

**LAKEFRONT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
AIRPORT COMMITTEE MINUTES  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024, AT 2:30 P.M.  
6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd.  
New Orleans, LA 70126**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Wilma Heaton – Chair  
Commissioner Brian Egana  
Commissioner Carlos Williams

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Jennifer Herbert – Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Philip Clinton

**STAFF:** Louis Capo – Executive Director  
Vanessa McKee – Assistant to the Executive Director  
Bruce Martin – Director of Aviation  
Cindy Grace – LMA Finance  
Kristin Klinard – LMA Finance  
Kel Brownfield – LMA Human Resources  
Laith Alshamaileh – Director of Operations and Engineering  
Chris Hyer – Airport Manager

**ALSO**

**PRESENT:** Gerry Metzger – LMA Counsel  
Carlton Dufrechou – Air Cover One T-Hangar  
Darren Persick – Kutchins & Gros – Project Manager  
Hannan Solis – Kutchins & Gros – Associate  
Bane Shepherd – Signature – General Manager

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The monthly Airport meeting of the Lakefront Management Authority was held at a on Thursday, October 15, 2024, at 2:51 PM at the Lakefront Terminal Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2:51 PM.**
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Williams.**
- III. **Roll Called. (3) members were present for a quorum.**

**IV. Opening Comments – Chair Wilma Heaton - NONE**

**V. Motion to Adopt Agenda**

**A motion was offered by Commissioner Egana and seconded by Commissioner Williams.**

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

**VI. Motion to Approve Minutes**

**1) Commercial Airport Minutes – September 17, 2024**

**A motion was offered by Commissioner Egana and seconded by Commissioner Williams.**

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

**VII. Public Comments - Limited to (2) Minutes – NONE**

**VIII. Airport Director Report – LIMITED TO (2) MINUTES**

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

- Construction at pump sites is under way after having to stop (2) separate times. They have begun driving the sheet piles and are working 7-day work schedules to catch up and complete the job on schedule.**
- Signature is requesting a rent abatement due to non-use of the Moffett hangar from significant storm damages (missing large portion of the roof, doors buckled, design is under way). The insurance adjusters have submitted their recommendations for total roof and doors replacement. Past design work on the Williams Hangar roof replacement helped with the design on the Moffett Hangar.**

**Mr. Capo** added that we have \$201,000 Rental Income Business Interruption coverage with a \$10,000 deductible.

- **Air Cover One** submitted their own independent appraisal which was submitted to our appraiser for review. Negotiations are currently ongoing.
- **Report on a recent incident at the airport and explained the way the onsite fire department works.**
  - **Airport firefighters are required to get approval to leave airport grounds from the airport director.**
  - **2 weeks ago, a call came in at 12:41 that a plane made a hard landing (landing gear up). The firefighters were activated and were on-site of the incident within 90 seconds.**
    - **No injuries or damage to our assets; only the plane was damaged.**
    - **Shut down the main runway for 2 hours**
    - **The plane was scheduled to land with Flightline First who towed the plane to storage.**

**Commissioner Egana** asked if the fire fighters worked 24-hour shifts. He also asked if they were NOFD or employed by the LMA.

**Mr. Martin** responded that they work 24-hour shifts. They are not NOFD. They require special certification to work at an airport fire department. They are employed by LMA.

**Chair Heaton** asked if we are maintaining the MOU agreement with the with the City's truncation system.

**Mr. Martin** responded that the MOU with the 911 truncation system was updated 2 years ago.

- **Superbowl Update**
  - **Beautification Project is under way**

- He and Mr. Capo attend weekly CNO meetings
- Met with tenants and GNO Inc. last month and plan monthly meetings going forward.

**Chair Heaton** suggested that LMA follow up with Chief Rondeno regarding the transportation team's resolution. She said she would send over the resolution passed by the Flood Board. She let them know that Executive Director Capo and Director Martin would be the point of contact on the Airport grounds.

**Commissioner Egana** fostered a discussion on which municipality has jurisdiction over maintaining the catch basins along Lakeshore Drive, Franklin Avenue at UNO's Auditorium.

**Mr. Capo's** response was that it depended on who owned the roadway.

## **IX. New Business**

### **1. Motion to recommend approval of the New Orleans Lakefront Airport Capital Improvement Plan for 2025-2029.**

**A motion was offered by Commissioner Egana and seconded by Commissioner Williams.**

**Director Martin** explained to the committee that his was the same Capital Improvement Plan that was presented last month. The primary focus remains on drainage improvements, hotspots, lighting design and upgrading the regulators that control the lights.

**Chair Heaton** requested that Mr. Martin put an informational briefing together regarding where we are with the drainage project to present to the board members before the next meeting.

**With no questions or comments, the chair called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion was passed.**

- 2. Motion to recommend approval of a one-year lease for State Representative Candace Newell for suite 149 in the Terminal Building at New Orleans Lakefront Airport.**

**A motion was offered by Commissioner Egana and seconded by Commissioner Williams.**

**Mr. Capo** stated that we generally renew their lease this month due to the lease amount will not change for this year's lease.

**Commissioner Egana** commended staff and said he was in favor of being proactive by approving the lease earlier

**With no questions or comments, the chair called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion was passed.**

- 3. Motion to recommend approval for a rent abatement to Signature Aviation in the sum of \$8,484.49 per month dating from May 2024 until a time to be determined due to the damage that incurred during a weather event on 18 May 2024 rendering the Hangar unusable for the time.**

**A motion was offered by Commissioner Egana and seconded by Commissioner Williams.**

**Chair Heaton** asked how the board would be informed of the time frame's end date.

**Mr. Metzger** explained to the committee that after speaking with Mr. Martin, the resolution was written to begin on May 18, 2024, and end when the repairs are completed.

**Commissioner Egana** asked about the hesitancy of assigning an end date.

**Mr. Martin** explained that its just because its still in the design phase and must go out to bid after the design phase.

Chair Heaton suggested adding language that the board shall be notified upon completion of the project.

**Commissioner Egana** also suggested we add an end date of one year to revisit to renew for an additional period if necessary.

**Mr. Metzger** added that the committee would need a motion to amend the resolution to add an end date time period of one year.

**Chair Heaton** asked what the anticipated timeframe of the project would be, and if they thought it would be one year or more to completion.

**Commissioner Egana** made a motion to amend the abatement period from May 18, 2024, to May 20, 2026.

**The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams.**

**Chair Heaton** called for a vote. All were in favor and the motion to amend passed.

Chair Heaton announced the next meeting will tentatively be on November 12, 2024, at 2:30 pm pending approval at the board meeting and called for adjournment.

- X. **Announcement of the next Commercial Real Estate Meeting**
  - 1) TBA

- XI. **Adjourn at 3:16 PM**

**A motion was offered by Commissioner Egana and seconded by Commissioner Williams.**

**With no questions or comments, the chair called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion was passed.**