

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

**June 8, 2023, 2:00PM
Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission Conference Room
and by Zoom Conference**

PRESENT: **Commissioners:** Bob Rosenbaum (Chair), Don Ogilvie, Kristin Zern, Bob Zeltzer, Richard Knabel, Geoffrey Wheeler, Jack Ensor
 Staff: Geoffrey Freeman, Denise Tawa, Joan Shemit
 Other: James Ferraro Jr., Matthew O'Brien, Eunki Seonwoo, Thomas Humphrey, Juliet Mulinare (Recorder)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Rosenbaum called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – 5/11/2023

The Commission reviewed the draft minutes of the 5/11/23 meeting.

Motion placed on the floor by Mr. Knabel to approve the 5/11/23 draft minutes. Mr. Zeltzer seconds the motion, brief clarifying discussion on TNC fees, roll call vote:

Wheeler – Aye, Knabel – Aye, Zeltzer – Aye, Zern – Aye, Ensor – Aye, Ogilvie – Aye, Rosenbaum – Aye.
Motion passes unanimously **(7-0-0)**.

The Committee received an update from Attorney James Ferraro regarding the national PFAS lawsuit and potential for settlement. Mr. Ferraro stated that there are still a lot of details to figure out but one of the major manufacturers named in the lawsuit has agreed to settle, which is a good sign. About 40 airports have joined the suit, which aims to recoup the costs of PFAS mitigation for airports across the country; it is still unclear how much money the MV Airport would receive.

III. FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Knabel stated that the two MassDOT Aeronautics Division grants were awarded and approved by the County. The grants will help fund the on-going Wastewater project and the previously completed Pavement project.

There is a small surplus on the April P&L. Mr. Knabel reported record fuel sales over Memorial Day weekend. Accounts Receivable 90+ day balance is very close to zero.

IV. LAND USE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

The Committee did not meet.

V. OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Zern reported that three \$3,000 scholarships were awarded to MVRHS students. The students will use the scholarship money for pilot training at various locations.

VI. MVY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Freeman reported that air traffic was up 34% over last May; this is due to Jet Blue operating more daily flights. The FAA inspection went very well, Mr. Freeman credited the airport staff for keeping everything in compliance with FAA safety standards and procedures. He said there were only two issues that arose during the inspection, one has already been addressed and the other is a known issue that is actively being worked on.

Mr. Freeman is currently advertising for an Assistant Airport Director. He is also updating airline lease agreements that delineate how each airline uses and pays for communal space in the terminal.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Rosenbaum congratulated Mr. Freeman and the rest of the staff on a successful inspection. The 2022 audit report for the County has been released. The Airport's finances are in good shape and Mr. Rosenbaum thanked Ms. Metcalf for providing the auditors with everything they asked for. The County's audit, however, had a number of issues that need to be addressed. The Commission discussed the need for a County Treasurer and the implications of the audit on the Airport's potential borrowing power. Mr. Rosenbaum stated that it is in the Airport's best interest to support the County and Ms. Metcalf has been trying to help but they have not been very receptive.

VIII. ITEMS NOT REASONABLE ANTICIPATED BY CHAIR

None.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

X. ANNOUNCE NEXT MEETINGS

MVAC: July 13, 2023 at 2:00pm
Outreach: July 6, 2023 at 2:00pm
Land Use: July 6, 2023 at 3:00pm
Finance: July 7, 2023 at 10:00am

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 2:55pm, 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 the Andersen Kreiger legal team 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 fuel services, 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.

XII. ADJOURN

At 3:50pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Ogilvie and seconded by Ms. Zern. No further discussion, vote taken and passed unanimously (7-0-0).

Minutes submitted by Juliet Mulinare.

Minutes approved: 7/13/2023