

**MINUTES OF  
LAKEFRONT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
AIRPORT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Wilma Heaton - Chair  
Commissioner Jennifer W. Herbert –Vice Chair  
Commissioner Brian Egana  
Commissioner Carlos Williams

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF:** Louis Capo – Executive Director  
Vanessa McKee – Assistant to the Executive Director  
Bruce Martin – Director of Aviation  
Adam Gulino - Director of Operations and Engineering

**ALSO**

**PRESENT:** Jeff Dye – LMA Counsel  
Krystal Hukmani – Owner, New Orleans Areal Tours, and Flight Training  
Ankur Hukmani – Owner/Big Chief, New Orleans Areal Tours, and Flight Training  
Bane Shepard – GM, Signature Flights  
Mr. G. Davis, Director, Signature FBO  
Phillip Everett, Duty Manager, Signature FBO  
Wendy Bell, General Manager, Flightline First FBO  
Robert Amos, Asst. GM, Flightline First FBO

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The Airport Committee of the Lakefront Management Authority met at a special time on Thursday, May 25, 2023, at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport at 6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126.

**I. Call to Order**

**Chair Heaton** called the meeting to order at 4:43 PM

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**Commissioner Williams** lead the Pledge of Allegiance

**III. Roll Call**

**Mr. Capo** called the roll. (4) members were present, and a quorum was established.

**IV. Opening Comments – Chair Heaton had no opening statement.**

**V. Motion to Adopt Agenda**

**A motion to adopt the agenda was offered by Commissioner Egana; seconded by Commissioner Williams.**

**Chair Heaton** called for questions and comments. Hearing none, called for a vote. **All were in favor. The motion passed.**

**VI. Motion to Approve Minutes**

**1. Joint Marina/Legal Committee Meeting – October 11, 2022**

**A motion to adopt the agenda was offered by Commissioner Egana; seconded by Commissioner Williams.**

**Chair Heaton** called for questions and comments. Hearing none, called for a vote. **All were in favor. The motion passed.**

**VII. Public Comments**

**Krystal Hukmani, Co-Owner of New Orleans Aerial Tours & Flight Training LLC and Jazz Aviation, LLC, spoke** about her company's struggles with their year-to-year lease with Signature FBO, who recently opted not to renew their lease next year.

She said while researching to find a new home for their business, they learned that the McDermott hanger has space available.

Ms. Hukmani asked for the LMA to consider her proposal to either build a new hangar with funds that have been secured from a bank or her preference would be to reappropriate those funds to return the McDermott hangar to its original magnificence.

Mrs. Hukmani stated that she was prepared, today, to pay out the first year's rent with a 10% increase above the current lease rate.

She wanted the committee to know that they intended to utilize the hangar space to fill a much-needed gap for maintenance services. She employs two full-time and two part-time mechanics. She closed her comments by saying that they aspire only to be provided with an opportunity to make the Lakefront Airport their permanent home and to continue to serve the general aviation pilots and community here at the airport.

Ms. Hukmani thanked the committee for their time and attention and submitted a portfolio of information to be entered into the record.

Chair Heaton and Commissioner Egana had a detailed discussion regarding what would be the follow-up to this public comment. Chair Heaton stated that she intended to read the portfolio of information to determine the next steps. Commissioner Egana asked for staff to, at a minimum, respond to the comment.

**Bruce Martin**, Director of Aviation, explained that the McDermott hangar is currently on a month-to-month lease with Flightline First due to their main hangar, The Williams hangar needs a new roof.

Flightline wants to assume the McDermott hangar as well after the roof is fixed at their main FBO.

He added that the roof repair is on this year's Capital Improvement plan and the design is in place for repair.

He also stated that the Airport has future plans to discontinue leasing office or hangar space separately. Leasing one without the other often leaves the Airport with unleased spaces. The new leases will be inclusive of office and hanger space.

**Mr. Martin** agreed that a maintenance facility is needed at the Airport. He plans to go into greater detail about a future RFP during his report.

## **VIII. Airport Director's Report**

**Bruce Martin**, Director of Aviation, reported the following:

- The Lakefront hosted the Hurricane Awareness Tour by NOAA on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - o Several press and media, schools, and the public were invited. It was reported that 800 people participated.
- Lakefront also hosted the New Orleans Film Society (NOFS) Gala 2023
- Currently advertising for the milling and overlay project on Taxiway Bravo which is the main thoroughfare that feeds the main runway.
  - o The bid opening is June 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - o This will be funded 50/50 by FAA and State.
  - o We will be using some of our BIL-Infrastructure Grant Funding
  - o This work will complete half of the Taxiway Bravo project. The second half of the project is to be completed next year due to cost.
  - o There will be 10 days of night closures only.
- RFP for Maintenance Facility
  - o It is on the Airport's Master Plan
  - o We have received two proposals for a maintenance facility which is desperately needed.
  - o Hopeful for solid candidates to move forward.
- Signature FBO has decided to opt out of their final option on the National Guard Hangar.
  - o It will be available for lease on August 1, 2023.
  - o Signature is looking for placement for One Flight One school and Acadian Ambulance
- Runway Safety Action Team (RSAT) will be meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 11 am in the conference center. The board is invited to attend.

**Chair Heaton** asked if we would have to publicize notice of a special board meeting. And asked staff to coordinate.

**Mr. Dye** stated it would have to be publicly publicized should there be a quorum.

**Mr. Martin** continued his report as follows:

- **Flight Operations**
  - o Increased for March 2023 to 7912 compared to March 2022 operations were at 7095.
  - o There is an average of 255 operations per day.
- **Fuel Status**
  - o Fuel stats have decreased from last year due to the Final Four held here last year.
- **Mr. Martin** showed pictures from the Hurricane Awareness Tour and New Orleans Film Society (NOFS) Gala.

#### **IX. New Business**

1. **Motion to Recommend Acceptance FAA AIP Grant #03-22-0038-040 for the Project identified as the “Rehabilitation of Taxiway B Construction Phase 1”**

**A motion to adopt the agenda was offered by Commissioner J. Herbert; seconded by Commissioner Williams.**

**Chair Heaton called for questions and comments. Hearing none, called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed.**

2. **Motion to recommend approval of a janitorial service contract for the Terminal at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport with Corvus of New Orleans, LLC d/b/a Corvus Janitorial Systems, for a term of one year, commencing on July 1, 2023, with two (2) one-year options to renew, for an annual contract price of \$39,840.00.**

**A motion to adopt the agenda was offered by Commissioner J. Herbert; seconded by Commissioner Williams.**

**Chair Heaton called for questions and comments. Hearing none, called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed.**

**X. Announcement of the next Airport Committee Meeting**

1. Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 2:30 PM

**XI. Adjourn**

**A motion to adopt the agenda was offered by Commissioner J. Herbert; seconded by Commissioner Williams.**

**Chair Heaton called for questions and comments. Hearing none, called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:14 PM.**