

MINUTES
BARTOW AIRPORT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 13, 2023
BARTOW AIRPORT, 5:30 P.M.

Chair Tucker called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

The Bartow Municipal Airport Development Authority held its regular meeting on Monday, March 13, 2023, at Bartow Airport, Bartow, Florida. Airport Board members present were Chair Ms. Tanya Tucker, Ms. Trish Pfeiffer, Mr. Leo E. Longworth, Mr. Steve Githens, and Mr. Sean Parker, Airport Attorney. Mr. John Helms, Airport Executive Director, Mr. Terry Beacham, Ms. Michelle Mathews, and Mr. Mel Parker, Bartow Executive Airport. Mr. Gerald Cochran, Bartow City Commission Candidate. Mr. Nick Adams was excused absent.

Chair Tucker asked if there were any corrections or additions to the Minutes of February 13, 2023, Regular Meeting.

Mr. Githens moved, Ms. Pfeiffer seconded to approve the Minutes of March 13, 2023, as published. All Members voted yes, and the motion carried.

Chair Tucker asked if there were any Public Comments on matters not appearing on this Agenda.

Mr. Gerald Cochran stood to address the Board. Mr. Cochran asked about the rail cars that are on the airport and if they contain hazardous material. Mr. Helms stated that even though some of the rail cars on the airport have "hazardous material" tags on them, when they are on the airport, they are empty.

Mr. Cochran also inquired about the airport grove. His concern is that the grove was being contaminated by one of the airport's industrial park tenants. Mr. Helms stated that to his knowledge no harmful gases are being released and they are regulated by the DEP. Mr. Helms informed the Board and Mr. Cochran that the grove is being "pushed over" due to greening. Mr. Cochran stated his concern about sections of the chain link fence that have been replaced over time and felt it was due to

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contamination. Mr. Helms stated that fence replacements have occurred as a result of traffic accidents causing cars to come through the fence off of Hwy 17.

Ms. Pfeiffer thanked Mr. Cochran for his concerns and said that the stated issues would be looked into.

Chair Tucker asked if there were any Public Comments on matters appearing on this Agenda, but not scheduled for separate public hearings - There were none.

Mr. Helms reported to the Board that the Consumer Price Index ending December 31, 2022, was 6.3%. Mr. Helms stated that the markets seemed to be leveling out and has concerns about increasing rental rates by 6.3% after just adopting the 7% increase from CPI from the prior year. Mr. Helms recommended to the Board that no increase would be incurred by the hangar tenants as the hangars are competitive for the area and since fuel sales are down, he has a concern that raising the rental rates for the hangar tenants may just discourage them even more from purchasing fuel and flying. Mr. Helms also stated his concern that a 6.3% increase for the Industrial Park tenants could jeopardize their being able to remain in the Industrial Park. Mr. Helms suggested that a 3.5% rental rate increase for the Industrial Park tenants would be more feasible at this time.

Mr. Longworth moved, Ms. Pfeiffer seconded to a 3.5% rental increase for the Industrial Park tenants and no increase for the hangar tenants. All members voted yes, and the motion carried.

Mr. Helms then reviewed the February 2023 Financial Statement with the Board and answered questions. Mr. Helms stated that the Airport is tracking very well, and we are meeting expectations for this time of year, however, some numbers are still high due to ongoing repairs from hurricane damage. When all the hurricane repairs are complete Mr. Helms informed the Board that he will bring before them the budget amendments.

Mr. Longworth asked if the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was calculated in the budget. Mr. Helms answered that the budget was planned/presented with a 4% increase and the actual increase was 7% and that CPI increases are billed in arrears.

Mr. Longworth asked if the Florida League of Cities had been contacted for a quote on insurance for the upcoming year and Mr. Helms answered yes that the Florida League of Cities could write the General Liability for the airport but not the Aviation side of insurance.

Mr. Parker stated that at the last PRM meeting it was recommended at this time to wait a year before going out for any RFP quotes on insurance.

Airport Attorney- Had nothing new to report.

Under Old Business- Ms. Pfeiffer asked Mr. Helms for an update on the Air Traffic Academy. Mr. Helms stated that the DEO had backed out of funding due to Hurricane Ian. The FDOT has increased the amount of their grant for temporary renovations to the restaurant for the academy. Mr. Helms also stated that Representative Killebrew and Senator Albritton are working closely with him to secure funds for the renovations on Building #405 for the use of the academy.

Winter Haven Airport has already received part of their funding for their tower.

Ms. Pfeiffer asked Mr. Helms to please send her the appropriate information so she can take it with her to Tallahassee.

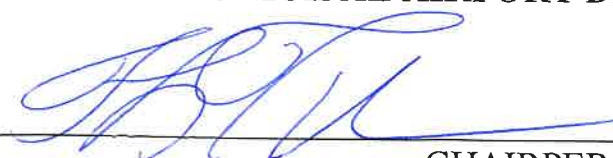
Under New Business-There was no New Business.

There were no Resolutions.

There being nothing further to discuss Chair Tucker adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

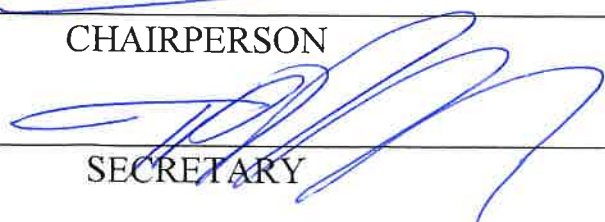
BARTOW MUNICIPAL AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BY: _____



CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST: _____



SECRETARY