



**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE
GREATER ROCKFORD AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Greater Rockford Airport Authority was held on Thursday, December 20, 2007, in the Greater Rockford Airport Authority Auditorium, 60 Airport Drive, Rockford, IL.

Chairman Dunn called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

BOARD/LEGAL	P	A	STAFF	P	A	GUESTS/OTHER STAFF
Eugene Allen	X		Bob O'Brien	X		WTVO – 17
Brian Boyer	X		Amy Ott	X		Marsha Heuer – Ogle County Board Chairwoman
Michael Dunn	X		Franz Olson	X		Thomas Bona - RRS
Gwen Gulley		X	Jan Benoit		X	
Mary Norman		X	Kathy Bruggeman	X		
Peter Provenzano	X		Zachary Sundquist	X		
Bharat Puri	X					
Thomas Lester	X					

A motion was made by Commissioner Provenzano, seconded by Commissioner Puri and unanimously approved by voice vote to accept the minutes of the November 15, 2007 Regular Board Meeting as presented.

DIRECTORS REPORTS:

Bob O'Brien, Executive Director reported on the following:

- A banner for Ogle County Wonder-full has been added to the many banners being displayed in the Terminal Building. The airport truly appreciates our partnership.

Amy Ott, Deputy Director of Finance & Administration reported on the following:

- The November financials will be sent to the Board tomorrow.
- The raw materials for snow removal have already exceeded the budget for the 2007/08 fiscal year due to the freezing ice event in November.
- The GRAA received the Distinguished Budget Award this year for the eight year in a row.
- The annual Air Show conference will take place in December. The military teams will announce the cities where they will perform at the conclusion of the conference. Staff will implement changes to the AirFest based on things learned at this conference to make it an even better show than last year.

Franz Olson, Deputy Director of Operations & Facilities reported on the following:

- Due to a severe ice storm in the Midwest on Monday, December 10, an Allegiant Air flight from Las Vegas to Peoria, IL with 150 passengers diverted to RFD. Approximately 100 passengers immediately took advantage of alternative transportation or spent the night in local hotels/motels. Twelve passengers remained on the plane that later returned to Las Vegas. RFD Operations personnel arranged for a bus to take the remaining 40+ passengers back to

Peoria, IL. Everyone was extremely complimentary of how RFD Operations and the Cafe accommodated the passengers during the unfortunate diversion.

During this period, we had four diversions:

- 12/1 a Ryan Airlines/Apple Vacations diverted here originally bound for Milwaukee
 - 12/10 Allegiant Airlines from Las Vegas to Peoria diverting to RFD.
 - 12/15 2-ATA diversions enroute to Midway.
 - One from Guadalajara, Mexico and another from Dallas Fort Worth
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- Total current total snowfall to date 13.5 inches. GRAA has surpassed the deicing budget for the season due to the extended duration of the back-to-back severe freezing rain events.
 - Gave an pictorial overview of current projects and miscellaneous information to include: International Arrival Gate, snow removal operations, new snow removal equipment, Snow Removal Equipment building with chemical storage dome,
 - On December 17 and 18, the Natural Land Institute held a Bell Bowl Stewardship event. Despite the winter weather volunteers and equipment participated in grooming the natural prairie that exist adjacent to the “Bell Bowl” a natural glacial feature that was used as an amphitheater during both WW I & II when Camp Grant existed. Over the 2-day event volunteers cleared brush and heavy vegetation that was beginning to threaten the natural prairie. Typically, the prairie is intentionally burnt every couple of years to aid regeneration.
 - Every January RFD donates equipment and labor to load snow for the Annual International Snow Sculpting Contest. Weather permitting, this year’s “snow pack” is scheduled for January 9. Rockford Blacktop construction supplies dump trucks and operators to haul the snow from the Airport to the park. An added advantage to the participating in this community event is that it allows the Airport to get rid of substantial snow piles that have accumulated on the airfield. The snow loading takes about one-half of a day.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning & Finance Committee: A meeting was held on Thursday, December 13, 2007. The items for reviewed were the Foreign-Trade Zone, other projects, and Resolutions. All resolutions were recommended for passage.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: **Chairman Dunn** commended the airport staff for their performance and handling of a recent situation regarding Allegiant Airlines. He commented that the overall attitude of the staff is being recognized across the nation.

It is confirmed that the USAF Thunderbirds will be performing at the fourth annual Rockford AirFest in 2008.

RESOLUTIONS:

- Commissioner Boyer made a motion to adopt **Resolution #07-96**, to adopt the annual 1,000 hours standard for Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund participation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved.
- Commissioner Boyer made a motion to adopt **Resolution #07-97**, to include compensation directed into a Retirement Health Savings Plan as Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund earnings. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved.
- Commissioner Boyer made a motion to adopt **Resolution #07-98**, consenting to the sublease (and the modification of Exhibit B on the land lease to permit flight school activities, aerial photographic, and charter services) effective of the former Colman hangar (Aviation Plot #12, located at 5121 Falcon Rd.), by and between Emery Air, Inc. and Rockford Business Air. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Allen and unanimously approved.
- Commissioner Boyer made a motion to adopt **Resolution #07-99**, to approve a contract with L3 Communication of Woburn, MA for the installation of Explosion Detection System and uninterruptible power systems along with operational readiness testing and support in an amount not to exceed \$26,568. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Puri and unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

There being no further business, Commissioner Boyer made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Puri and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.