



TWEED NEW HAVEN AIRPORT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF JANUARY 18, 2023
VIA TELECONFERENCE

Members in attendance: David White, Matthew Hoey III, Linda Hennessey, Kenneth Dagliere, Carlos Eyzaguirre, Rich Jacob, Joseph Bertolino, Robert Ellis, Mark Sklarz, Serena Neal-Sanjurjo, John Picard

Members absent: Kevin Coyle, Joe Ginnetti, Ray Pompano,

Others in attendance: Tom Rafter, Brett Simon, Felipe Suriel, Jeremy Nielson, Kevin Arnold, Hugh Manke, Peter Leonardi, Toni Lorenti, John Horan, Joe Giordano, Gloria Bellacicco, Jean Mongillo, Al Stewing, Daniel, Barrack, Eliot Jameson, Andrew King, Georgia Lieber, Jeremiah Wilhite, Joann, Lorena Venegas, Mark Zaretsky, Matthew Lieber, Michael Jones, Salvatore DeCola, Scott Luzzi, Shirley McCarthy, Steven Wight, Tim Sullivan, Vincent Perrelli, Andrew King, Susan Bryson, Kathryn Gallicchio,

Chairman John Picard called the meeting to order at 4:05 and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of December 21, 2022. Mr. Hoey pointed out that the minutes incorrectly cited Peter Leonardi as a member not in attendance. Peter's Board membership terminated in September. A motion was made to make the necessary correction, It was seconded and unanimously approved.

ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Picard asked for the report of the Acting Executive Director, Mr. Hoey. Mr. Hoey reported on his meetings with Tom Rafter, including two meetings with the FAA and Jeff Wood of McFarland Johnson on the Environmental Assessment (EA) in which it was agreed that the Authority would request from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, (DEEP), a Coastal Consistency Review Form for attachment to the DEEP permit applications for the new the activities or to expand existing activities within the coastal boundary. Additionally, the Authority offered to assist in obtaining a Cooperative Agency Agreement from the Army Corps of Engineers, by reaching out to the local ACOE personnel. He added that the deadline of February 1, 2023 for publication of the EA is unlikely to be met. The need for new noise contour maps to be included in the EA was discussed with the FAA.

Mr. Hoey also spoke about the many FOI requests that have been received by the Authority during his brief tenure and some correspondence that was very personal and derogatory. He cautioned that such communications are totally inappropriate and not helping the public discourse. Finally, he added that after meeting with Tom in recent weeks he is more certain than ever that the Board made the right choice in hiring him as our next Executive Director.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Picard responded to one of the FOI requests that was recently sent to the Authority inquiring of the payments to the Chairman and Vice Chairman in the last several years. He said there have been none.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Sanjurjo asked Brett Simon to explain the latest financial statements and the audit. Mr. Simon apologized for distribution of the documents early this morning but mentioned that the resolution approving the reports makes it clear that the Board will have the rest of the month to provide comments before the documents are finalized. Mr. Dagliere said that such reports should not be submitted for review without sufficient time. Mr. Simon responded that the normal practice is not to do this, but these statements were released as soon as Avports, legal counsel, the Audit and Finance Committee and other consultants had completed their review, and the release of the documents on the day of the Board meeting was coincidental. BJSa and the Committee can be available to answer any questions prior to the month-end deadline.

Mr. Simon explained the Airfield Account shows a negative balance but the New HVN LLC is responsible for covering the shortfall. The Authority's Admin Account expenses have been largely for financial and legal services which are expected to taper off in the coming months, and as much as \$13,000 of these expenses may be reimbursed by the FAA. He also reported that the Operating Account has sufficient funds to cover the reported expenses.

Mr. Picard asked if there were any questions about the reports. There were none. Mr. Picard commented on the Audit Report that in the prior fiscal year the level of state and local subsidy was cut in half.

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

Landside. Jeremy Nielson reported that the heavy holiday flight schedule between December 22 and January 3 went off without a hitch other than a few flights that arrived late due to weather conditions. He also said the lighting on Lot C has been completed and a hearing with the City Plan Commission is coming up this month on Lot B. Rental car companies are responding to the RFP, questions are being answered, and an award is expected on February 22nd with a commencement date on a new contract on April 1st.

Airside. Mr. Nielson reported that on January 23rd there will be a very important meeting with the FAA to discuss pending capital projects and possible new discretionary funding that the FAA has announced is now available. Other than that, he said there were no major updates.

ACTION ITEMS



RESOLUTION #584 APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO AGREEMENT WITH HOYLE TANNER & ASSOCIATES TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR REALIGNMENT OF TAXIWAYS A, F & G

Chairman Picard entertained a motion to approve. Mr. Hoey made the motion and Mr. Eyzaguirre seconded. The Chair asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, the Chair called for a vote. All in attendance voted in favor.

RESOLUTION #585 APPROVAL OF FY 2022 AUDIT REPORT AND PFC REPORT

Chairman Picard read the Resolution and entertained a motion for approval. Mr. White made the motion and Mr. Hoey seconded. The Chair asked if there were any questions. There were none and the Chair called for a vote. All in attendance voted in favor.

RESOLUTION #586 APPROVAL OF ADDING TOM RAFTER AS A SIGNATORY ON AUTHORITY BANK ACCOUNTS

Chairman Picard read the Resolution and entertained a motion for approval. Mr. Dagliere made the motion and Ms. Hennessey seconded. The Chair asked if there were any questions. He asked if the threshold for requiring two signatures on checks was \$1,000 or were the Bylaws amended to increase it to \$1,500. He noted the difficulties of getting two signatures in view of the fact that the signatories who are Board members are not on site. Attorney Manke said he would check for any Bylaw change and report back to the Chair for a possible amendment at the next Board meeting. There were no other comments or questions, and he called for a vote. All in attendance voted in favor.

Mr. Hoey stated for the record that with regards to the requirement for two signatories on Authority checks, he has not been signing checks in his dual capacity as Vice Chair and Interim Executive Director.

Mr. Ellis asked that the December minutes be amended to include him as in attendance. Chairman Picard entertained a motion to further amend the minutes as requested. Mr. Hoey made the motion and Ms. Neal-Sanjurjo seconded. All in attendance voted in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lorena Venegas, 73 George Street, East Haven, reminded the Board that East Haven is an Environmental Justice community and currently is ranked 17th out of 169 municipalities on environmental quality. She said the \$8,7000 noise vouchers are inadequate and some people have cracked walls requiring \$60,000 in repairs. She also mentioned that there was a plane landing on the wrong runway recently, and advocated that an EIS be done now as was done in 2000 with regards to the Runway Safety Area Project. She also suggested that DEEP should be performing a rare plant species survey and complained that some Board members are Town employees.



Kathryn Gallicchio, 97 Hyde Street, New Haven, thanked Ms. Venegas for her efforts on behalf of the neighbors saying she is well informed and the conscience of the Board.

Joseph Giordano, 2 Old Town Highway, East Haven, mentioned that the December Minutes need to be corrected to state that he was referring to Fly Tweed Facts, which favors the airport project, not Tweed Facts, which does not. He suggested that it would be useful to see the Avelo passenger counts for residents of East Haven, Branford and Guilford. He believes the East Haven numbers are the highest. He also said he is tired of the repeat complaints concerning the vouchers.

Michael Giordano, 800 Uno Lago Drive, Juno Beach, Florida, was concerned that some of the public comments may be close to being threats. He cautioned people about using certain online flight data from social media such as Flight Aware. That data is not FAA-certified. Minimum altitudes are required by the FAA and claims of low flights are likely not accurate

Gloria Bellacicco, 300 Lighthouse Road, New Haven, pointed out a problem with a light installed in a parking lot near Burr Street and Dean Street. The light needs to be redirected to avoid blinding people driving toward the airport.

Kathryn Gallicchio, 97 Hyde Street, New Haven, spoke a second time to state that the neighbors are holding the Board to its duties, not threatening. This is part of engagement in the public process.

Toni Lorenti, 23 Briar Lane, Meriden, invited the Board (and others) to a technical session he will organize as a professional pilot to counter the fear-mongering about airport operations, including alleged low-flying aircraft. He affirmed that he is not a representative of any airline or airport. He also counseled against using flight-tracking data collectors.

Susan Bryson, 215 Clark Avenue, Branford, said that there is no forum for exchanges of information the way Board meetings are set up. There are genuine questions out there that need to be answered. Public meetings are necessary.

Georgia Lieber, 18 Hepburn Road, East Haven, reiterated the need for open and honest conversations and answers to questions raised at Board meetings.

Shirley McCarthy, 16 Rockland Park, Branford, a physician, expanded on prior comments about the adverse effects of noise on the health of children in particular within a 10-12 mile radius of an airport which means that the affected area around Tweed goes from Stratford to Guilford.

Andrew King, an employee of Avports, said Avports is preparing a website which will be up and running within two weeks for exchanges between the public and airport management. Questions may be posted and answers will be provided.



Mr. Picard asked for further comments and hearing none, asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made and seconded and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:56.