

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

**August 10, 2023, 2:00PM
Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission Conference Room
and by Zoom Conference**

PRESENT: **Commissioners:** Bob Rosenbaum (Chair), Richard Knabel, Jack Ensor, Don Ogilvie, Geoff Wheeler, Kristin Zern*
 Staff: Geoffrey Freeman, Denise Tawa,
 Other: Matthew O'Brien, Thomas Humphrey, Juliet Mulinare (Recorder)

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The Commission reviewed the draft minutes of the 7/13/23 meetings.
Motion placed on the floor by Mr. Knabel to approve the 7/13/23 draft minutes. Mr. Ogilvie seconds the motion, no further discussion, vote taken and passed unanimously (5-0-0). Ms. Zern not present at time of vote.

III. FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Knabel reported that the Airport had a \$4.3 million surplus in FY23, \$3.1 million of which was profit. About 73% of the money came from fuel sales. Mr. Knabel also reported that A/R is down to \$15k and there are no outstanding payments owed that are more than 30 days past due. The payroll issue with the County is ongoing but there has been some progress towards transitioning to a payroll service, which could happen in January.

IV. LAND USE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

- a. Request for Change of Use – Lot AR24 – Vineyard Tennis Center
Mr. Wheeler clarified that this action is to reassign the lease to Airport Rd. Collaborative LLC; it does not involve a change of use for the property. There may be a change of use requested in the future, but not at this time. The Land Use Sub Committee recommended approval of the change, with some conditions. These conditions are to be met within the next 30 days and include a fire inspection and registering the LLC with the State.
Motion placed on the floor by Mr. Wheeler to approve Airport Rd Collaborative LLC's proposed assumption of Vineyard Tennis Center's lease, subject to the establishment of Airport Rd Collaborative LLC as a registered LLC with the MA Secretary of State, a financial review of Vineyard Tennis Center and resolution of all open fire violations. Mr. Ensor seconds the motion, no further discussion, vote taken and passed unanimously (5-0-0). Ms. Zern not present at time of vote.

V. OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

In Ms. Zern's absence, Mr. Ensor reported that Ms. Zern has finally established a connection with Mr. Hart at the High School; they are working with other airports to get a group of ten students together to put on an aviation education program.

*Ms. Zern joins the meeting.

VI. MVY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Freeman reported that there have been some recent issues with delays, one in particular that stranded about 40 passengers in the airport overnight. Mr. Freeman thanked the airport staff and the Oak Bluffs Fire Department, for their assistance in dealing with the crisis. He said he has reached out to the airline management to request improvements to their procedures for situations like this, and how they can be avoided in the future. The delays were due to weather-related issues that airports all over New England were also dealing with.

Mr. Freeman stated that the Vice President will be traveling to the island this weekend; he is coordinating with the military, Air Force and the Federal government to facilitate and manage the numerous large aircrafts that will be arriving over the next few days in preparation of the VP's visit.

The Commission thanked Mr. Freeman and his staff for their time spent dealing with the stranded passengers. Ms. Zern stated that the way Jet Blue handled the situation was egregious and the affected passengers should be compensated with more than the \$200 offered by JetBlue.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Rosenbaum informed the Commission that Airport Mobil's appeal was denied by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

VIII. ITEMS NOT REASONABLE ANTICIPATED BY CHAIR

None.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

X. ANNOUNCE NEXT MEETINGS

MVAC: September 14, 2023 at 2:00pm
Outreach: September 7, 2023 at 2:00pm
Land Use: September 7, 2023 at 3:00pm
Finance: September 8, 2023 at 10:00am

XII. ADJOURN

At 2:32pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Ogilvie and seconded by Mr. Ensor. No further discussion, vote taken and passed unanimously (6-0-0).

Minutes submitted by Juliet Mulinare.

Minutes approved: 9/14/23