



OKALOOSA COUNTY AVIATION BOARD MEETING AGENDA



Date and Time:

Monday, October 10, 2022 1:00 PM

Type:

REGULAR

Location:

DESTIN – FORT WALTON BEACH AIRPORT
ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM
1701 STATE ROAD 85 N
EGLIN AFB, FL 32542

I. Prayer

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Airports Update

Mr. Tracy Stage, Airports Director

IV. OCAB Business Items

1. Selection of FY 23 Chairman and Vice-Chairman
2. Recognitions
2022 Chairman Chip Cook
3. Review and approval of the August 8, 2022 OCAB Meeting Minutes

V. Board Member Minute

VI. Public Comments

VII. Adjourn Meeting

Next Meeting will be held on December 12, 2022 at 1PM

Okaloosa County adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act and will make reasonable accommodations for access to this meeting upon request. Please call the Airport Director's Office at (850) 651-7160 X 4 to make a request. For Hearing Impaired, Dial 1-800-955-8771 (TDD), and 1-800-955-8770 (Voice). Requests must be received at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting in order for Okaloosa County to provide the requested service. This meeting was publicly noticed on July 25, 2022.

Meeting Minutes
Okaloosa County Aviation Board

Monday, October 10, 2022

1:00 PM

Board Members in Attendance:

| | | | |
|--------|------------------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| Seat 1 | Mr. Dick Russell | Seat 2 | BG Robert Buhrow |
| Seat 3 | Mr. Don Harrington | Seat 4 | Mr. Chip Cook (Chair) |
| Seat 5 | Lt Gen Mike Wooley | Seat 6 | Lt Gen Gordon Fornell |
| Seat 8 | Commissioner Carolyn Ketchel | | |

Board Members not in Attendance:

Seat 7 Dr. Richard P. Hallion (Vice)

Visitors in Attendance:

Mr. Craig Coffey

Mr. Eric Pilsk (Zoom)

Ms. Lynn Hoshihara (Zoom)

Chair Cook opened the meeting at 1:00 PM

Opening Prayer by Lt Gen Mike Wooley

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chair Cook

Airports Update – Mr. Tracy Stage

Mr. Stage shared his presentation. *Mr. Stage shared who was attending on Zoom. See Slides*

Concourse C Ribbon Cutting Ceremony-For the past 2 months the staff met and planned this ceremony. I don't think a beat was missed and it came together beautifully! Mr. Keith Hanson, Sr. Vice-President from Government Affairs was the representative for Allegiant, Okaloosa County Chairman Mel Ponder spoke, the airport concessionaires pulled out all the stops to highlight their concessions and we also gave out some awards for all of the work that has been done to achieve this goal. The event was well attended. I also want to make a shout out to Choctawhatchee High School ROTC for coming to post the colors. *See Slide.*

Sun County Airlines have announced service at VPS. They are an ultra-low-cost carrier and also does charter and cargo services. Their route map is impressive. Sun Country will fly to Minneapolis/St. Paul on the off days Allegiant does, four times a week. They understand our scheduled facilitated program and are currently working with CGH with our flight allocation process. We are excited to welcome them! Originally, they planned to begin service in April but have decided to begin in February.

Gen Wooley-Sun Country also works with a lot of college football teams.

Commissioner Ketchel-Is there any possibility for a flight to Orlando?

Mr. Stage-I hear you loud and clear. Who knows what the future holds. They are very flexible so who knows.

Commissioner Ketchel-The one question I get asked for is a flight to Orlando. So much we do is in Orlando.

Mr. Stage-It's a good goal. Who knows what the future holds, we are happy to have them.

Gen Fornell-Is the schedule online?

Mr. Stage-It is, moving the scheduled start to February from April was released yesterday. The early start should be posted by the end of the week.

Gen Fornell-I checked the prices, amazing prices!

Commissioner Ketchel-Same size aircrafts?

Mr. Stage 737 Fleet. One is a little longer than the other providing more seats but same wing span. We are going to have them working out of A1 and A2 gates.

Commissioner Ketchel-The reason I ask is because everyone else says they need a smaller aircraft to fly to Orlando.

Mr. Stage-We've actually have had an Orlando flight offered from a number of airlines over the years. They were weather restricted small planes and unfortunately, unreliable schedule performance which effected the load factor. Everyone wants interstate service however, if you don't use it, it will stop.

Mr. Stage continues his Slide Show

If you recall we had Gulf Air Group request this Board's support and expansion at the Bob Sikes Airport. Specifically, to relocate from Alabama to our airport. The Board of County Commissioners have approved. All the requirements agreed upon will be checked annually. *Mr. Stage shows a slide of a CEW Airport Property, showcasing the plan with Gulf Air Group. See Slides.*

Destin Executive Airport Tenant Meeting-Every year we try to hold a tenant Meeting. This year we had great attendance, appx 50 users of the airport attended: employees, FBO, Air Traffic Control tower etc. *Mr. Stage shared the agenda slide from the meeting presentation.*

I want to point out one slide we covered in detail. The "Upcoming Proposed Rule Making slide." What we have been doing with our council's support is updating the Airport Rules and Regulations and Minimum Standards. Obviously, a lot has transpired in the last 45 years and have been working with tremendously outdated documents. We are going to exceed the FAA's rule making process. We have created a timeline that exceeds the FAA's timeline by taking a couple of extra steps. We have sent our drafts to the FAA and received a few comments, overall, they were very happy. *Mr. Stage reviewed the schedule on the slide. Meeting slide show is also posted on the flydts.com website.*

Recently the airport has had some issues and not had the mechanism to deal with them. These updates will provide both the airport and the users updated airport rules and regulations and minimum standards.

Gen Wooley-Was Timberview there?

Mr. Stage-No, we did have a good turnout though.

Mr. Cook-I want to thank you all for your hard work. This is going to be a good step forward. This is a good foundation and beneficial for everyone in a good way.

Mr. Stage- I appreciate that. I wanted to highlight this slide so if you get questions, you can provide the level of detail the staff has committed to.

Commissioner Ketchel-We are doing a similar thing on land with the county, thank you as a department for taking this on, with tremendous growth we are having to update our ordinances on how people live in different zoning areas.

Mr. Pilsk (Zoom)- I will add that it will be good to have the rules and regulations for anyone on the airfield and minimum standards (that are for the commercial users) and that those are consistent and tie in with the rest of the county ordinances including enforcement mechanisms so we don't have any ambiguities between departments. Having more categories of use defined and the standards for them will provide more clarity and certainty for both staff and airport users.

Gen Fornell-Interested to see if we have some interface with the Air Force on this as well. I would think someone from the staff should be aware of what we are doing so there is an understanding of both sides. I encourage we make an extra effort to do this.

Mr. Stage-The Air Traffic Control Tower Manager does routinely host Eglin controllers in the tower. From an air space perspective there is great communication.

Mr. Pilsk (Zoom)-The new documents will only apply at DTS and CEW, they will not apply to VPS.

Mr. Cook-We have a lot of things going on and by clarifying some of these things in the environment we can avoid any kind of security issues with the base. This is one of the reasons I am optimistic about all the work that has been done.

Mr. Rogers-Our operations staff is growing which has helped this process and Gen Fornell to your point we are also involved on the operations board on Eglin.

Mr. Stage-Thank you all for the questions (on the Minimum Standards and Rules and Regulations) and if anyone inquires with you, this is hopefully helpful for your discussions.

Chairman Cook-I would like to make a motion to have Dr. Hallion as our Chairman and Mr. Russell as our Vice-Chairman this next fiscal year.

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| RESULT: | Dr. Richard Hallion, Seat 7 selected as Chairman for FY 23. |
| MOVER: | Lt Gen Gordon Fornell, Seat 6 |
| SECONDER: | Lt Gen Mike Wooley, Seat 5 |
| AYES: | Unanimous |

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| RESULT: | Mr. Dick Russell, Seat 1 selected as Vice-Chairman for FY 23. |
| MOVER: | Lt Gen Gordon Fornell, Seat 6 |
| SECONDER: | Lt Gen Mike Wooley, Seat 5 |
| AYES: | Unanimous |

Mr. Stage recognized Mr. Chip Cook for his commitment as Chairman for FY 22. A lot of things have happened over the last year and we have made significant progress in so much! Thank you so much for your discussions and all your work.

Chairman Cook made a motion to approve the minutes from August 8, 2022 meeting.

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| RESULT: | Meeting Minutes from the 08/08/2022 meeting were approved. |
| MOVER: | Mr. Dick Russell, Seat 1 |
| SECONDER: | Lt Gen Mike Wooley, Seat 5 |
| AYES: | Unanimous |

Gen Fornell-I like to follow-up each meeting with some action items including the status of the ground tower and GPS arrivals and departures? I've also noticed Gates A and B get a great deal of wear and tear and want to be sure we keep the standard up high in those areas.

Mr. Stage presented Commissioner Ketchel with a plaque for her contributions in Concourse C.

Mr. Cook-We've been doing this for many years. I think this forum facilitates a solution that helps bring the County and everyone together.

Public Comments

Meeting Adjourned at 1:39 PM.

APPROVED:

By: 

Name: Mr. Chip Cook

Title: Chairman

Date: 12/12/2022

APPROVED:

By: 

Name: Tracy Stage, A.A.E.

Title: Airports Director

Date: 12-13-22

*These minutes are a summation of the meeting.