

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

**January 11, 2024, 2:00PM
Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission Conference Room
and by Zoom Conference**

PRESENT: **Commissioners:** Bob Rosenbaum, Kristen Zern, Bob Zeltzer, Richard Knabel, Jack Ensor, Geoff Wheeler (zoom), Don Ogilvie (zoom)
 Staff: Geoffrey Freeman, Denise Tawa, Joan Shemit (zoom), Kevin Brennan
 Other: Kevin Bradley (zoom), Juliet Mulinare (Recorder)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Rosenbaum called the meeting to order at 2:09pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The Commission reviewed the draft minutes of the 12/14/23 regular meeting.
Motion placed on the floor by Mr. Knabel to approve the 12/14/23 draft minutes. Mr. Ensor seconds the motion, no further discussion, roll call vote:
Wheeler – Aye, Ogilvie – Aye, Zeltzer – Aye, Zern – Aye, Ensor – Aye, Knabel – Aye, Rosenbaum – Aye.
Motion passes unanimously **(7-0-0)**.

III. FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Knabel stated that there is nothing unusual to report. There was a small operating surplus for November but expenses will likely exceed revenues for the next three months, which is normal. There are some grant reimbursements owed and they are drawing down the SRF loan for the wastewater project. Fuel sales have returned to pre-pandemic numbers. Mr. Freeman stated that they will be performing general maintenance on the fuel tanks but will keep them operational. The Airport will sign a new contract with the fuel supplier next week.
Mr. Knabel reported that Accounts Receivable remains low, the County is still working to complete the audit and the County Treasurer has resigned.

IV. LAND USE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Wheeler stated that two of the three proposers for Lot 43 have submitted FOIA requests. They are working on responding. This will be discussed further in Executive Session.

V. OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

No report.

VI. MVY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Freeman stated that it was a record-setting year for enplaned passengers, up 14% from 2022. Air traffic counts are down 5.2% from 2022 but Mr. Freeman stated that this is the trend throughout the region.
Mr. Freeman updated the Commission on the Airport's projects: the painting project will be bid soon for work to be completed this spring; the taxi lane reconstruction schedule will be provided by Lawrence Lynch soon; the Wastewater project is progressing well and is ahead of schedule. The plant will be back online in late February.

- a. Vineyard Power presentation on solar battery units:
This discussion was moved to the February meeting.

- b. Blu Water concession requesting support to apply for alcohol license:
Mr. Bradley, manager of Blu Water Capital, which runs the concessions in the post-screening area at the Airport, was present to request the Commission's support to add the sale of alcoholic beverages to their offerings. Mr. Bradley said they have received feedback from a large number of passengers asking for alcohol to be sold. They would offer beer and wine only, and would limit each passenger to two drinks. Mr. Bradley outlined the point-of-sale system and how and when alcohol would be available. Mr. Bradley would like the Commission's support to bring his application to the Town of West Tisbury.
Motion placed on the floor by Ms. Zern to support Blu Water's proposal to add beer and wine sales to its post-screening concession offerings. Mr. Ensor seconds the motion, discussion:
The Commission discussed further details around the ordering process for customers, including whether gratuities would be prompted. They also discussed the potential profits generated and whether this would affect the Plane View's operations.
No further discussion, roll-call vote:
Wheeler – Aye, Ogilvie – Aye, Zeltzer – Aye, Zern – Aye, Ensor – Aye, Knabel – Aye, Rosenbaum – Aye.
Motion passes unanimously **(7-0-0)**.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Rosenbaum reminded the Commission that SFI (State Financial Information) reporting is coming up.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Under Mass. General Law Chapter 30A Section 21 (a) (3)

At 2:41pm, Mr. Rosenbaum called for a motion to enter into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation. The Airport Commission will invite the Airport Director, Airport Executive Assistant, Recording Secretary, and Mr. Dave Mackey to remain present for the executive session.

Mr. Knabel made the motion, seconded by Ms. Zern.

Before the roll-call vote Mr. Rosenbaum stated that in the executive session, the Commission will discuss strategy with respect to litigation regarding Airport Fuel Services and RFP 2023-05-Lot 43-2, and Executive Session is necessary because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating and negotiating position of the Commission.

No further discussion, roll-call vote:

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

Motion passes unanimously **(7-0-0)**.

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

XII. ADJOURN

At 3:35pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and passed unanimously (7-0-0).

Minutes submitted by Juliet Mulinare.

Minutes approved: 2/8/2024