

**MINUTES OF THE
CONNECTICUT AIRPORT AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 21, 2021, 1:00 P.M.
BRADLEY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tony Sheridan, Chair (conf. call)
Michael T. Long, Vice Chair (conf. call)
J. Scott Guilmartin
Treasurer Shawn Wooden (conf. call)
Commissioner Joseph Giulietti
Commissioner David Lehman (conf. call)
Deputy Commissioner Glendowlyn Thames (conf. call)
Robert J. Aaronson
Mishone Donelson (conf. call)
Sebastian Lombardi (conf. call)
Mary Ellen S. Jones (conf. call)

STAFF PRESENT:

Kevin A. Dillon, A.A.E.
Michael Shea
Sharon Traficante (conf. call)
Paul Pernerewski
Bob Bruno
Alex Peterson

1. Call to Order:

(a) Welcome Remarks (Tony Sheridan)

Chair Sheridan called the meeting of the Connecticut Airport Authority Board of Directors to order at 1:03 PM and noted a quorum.

2. Approval of Minutes:

(a) May 19, 2021 Board Meeting.

Mr. Guilmartin made a motion (Seconded: Mr. Aaronson) to approve the May 19, 2021 Board meeting minutes. **Voice vote – motion passed unanimously.**

3. Executive Director's Report:

Mr. Dillon reported on passenger numbers and cargo statistics.

Treasurer Wooden joined the meeting at 1:04 PM.

Mr. Dillon reported on recent seat and operations trends at BDL, the recent announcement from Breeze Airways, and international travel resumption.

Commissioner Giulietti joined the meeting at 1:13 PM.

Mr. Dillon reported on developments at the Escape Lounge, increased parking activity, the launch of Grab at BDL, a recent vaccination clinic in the baggage claim area, mask wearing requirements, Groton-New London Airport ramp reconstruction work, expansion of services at Survival Systems, Danielson Airport runway and taxiway work, Hartford-Brainard Airport closure discussions within the Hartford City Council, and distribution of the FY21 audit planning communication letter.

Mr. Peterson provided a brief overview of the 2021 legislative session, including the status of CAA-proposed legislation and other noteworthy bills.

4. **Discussion Item:**

(a) Discussion of Connecticut Tourism Coalition.

Chair Sheridan and Cmr. Lehman reported on the mission and recent activities of the Connecticut Tourism Council.

5. **Human Resources and Governance Committee Report.**

Mr. Aaronson reported that the committee recently met to discuss employee compensation and succession planning.

6. **Executive Session:**

Mr. Aaronson made a motion (Seconded: Mr. Guilmartin) to go into Executive Session at 1:34 PM for the purpose of discussing the items listed below. **Voice vote – motion passed unanimously.** Mr. Dillon asked Mr. Shea, Mr. Bruno, Ms. Traficante, Mr. Pernerewski, and Mr. Peterson to remain.

(a) Discussion of Potential Acquisition of Other Airports (Negotiating Strategy Regarding Potential Acquisition or Lease of Property).

(b) Discussion of Air Service Development (Negotiating Strategy Regarding Potential Acquisition or Lease of Property).

Deputy Commissioner Thames departed the meeting at 1:56 PM, and Treasurer Wooden departed the meeting at 1:57 PM.

The Board of Directors came out of Executive Session at 2:21 PM.

7. **Action Items:**

(a) Consideration of and Action Upon Approval to Increase the Fiscal Year 2019 Capital Improvement Program Budget “Building Improvements” Category.

Mr. Dillon reported that this item would provide for the design and specifications of the vertical circulation project at Bradley Airport. The project is being pursued to maximize the existing building’s utility, opening up additional space for the primary security checkpoint and offering more efficient exiting for deplaning passengers. Design work is being advanced to best position the airport in case additional federal infrastructure funds are made available.

Cmr. Giulietti made a motion (Seconded: Mr. Guilmartin) to approve CAA Resolution 2021-7. **Voice vote – motion passed unanimously.**

(b) Consideration of and Action Upon Approval to Utilize Aviation Fuel Tax Revenues to Subsidize Tweed-New Haven Airport.

Mr. Dillon reported on the historical utilization of aviation fuel tax revenues in Connecticut, historical Tweed-New Haven Airport subsidies, the impact of COVID-19 on available fuel tax revenues, and the CAA’s initial proposed solution to cut all beneficiaries of aviation fuel tax revenues proportionally in light of reduced revenue collections. Since that time, Tweed-New Haven Airport has indicated that it must receive the full amount of aviation fuel tax revenues for FY21 and FY22, regardless of the substantial erosion of these revenues. Discussion ensued regarding the impact of operating CAA airports at a deficit in order to fulfill the request, OPM approval of this approach, and Tweed-New Haven Airport’s assertion that it will no longer require any use of aviation fuel tax revenues after FY22.

Mr. Aaronson made a motion (Seconded: Mr. Guilmartin) to approve CAA Resolution 2021-8, contingent upon OPM approval and formal agreement from Tweed-New Haven Airport that no aviation fuel tax subsidy will be needed after FY 22. **Voice vote – motion passed unanimously.**

8. Adjournment:

Mr. Long made a motion (Seconded: Mr. Guilmartin) to adjourn the Board meeting at 2:38 PM. **Voice vote – motion passed unanimously.**