, roll call vote:
Ogilvie – Aye, Knabel – Aye, Ensor – Aye, Wheeler – Aye, Zeltzer – Abstain, Rosenbaum – Aye.
Motion carries (5-0-1). [Zern not present at time of vote]

III. SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

The members of the sub-committees will remain the same. Sub-committees must have three or fewer full commission members so that a sub-committee meeting does not constitute a quorum of the full Commission.

IV. MVAC BYLAW REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

Mr. Rosenbaum stated that there is currently no recourse that allows the Commission to remove and reappoint officers (ie Chair, Vice Chair). The Commission discussed the process and reached a consensus. Mr. Rosenbaum will have a clause drafted that gives the Commission the authority to remove and reappoint officers by a majority vote; at least five members of the Commission must approve the vote.

*Ms. Zern joins the meeting.

V. FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

There was no finance subcommittee meeting this month.
Mr. Knabel reported that Accounts Receivable is currently at \$29k and all payments owed are from within the last 60-90 days. This is the lowest the A/R has been in the past five years.

VI. LAND USE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Ogilvie stood in for Mr. Wheeler. He stated that the Airline and Taxi agreements have all gone out.

The Commission discussed the removal of the ropes course from the Airport Business Park. The course is owned by the Sheriff's Department but they have not been able to find anyone to remove it. Mr. Freeman stated they are looking at options on how to keep the course viable for use.

a. Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) Regulation and Agreement

Mr. Ogilvie stated that Airports are now allowed to charge a pick-up fee for TNCs/ride share services. Currently, taxis are required to pay an annual license fee for doing business at the airport but ride shares are not. The action item here is to approve a new \$3.50 fee per pickup for the TNCs to the Airport's docket of charges, and to approve the TNC rules of operation as presented in the agreement.

Motion placed on the floor by Mr. Ensor to approve the TNC rules of operation as presented in the agreement. Mr. Wheeler seconds the motion, no further discussion, roll call vote:

Ogilvie – Aye, Knabel – Aye, Ensor – Aye, Wheeler – Aye, Zern – Aye, Zeltzer – Aye, Rosenbaum – Aye.

Motion passes unanimously (7-0-0).

VII. OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Zern reported that there was no outreach committee meeting but they are continuing to work to expand aviation awareness and opportunities amongst students.

VIII. MVY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Freeman began by reporting on the fire that occurred on March 10th. It started as an exterior fire, but made its way into the building also. The fire was a result of irresponsible disposal of a lit cigar. Mr. Freeman thanked all those involved and said that early intervention was the key to minimizing the damage. ServPro was brought in to clean up the area and the Procurement Department is working on getting repairs completed. They are still looking for someone to clean up the outside of the building as ServPro is only interior. The initial clean-up cost about \$40k, and it will be about \$55k for the interior re-build.

The Wastewater project started last week. The Commission discussed a misunderstanding between MA Aeronautics and MassDOT on funding for the project. Mr. Rosenbaum suggested reaching out to other towns in a similar situation to see how they're handling things.

Mr. Freeman reported a 38% increase in monthly operations compared to March 2022.

Mr. Freeman discussed the traffic problems at the entrance to the Airport. A study was completed and there are many factors that need to be considered. For this summer, there will be a traffic officer, but Mr. Freeman wanted to acknowledge the problem and let everyone know that it is being worked on.

Mr. Freeman provided updates for the various airport projects:

The snow removal equipment and taxi lane reconstruction are both currently out to bid.

The 2nd meeting for the Noise Study is coming up.

Mr. Freeman elaborated on the Airport's Going Green Initiative, which is always a consideration when purchasing new equipment. He is also looking into leasing batteries for ground power units to see how they function. The current ground power units are diesel. New units would operate the same way as the existing.

The FAA has done the survey work for the control tower relocation and have identified potential locations. The FAA will be here at the end of the month for controller training.

IX. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Rosenbaum reported that he attended the Nantucket Airport Commission meeting in an effort to try and work with other Cape and Island airports to address similar problems. He stated that the Nantucket Airport

got permission to construct ten dormitory-style units on airport property for airport employees only. He continued that Nantucket also has a PFAS situation; they are using a different engineering firm than MV. Mr. Rosenbaum will attend the Hyannis meeting next week and is also talking with New Bedford.

X. ITEMS NOT REASONABLE ANTICIPATED BY CHAIR

None.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

XII. ANNOUNCE NEXT MEETINGS

MVAC: May 11, 2023 at 2:00pm
Outreach: May 4, 2023 at 2:00pm
Land Use: May 4, 2023 at 3:00pm
Finance: May 5, 2023 at 10:00am

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Rosenbaum called for a motion to enter into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation. The MVAC will invite the Airport Director, Airport Executive Assistant, Recording Secretary, and Ron Myrick from Tetra Tech to remain present for the executive session.

Mr. Knabel made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zeltzer.

Before the roll-call vote Mr. Rosenbaum stated that in the executive session, the Commission will discuss strategy with respect to litigation regarding PFAS, and Executive Session is necessary where an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating and negotiating position of the Commission.

Roll- call vote:

Knabel – Aye, Zeltzer – Aye, Ogilvie – Aye, Zern – Aye, Ensor – Aye, Wheeler – Aye, Rosenbaum – Aye.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (7 – Aye, 0 – Nay, 0 – Abstention).

Mr. Rosenbaum stated that at the conclusion of the executive session, the Commission will adjourn the meeting.

XIV. ADJOURN

At 4:10pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Zeltzer and seconded by Mr. Knabel. No further discussion, vote taken and passed unanimously (7-0-0).

Minutes submitted by Juliet Mulinare.

Minutes approved: 5/11/2023