



## **Airport Authority Board of Directors**

### **Minutes of February 17, 2021**

**Via Teleconference:** John Picard, Gerald Weiner, Kevin Arnold, Peter Leonardi, David White, Vin Petrini, Mark Sklarz, Rich Jacob, Sean Scanlon, Joe Ginnetti, Robert Ellis, Matthew Hoey, Anthony Verderame, Dan Adams

**Directors Absent:** Karen O'Connell, Serena Neal Sanjuro

**Others in Attendance:** Jeremy Nielson, Felipe Suriel, Bryan Hoffman, Johnson Chang-Fong, Eliot Jameson, Amy Chiu, Mark Zaretsky, Alicia Seremet, Diane Proto, Evan Warren, Andrew King, Karen Wait, Tim Sullivan

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Chairman John Picard called the meeting to order at 16:02L.

#### **1. Meeting Minutes**

The board approved the meeting minutes from January 20<sup>th</sup>.

#### **2. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Scanlon reported on the following items:

- Joe Ginnetti and Robert Ellis will replace Jim Yeske and Peter Wilson on the board. Mr. Scanlon welcomed both of them and expressed his excitement to work with them.
- Aligned with low air travel demand nationwide, passenger enplanements at Tweed remain lower than desired. While Mr. Scanlon does believe demand will increase as less people contract the virus and more people receive the vaccine, he cautioned that it will take years before the industry fully recovers.
- American Airlines will remain at Tweed until March 31<sup>st</sup>. While Mr. Scanlon continues to talk with American about their future at Tweed, he believes that external factors will largely guide their decision whether or not to stay past March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The airport hopes to share branding developed by New Haven-based firm Digital Surgeons and funded by donations from the business community at the March board meeting. This branding will communicate the airport's post-pandemic and post-master-plan-update message to customers.



- Work continues on the master plan update. The airport looks forward to holding the final public meeting during the week of March 8<sup>th</sup> and submitting the updated Airport Layout Plan to the FAA during the week of March 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **3. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Picard thanked Jim Yeske and Peter Wilson for their contributions to the board and welcomed long-time New Haven Area residents Joe Ginnetti and Robert Ellis to the board.

### **4. Audit and Finance**

Mr. Arnold reported that the airport ended December in the black just over \$6,200. He also explained to the board that the payroll expense exceeded the budgeted amount in December due to the month's three payroll periods versus the normal two periods.

### **5. Reports and Action Items**

**Resolution # 513:** Approval of Amendment of Agreement for Potential Air Service Development Opportunities

- Mr. Scanlon explained that the consultant completed the first round of work under a previously approved fixed-fee. This proposed amendment would allow the consultant to continue work at an hourly rate up to \$50,000.
- The board made a motion to approve the resolution and the motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution # 514:** Approval of Agreement with Kaplan Kirsch Rockwell LLP for Legal Services Related to Private Investment in Airport Infrastructure.

- Mr. Scanlon explained that the firm would provide legal expertise to protect the authority as it evaluates proposals.
- The board made a motion to approve the resolution and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Airport Manager's Report:**

Mr. Nielson reported on the following items:

- Even with two major snow events that brought a cumulative total of two feet of snow accumulation on February 1<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, the tremendous work of the airport and its tenants reduced the snow's impact to nothing other than commercial flight cancellations.



- In accordance with the airport's efforts to maintain its approaches while preserving positive relationships with its neighbors, the airport has entered into agreements with three property owners to perform tree work on March 8<sup>th</sup> that will improve the approach to runway 20.
- In preparation for construction on the Taxiway A/F/G Realignment Project in 2022, work will begin this spring by moving fencing and clearing land.
- The airport continues to prepare for annual crack sealing and airfield painting this spring.
- The airport continues to look very closely at the bottom line and remain fiscally responsible.

**6. Other Business**

None.

**7. Public Comment:**

No public comments.

**8. Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 16:22L by Chairman Picard.

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Respectfully submitted-

**Felipe Suriel – Assistant Airport Manager**