

**LAKEFRONT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
AIRPORT COMMITTEE MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024 – 2:30 P.M**

**6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70126**

PRESENT: Commissioner Wilma Heaton – Chair
Commissioner Brian Egana
Commissioner Philip Clinton

ABSENT: Commissioner Jennifer Herbert – Vice Chair
Commissioner Carlos Williams

STAFF: Louis Capo – Executive Director
Vanessa McKee – Assistant to the Executive Director
Chris Hyer – Airport Manager
Laith Alshamaileh – Director of Operations and Engineering

ALSO

PRESENT: Gerry Metzger – LMA Counsel
Cindy Grace – Finance
Kel Brownfield – Director of Human Resources

The regular monthly Airport Committee meeting of the Lakefront Management Authority was held on Tuesday, November 14, 2024, at 2:47 PM at the Lakefront Terminal Building, 2nd Floor Conference Center, 6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126 after due notice of the meeting was sent to each board member, the news media, and posted.

- I. **Called to Order at 2:47 PM.**
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Clinton.**
- III. **Roll Called by Mr. Capo. (3) members present quorum established.**
- IV. **Opening Comments – Chair Heaton thanked everyone in attendance and moved to the next meeting item.**

V. Motion to Adopt Agenda

A motion was offered by Commissioner Egana and seconded by Commissioner Clinton.

Hearing no questions or comments, Chair Heaton called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VI. Public Comments - Limited to (2) Minutes – None

VII. Airport Director's Report

Chris Hyer reported on the following:

- **Firefighter Supplemental Pay.**
 - Discussed the need for support and board approval to pursue Firefighter Supplemental Pay.
 - We have (9) eligible firefighters
 - (2) fire fighters are close to retirement
- **(3) Eligibility Requirements:**
 - Must attend and pass a Fire Academy approved by the State Fire Marshal
 - Received Fire Fighter 1 certification
 - Must have 1 year of full-time duty on the job.
- State supplemental pay was originally designed for municipal and local fire departments. They have allowed other departments gain eligibility through legislative actions.
- **Fiscal Note for the Port of South LA:**
 - was the most recent department to gain eligibility in July 2024
 - Fiscal Note was \$86,400 (divided by \$7200/year equates to 12 Fire Fighters/Deck Hands to receive the State supplemental pay).

Chair Heaton asked if we could go through State Civil service to obtain supplemental pay.

Mr. Hyer informed the committee that we must go through the legislative process by first enacting a bill to be voted on. Once the bill is passed, we must go through The Department of Public Safety and Corrections Management Finance to fill the questionnaire and other documents to gain eligibility for the state supplemental pay.

He used Bill 513 as the example which was co-authored by Representative Candace Newell.

Chair Heaton asked if the committee had any other questions.

Commissioner Clinton asked when Mr. Hyer was looking for passage as there was some time before the next legislative session.

Chair Heaton added that bills are filed as early as January 2025 for the next regular legislative session. She talked more about the legislative bill process. She suggested that the committee make a recommendation to the full board for a resolution of support. She also recommended that we be sure to also be named under HB1.

Commissioner Egana also suggested that we have a conversation with Representative Newell requesting her support as well.

Mr. Capo asked if this would need to be advertised.

Chair Heaton stated that because it was Orleans Parish only that it would have to be advertised. She suggested running a house and senate bill simultaneously.

Gerry Metzger clarified that Chair Heaton would like a resolution in support of the passage of a Bill for the request of Fire Fighter Supplemental Pay.

Chair Heaton confirmed that he was correct.

Chair Heaton asked if Mr. Hyer had a Superbowl update in the absence of Mr. Martin. She added that Chief Josh Rondeno was able to get the Flood Authority to do a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to provide law enforcement including the Airport.

Mr. Capo added that we will have cameras in the parking lot.

Commissioner Egana and Chair Heaton further discussed future law enforcement security endeavors for the lakefront area.

VIII. New Business

- 1. Motion to recommend approval of a contract with John-Wayne Air Calvary, LLC for professional aviation services at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport during Super Bowl **XLI** between February 5, 2025, and February 12, 2025, for a price not to exceed \$70,000.00.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Clinton and seconded by Commissioner Egana.

Chair Heaton suggested making a clerical correction to the super bowl number LIX

Mr. Capo explained that the Air Boss controls airfield movement. We have used them previously during the Final Four.

Commissioner Egana asked where the company was located.

Mr. Metzger said they are a national corporation out of Michigan.

Commissioner Egana suggested that we partner with this company for future mentoring opportunities.

Hearing no further questions or comments, the chair called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Chair Heaton announced the next meeting and called for adjournment.

IX. Announcement of the next Airport Committee Meeting

- 1) Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 2:30 PM**

X. Adjourn at 3:03 PM

A motion was made by Commissioner Clinton and seconded by Commissioner Egana.

Hearing no further questions or comments, the chair called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 3:03 pm.