

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 21, 2019– 9:00 A.M.**

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**1. Call to Order**

**2. Invocation**

10 Chair Herston gave the invocation.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Roll Call**

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**Present:** Chair Seay; Commissioners Andrews, Herston, Hancik, Coppola; CEO Parish; Attorney Carr; Ms. Hendren; Ms. Desguin; Mr. Laroche; Mr. Mallard; Mr. Ridenour; Mrs. Straw; Mrs. Cauley; Mrs. Miller; Mrs. Harper; Mr. Hafenbreidel, Mr. Montoya. **Others present:** Jim Kaletta; Councilwoman Carey; Gary Harrell; Gary Bayne; Commissioner Deutsch; William Hayward Jr.; Audrey Lanczki; Richard Pitz, others from the private sector and a member of the press.

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**5. Citizen’s Input**

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**6. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda**

**7. Employee Recognition**

Ms. Desguin presented Mr. Montoya with a five years of service award.

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**8. Consent Agenda**

**Commissioner Herston motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Andrews seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

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**9. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report**

Mr. Parish commented that the most important column on the account’s receivables sheet is the 60-90 days, which is currently at approximately \$1,800. Regarding the December income statement, he reported the total operating revenues were under budget by \$112 and the total operating expenses were under budget by approximately \$92,000. Regarding the balance sheet, he reported on total assets. Chair Seay commented that the financials look good. Mr. Parish reported that the PFC collection amount to date is \$2.1 million of the approved \$5.3 million and that PFC Application 2 is making its way through the Federal Government. Chair Seay inquired if there is a timeline for the approval of PFC Application 2. Mr. Parish commented that they do have 30 days to comment on PFC Application 2, which has just started.

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**10. Liaison Reports**

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a) **Punta Gorda City Council** – Commissioner Hancik had reported that there’s nothing happening pertaining the Airport, just items pertaining to pickleball. Commissioner

Coppola inquired as to how to play pickleball. Commissioner Hancik commented that it's a shortened version of tennis. Mr. Mallard discussed his injuries from playing pickleball.

- 5           **b) Board of County Commissioners** – Commissioner Herston reported that at the Board of County Commissioners discussed Western Michigan University, a water rate increase, and impact fee increases which will affect development at the Airport. Chair Seay commented that the newspaper compared impact fees in Sarasota and Lee County, that Charlotte County fees are lower, and inquired if that is accurate. Commissioner Herston commented that he is not sure but opines that it might be with as busy as surrounding counties are. Commissioner Coppola inquired if impact fees are based on the total cost of construction. Commissioner Herston commented that it depends on the use and that the majority of the fee is based on how many visits the projects generate, meaning the more active a proposed project is, the higher the impact fee and that there are many different categories. Chair Seay commented that it depends on whatever the impact may be. Commissioner Herston opined that 95% of the impact fees go towards the transportation system with the other 5% being distributed between schools, libraries, firehouses, and departments of that nature.
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- 20           **c) Metropolitan Planning Organization** – Commissioner Andrews reported that he attended his first joint Charlotte County/Punta Gorda MPO and Sarasota/Manatee County MPO meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup>. He reported that Commissioner Deutsch nominated Commissioner Constance as the representative and Commissioner Andrews as an alternate to serve on the MPO-AC committee and that they discussed the I-75 FDOT interchange study which aims to assist South Sarasota County in relieving Charlotte County traffic congestion at Kings Highway. He gave an update on the River Road Regional Interstate Connector, I-75 Purple Heart Highway Initiative that needs legislative approval, the Gulf Coast Sun Trail including the newly adopted Charlotte Regional Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan, and the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. He commented that tomorrow he will be attending the joint Charlotte County/Punta Gorda MPO and Lee County MPO meeting and from March 29-31 he will be attending the MPO-AC Institute for elected officials. Commissioner Herston commented that previously, only two people in the history of Charlotte County have attended the MPO-AC Institute. Commissioner Coppola commented that when she first joined the MPO, she attempted to have an exit from I-75 to the Airport built but was told there was no traffic demand for it.
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5 House Bill submitted regarding regulating business's, that he opines it may encroach on  
the ability to regulate ground transportation due to the language, and that FAC is working  
on language adjustments to propose to the individual that submitted the Bill. He reported  
that approximately 25 members of FAC met with approximately 18 different legislatures  
10 during his visit in Tallahassee, as well as DOT leaders, the State Secretary and  
Transportation and Tourism subcommittees. He reported that California, New York,  
Florida, and Texas representative were in Washington, D.C. with him to speak with  
approximately 10 members of Congress and the Senate. He provided a brief background  
and update regarding the desired option to increase the PFC and reported that he'll be  
15 returning to Washington, D.C. in early March with FAC to meet with most of the Florida  
Delegation. Commissioner Herston asked for confirmation of how long the current PFC  
has been in place. Mr. Parish commented that it was increased to \$4.50 in 2000.

### 11. Attorney's Report

15 Attorney Carr reported that his firm is working on the land acquisition at the North end of the  
runway, that they were delayed due to waiting on a response from the seller and that it has  
now been received. He commented that there is a small issue with the pricing from the seller's  
side due to poor previous calculations on the full acreage amount and desired increase in price  
20 in light of the new information. He reported that he has been working with the IDA pertaining  
to the property adjacent to Pelican Road, with intention to potentially closing the extension  
through the IDA property to halt transit. He commented that their legal council agreed to  
coordinate the closing as long as the Airport works with them to allow access to the IDA  
property if their access is precluded due to the closing. He reported that all else has been  
25 concluded with no pending litigation. Commissioner Herston inquired, pertaining to the land  
acquisition, if Mr. Parish has confirmed the difference between the newly listed 68 acres and  
the originally listed 47 acres. Mr. Parish commented that once a price is agreed upon, there  
will be a survey performed and the purchase will be based on the survey. He commented that  
the appraisal the seller provided had a fairly large math error, that he may exclude two parcels  
30 of land that are not required and won't be funded by the FAA or PFC but that he'd like to have  
the two parcels as one is the adjacent parcel to the IDA and the other is outside of the RPZ.  
Attorney Carr commented that the situation just arose two days ago and there hasn't been  
much time to calculate how to respond. Commissioner Herston inquired as to who performed  
the original survey on the property. Mr. Parish reported that the seller provided an appraisal,  
35 which excluded the additional acreage. Chair Seay inquired if that means that there is not an  
appraisal on the additional acreage. Mr. Parish commented that it was appraised but the total  
acreage of the parcel was miscalculated. Commissioner Hancik opined that the additional  
parcels that may not be eligible under the PFC should be purchased as land acquisition should  
be a number one priority. Attorney Carr commented that the acquisition process is proceeding,  
40 that the contract request from the seller was met with the cost based on the 47 acres they  
provided, and that after the contract was received, the seller found the difference of 13 acres  
and requested additional funds. Mr. Parish commented that the information was just received,  
that he and Mr. Ridenour are working on pushing multiple projects forward for the FAA, and  
the acreage is on their schedule for the next two days. Attorney Carr opined that he agrees  
45 with Commissioner Hancik on acquiring the additional property, as the location of the  
additional parcels is where the access for Mr. Robinson, who was injured on a motorcycle and  
resulted in litigation, occurred. All Commissioners agreed to the extra parcels. Mr. Parish  
commented that he will bring a contract back pertaining to the final agreement.

### 50 12. CEO's Report

- 5 a) **Development Update** – Mr. Parish provided an update on the architectural renderings of the entrance and exit through the new General Aviation Center and two different styles for the exterior of the building. Chair Seay and Commissioner Andrews opined that they like the tropical look. Commissioner Herston opined that it appears the architects followed the beams from the exterior to the interior and inquired as to what the cables on the interior beams of the building are for. Mr. Parish confirmed with Mr. Hayward, the architect of the building, that the cables are structural. Chair Seay opined she likes the airiness of the design. Commissioner Coppola inquired if the wooden beams reinforce the roof for hurricanes. Mr. Parish commented that they will and that they will not be wood, just painted to look that way, as they will be structural. He reported that Runway 15-33 Rehabilitation and Extension and the construction for the replacement of Hangar 207 are both moving forward. He reported that the water management district pertaining to the Roadway Network Improvements is being finalized, that there are four or five T-hangar door replacements left, that the grant for the Air Carrier Ramp and the Pavement Sweeper are being closed, and the Environmental Assessment for the final step of the Master Plan is scheduled for March 5<sup>th</sup> at the Event Center.
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- 20 b) **Marketing Update** – Mrs. Miller reported that in the Bailey terminal, the hallway from the ticketing area to baggage claim has been designated as a community corridor, which means there is no advertising in that area. She commented that the area has been reserved for the Arts and Humanities Council’s Art in Public Places program, the historic photo display, and the new Flybrary. She added that the Flybrary is a partnership with the Charlotte County Library System and gave a brief update on how it works and the final look. She reported that across from the Flybrary there will be photos hung from Tourism and in the historic photo area, there will be additional City of Punta Gorda historical photos added. She commented that once all of the additions are added to the hallway, she’ll look into the opportunity to have a ribbon cutting or photo opportunity. Chair Seay commented that she loves the idea and inquired if she has used books, if she can donate them to the Flybrary. Mrs. Miller commented that they can be donated and that she can bring them into the Administration Office if she has a lot of books or leave them on the Flybrary shelf for the Landside staff to sticker if there’s only a few. She commented that the public can work through the Library System if they have a lot of books to donate. Commissioner Coppola asked if there were any inquires from local businesses to put their stickers in the books or place a magazine rack for a slight charge. Mrs. Miller commented she has not had any inquires. Mr. Parish commented that the advertising concessionaire does sell rack space for The Florida Weekly and The Ranch, which is part of their advertising package. Commissioner Coppola inquired about the real estate books. Mr. Parish commented that the real estate books are not allowed unless they’re an advertiser and that the Chamber’s are allowed to put their books inside the terminal. Mrs. Miller commented that the corridor from ticketing area to the baggage claim area is free of regular advertising, but Lamar would happily have any advertisers in the remaining portions of the terminal.
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- 45 c) **Aviation Activities Report** – Mr. Mallard reported on passenger counts, fuel sales and gallons pumped, aircraft ops, and hangar vacancies.
- 50 d) **Airline Update** – Mr. Mallard reported that Allegiant has added their seventh aircraft on February 13<sup>th</sup>, their eighth aircraft will be added on February 27<sup>th</sup>, and the ninth aircraft will arrive on March 6<sup>th</sup>. He commented that aircraft eight and nine will be onsite until April 22<sup>nd</sup> and aircraft seven will depart on May 6<sup>th</sup>. He commented that the Thunderbirds

5 had their onsite preliminary airshow meeting, that there are currently 57 on the T-hangar waitlist with approximately a year wait time, that Naples Airport is around four years for their waitlist, that he met with a startup airline from Colorado Spring that's approximately two years out and wanted to tour the facility, that Spirit Airlines will use the Airport as an alternate airport for their operations and that they were impressed with the Airport. Commissioner Coppola inquired if any of the airlines fly to Islip Long Island MacArthur Airport. Mr. Mallard commented that he's working on it.

### 13. Old Business

10 a) **Travel Policy Update** – Attorney Carr commented that the Board asked he review the current Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy. He reported that he viewed prior documents and policies, the Florida Statute, formats from Charlotte County and other counties, and spoke with various places associated with the matter regarding how they go about approval of transportation for a Commissioner. He commented that it varies from doing nothing, to form submittal, to approval of every item. He reported that the Authority sets aside approximately \$2,500 every budget year for each Commissioner to travel to various conventions or functions. He suggested that rather than approving each travel event, each Commissioner should be allowed to travel within the budgeted amount without approval from the Board, and sign the form affirming that the travel was related to official duties. He commented that should a Commissioner exceed the budgeted \$2,500 amount, they would need to bring the matter to the Board to receive the approval for additional funds or reimbursement. Chair Seay confirmed with Attorney Carr that the budgeted amount could change annually during the budgeting process. Chair Seay commented that the current budgeted amount is set at approximately \$2,500 and inquired if once over the budgeted amount, if travel for something like the MPO should be included in the travel budget. Attorney Carr opined that within the document, it says that if you're performing under local mileage and cost, it does not have to be approved. He commented that he discussed with Mr. Parish that he was unsure of how an expense would be approved if the CEO ask the Chair to travel to Tallahassee or another location. Chair Seay inquired if the Board needs to approve Commissioner Hancik's travel specifically or if by approving the provided document, it would give him the go ahead to travel without additional approval. Attorney Carr commented that he is unsure how to answer that question as he isn't sure when the Board would like to start the new policy or if Commissioner Hancik has already exceeded the full amount. He commented that once the policy is approved, it would be in effect and Commissioner Hancik could proceed as desired if he has not already exceeded the \$2,500 amount. Commissioner Hancik inquired how the current travel budget would work as the budget process is already past. Attorney Carr commented that during the last budget process, there was a travel budget established for each Commissioner, which was approximately \$2,500 each, and that the only distinction is that currently, each Commissioner is required to receive approval for travel. He opined that the process of approval is cumbersome and recommends allowing each Commissioner to expend the money without approval so long as it's approved and complies with the Florida Statute. Commissioner Hancik commented that he had a request for travel in November that was set aside until this policy was created, that his trip to Boston, MA will exceed the \$2,500 amount, and opined that his trip would need additional approval now if the new policy is voted into place. Commissioner Herston commented that he never expensed his mileage to the Airport Authority when he was assigned to the MPO as the MPO assigned him to the MPO-AC, and that the mileage for that committee is handled through Ms. Beckie with the MPO. Commissioner Coppola inquired if she would be reimbursed under the new

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policy for her different clubs and meetings that she attends and is recognized as a member of the Airport Authority. Chair Seay opined that she isn't sure of that answer pertaining to the Authority and that at the University, she ran into the same question, and found that Florida Statutes describe that the State is not allowed to fund any organization's fee that does not offer a public membership or public record. Commissioner Coppola clarified that she's referring to her Republican Club's and meetings. Mr. Parish commented that the Airport currently pays for memberships to AAAE, ACI, and FAC. Chair Seay commented that those organizations publish books with a list of their members so those organizations would not be a concern. Commissioner Coppola commented that she has been paying for those clubs on her own but thought to inquire. Chair Seay opined that this policy is related more directly to travel than memberships and suggested Commissioner Coppola contact Mr. Parish to discuss the matter of memberships. **Commissioner Herston motioned to approve the Travel Expense and Reimbursement Policy as presented. Commissioner Andrews seconded.** Commissioner Andrews commented that he agrees with Attorney Carr that the new policy will make the process smoother. Commissioner Hancik inquired if the submission of the expenses is approved. Mr. Parish commented that the County reviews the receipts to ensure they are eligible expenses and that the auditors also review the expenses. Commissioner Hancik opined that it's important from the standpoint of protecting the individual that someone is approving the expenses. Attorney Carr commented that the form does require that at the bottom. Commissioner Hancik commented that the form does not identify who is approving the expenses. Mr. Parish commented that there is one staff member who handles travel for the entire staff, that any discrepancies are taken to Mrs. Cauley, and eventually to him if needed. **Motion passed unanimously.** Attorney Carr commented that since the policy is now adopted, it does require approval for additional reimbursement for Commissioner Hancik's travel and inquired if he knew how much additional funds he would be asking for. Commissioner Hancik commented that he does not know the exact amount he would need in additional funds. Chair Seay inquired if he has a guess regarding the amount. Commissioner Hancik opined his registration fee is half off, travel is approximately \$800, and rooms will cost around \$300 per night for five days. Commissioner Herston inquired if there's a possibility of doing a not to exceed amount. Chair Seay commented that can be performed within a motion. Attorney Carr commented that a motion can be made to approve X amount or a not to exceed amount. Chair Seay commented that he's already approved for \$2,500 and inquired if it's possible that Commissioner Hancik could bring the item back for approval once he has a definite amount. Commissioner Hancik opined that it would be easier for the Board to approve something similar to an example of an additional \$1,500 in addition to the standard of \$2,500. Commissioner Coppola inquired as to the purpose of the trip. Commissioner Hancik commented that it is the annual conference of the American Association of Airport Executives. Commissioner Herston inquired if Commissioner Hancik has the previous cost for the last two or three years of attendance. Commissioner Hancik commented that he only has information for his trip in 2017, which was approximately \$2,700. Chair Seay opined there should be a not to exceed an additional \$500 to allow travel up to \$3,000. Commissioner Hancik opined that the cost depends on where you're going. Chair Seay inquired as to where the 2017 conference was held. Commissioner Hancik opined he thought it was in San Diego or Long Beach, California. Chair Seay opined that location was not cheap. Commissioner Hancik commented he isn't sure if the travel includes the registration fee and per diem. Mr. Parish commented that the registration fee is usually covered under training. Mrs. Cauley commented that travel only pertains to those items of travel, such as hotels, airfare, and meals. Commissioner Hancik commented that he can bring it back for reimbursement. Chair Seay opined that it might

5 be easier to put the reimbursement on the Consent Agenda at a future meeting as the actual  
amounts are unknown. Commissioner Coppola inquired if Commissioner Hancik will file  
a report of what went on at the conference upon his return. Commissioner Hancik  
commented that he does bring back a program along with other items. Chair Seay opined  
10 that when a Commissioner goes to an event, it would be beneficial to bring a report back  
as each Commissioner can't go to the same event and that it's better that each  
Commissioner does explore different conferences. Commissioner Hancik opined that the  
easiest thing for the Board to do would be to motion not to exceed an additional \$1,500  
over the budgeted \$2,500 for his travel. **Commissioner Herston motioned to approve  
15 Commissioner Hancik's additional travel expenses not to exceed \$3,000.** Chair Seay  
inquired if that's over and above or in total. Commissioner Herston commented in addition  
to the budgeted amount. Attorney Carr opined that Commissioner Hancik is saying it's  
going to cost him approximately \$1,000 over and above his budgeted amount.  
**Commissioner Herston adjusted his motion to approve up to an additional \$1,000 for  
20 Commission Hancik's travel expenses to attend the AAAE Conference in Boston.  
Commissioner Hancik seconded.** Commissioner Coppola inquired if that's for all  
Commissioners or just for Commissioner Hancik. Chair Seay commented it's only for  
Commissioner Hancik. Commissioner Coppola inquired if each time a Commissioner  
needs to travel, if they would bring it to the Board as Commissioner Hancik has.  
25 Commissioner Andrews commented that it only needs to be brought to the Board for  
approval if the travel cost exceeds the \$2,500 budget. Commissioner Hancik commented  
that the budget is for the year. Chair Seay opined that the budgeted amount is the  
equivalent of one conference attendance per year per Commissioner. Commissioner  
Andrews commented that Commissioner Hancik needs approval as due to the location,  
30 the cost has gone slightly over the budgeted amount. Chair Seay opined that the Authority  
should explore policies related to programs and conferences that Commissioner's attend  
to ensure that multiple Board members aren't attending to the same conference or  
conferences where staff would be better suited to attend. Commissioner Hancik  
commented that an example of that is the whole Board attending FAC. Commissioner  
Andrews commented that he agrees with Chair Seay regarding discussing the attendance  
of different programs and conferences. **Motion passed unanimously.**

#### 14. New Business

35 a) **CFC Resolution 2019-01** – Mr. Parish commented that previously, the Board approved  
hiring Leibowitz & Horton, Inc. to compile a CFC and that the easiest way to accomplish  
it is through a resolution. He reported that the consultants put together a study of the  
airports in the area, as well as similar sized airports, reviewed proposed projects such as  
40 access, parking for the rental cars, and the relocation of Building 207. He commented that  
Leibowitz & Horton, Inc. wrote the resolution presented. Chair Seay commented that the  
resolution appears to implement what was approved previously. Mr. Parish commented  
that the previous approval was for the concept and the study. **Commissioner Herston  
motioned to approve of the CFC Resolution 2019-01 as presented. Commissioner  
45 Andrews seconded.** Commissioner Hancik commented that he would have liked a copy  
of the report from Leibowitz & Horton, Inc. to detail items pertaining to financials,  
projects, and the position of the rental car companies. He opined that under the resolution,  
he would like to remove the portion that states "the CEO has the ability to periodically  
change the amount" as he does not feel that is a staff decision to impose additional fees on  
50 the users and the public. Commissioner Coppola commented that she's never been a  
supporter of additional charges for the passengers and inquired if there is a cap on the CFC

amount. Mr. Parish commented that the initial establishment is \$3 per day and that the resolution can be changed to reflect that the Board has the ability to change the amount. Chair Seay commented that you can remove "...that the Chief Executive Officer of..." to allow it to read "...that the Charlotte County Airport Authority shall establish and periodically adjust...". Commissioner Hancik commented that would solve his first problem but he is still against the CFC charge as he does not feel additional fees should be imposed on tenants and customers until reasonable rates and charges have been established for the airline. **Commissioner Andrews motioned to amend Resolution 2019-01 to remove "...the Chief Executive Officer of..." and insert "...the Charlotte County Airport Authority shall..."**. Commissioner Herston seconded. **Motion for amendment passed unanimously. Commissioner Herston motioned to approve Resolution 2019-01 as amended. Commissioner Andrews seconded. Motion passed 3-2, with Commissioners Coppola and Hancik voting no.**

b) **Western Michigan University** – Chair Seay commented that she requested this item be added to the agenda, that she did not invite anyone from Western Michigan University (WMU) to attend, and that she would like to discuss what to do next. She opined that WMU no longer wishes to abide by their original intent, that research has shown that there is a need for training, that there was growth, and that WMU failed to dedicate time, effort, and money to their project before it had the chance to grow. She opined that she'd like to see the Authority address the matter itself as it effects the airport greatly and would like to explore the possibilities that are available to capitalize on the original opportunity created. She discussed that she heard a comment that the Authority should have been promoting the school and explained that the Authority is restricted in funding and therefore cannot market, promote, or advertise any business or operation at the Airport and that the County and Board members have done their part to promote within the restrictions of operation. She opined that she would like to hear from other Commissioner's regarding the matter. Commissioner Andrews commented that he's been reading similar comments and agreed that Florida's environment is good for training. Mr. Parish commented that through the previous one plus year, the Authority co-marketed with WMU at nearly all events the Airport attended, and that staff discovered there was a problem when Mrs. Miller reached out to the University for marketing information for a middle school career night. He commented that multiple sources have contacted him regarding the need and continuation of training, as well as a use for the County School Board for the Technical College, and existing flight instructors that have an inability to grow where they're currently located. He opines that he doesn't feel the opportunity is lost, it will just be structured differently unless another university leases the space. Chair Seay commented that the new Executive Order 1931, that supports high quality workforce relevant certificates and associate degrees, might provide an additional opportunity through universities and colleges, as one of the key components is transportation and opined talking to Florida Southwestern, Florida Gulf Coast, or USF. Commissioner Andrews commented that he believes in a community solution, not just a solution for the Airport, and that having the specific type of training is a benefit to the community. He commented that the Authority worked with the County to bring WMU onto the property and opines that the Authority should reach out to the County, EDO, and other community groups to find a solution as he does believe there are opportunities available. Mr. Parish commented that the Airport is already in the process of reaching out to the various groups within the community. Commissioner Herston opined that Mr. Parish is most likely working on it and that you can't force a deal when there's only one side participating. He opined that the Authority should view the local newspaper articles around the Michigan

5 WMU campus to see if there's any comments as to why they couldn't stay in Florida and  
commented that he feels better things are ahead. Commissioner Coppola commented that  
she had a lot of phone calls regarding the matter and that during one of her first phone  
calls, she discussed the aviation course that was offered at Charlotte High School when  
10 her oldest daughter was in school and opined that there's a need for the aviation profession.  
She commented that she made a list of organizations in Charlotte County and inquired if  
WMU spoke to any of the organizations or colleges in the area to assist in funding for  
scholarships. She opined that she doesn't know why the program failed and inquired if the  
15 Airport will entice an additional college to lease the space because she does have someone  
interested in leasing it. Mr. Parish commented that the County has a lease on the facility  
with an option of two additional years for another university program, that he is discussing  
with the County about modifying the lease to allow the Charlotte Technical College  
Program to lease the space, and that the location needs to maintain an aviation use. He  
opined that the reuse of the building will not be an issue with the lack of available hangar  
space but would like to first pursue the use of another training program. Commissioner  
Coppola inquired if there's two trailers in conjunction with the lease. Mr. Parish  
commented that there's a classroom, which is a multi-wide portable trailer. Commissioner  
Coppola inquired as to what will be done with the classroom as she has someone that  
20 would like to lease the space. Mr. Parish commented that it would be part of the classroom  
facilities if the Charlotte Technical College took the lease over. Commissioner Coppola  
inquired if the Civil Air Patrol would be able to make use of the building. Mr. Parish  
commented that WMU will be in the building until August 31 and then if the Technical  
College goes through, they would take the building over directly after WMU vacates.  
25 Commissioner Hancik opined that WMU's decision has been made, that the Airport needs  
to learn and grow from the experience, that Mr. Parish seems to be on top of looking at  
other uses for the property, and that there may never be an answer given as to why WMU  
is leaving. Chair Seay commented that there were internal personnel changes within WMU  
and opines that the Authority had no impact or control over those changes or the effects  
of the changes. She commented that she read materials from WMU that stated they wanted  
30 to focus on their Michigan campus and opined that she's happy the Airport is moving  
forward and has other options.

## 15. Citizen's Input

35 **Councilwoman Carey** – Commented that as a City Council Woman, the city stands ready to  
help the Airport progress with trying to find aviation training and opined that she felt left out  
as she read about the WMU closing in the paper and would have liked to have a partnership  
in the matter. She commented that she is also the secretary of the Punta Gorda Historical Mural  
Society and suggested the Board keep in mind that a Bailey Brother's mural is available should  
40 the Airport find space for it. Chair Seay inquired if the Airport is required to have public art  
provided within the building. Commissioner Hancik commented that it was a previous  
requirement. Commissioner Coppola commented that there is a pretty painting of an airplane  
in the corridor of the County Commission Building.

45 **Commissioner Deutsch** – Commented that the impact fees for Charlotte County were  
substantially lower than other counties, which was due to the thought that it would result in  
the ability to be more competitive in development and opines that the County Commissioners  
are open to discuss it. He commented that regarding WMU, the County had a slight notice, of  
approximately a week or ten days, as to what was happening. He opined that he is disappointed  
50 and commented when one door closes, another opens. Commissioner Coppola inquired who

Dave Gammon is. Commissioner Deutsch commented that he is the acting Economic Development Director and that he's been in the department for a number of years. Attorney Carr commented that Mr. Gammon took Ms. Lucienne Pears' position. Commissioner Coppola commented that the Authority should invite Mr. Gammon to speak at a meeting.

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**Richard Pitz** – Commented that he wrote an article to the paper and had many readers that agreed with him. He commented he wrote one article that was more scathing but did not submit it to provide an opportunity for the Authority to release a real report regarding the timeline of things that WMU did and didn't do while they were onsite. He opined that the public deserves that report, commented that he does not see anyone attending from the schools, that he doesn't feel the Technical College is a real Technical College, and that the Authority has no control over the school. He commented that the Airport is remarkable and opines that there is no sense of urgency and that the problem is that the Authority did not demand that WMU come in front of the Board. He commented that he supports the Board and that the situation makes him question who's in control. He commented that he represents a lot of people within the county and he's angry that there was no sense of urgency due to everyone waiting for someone else to do something.

#### 16. Commissioner's Comments

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**Commissioner Andrews** – Thanked everyone for attending, opined that he's happy with the Airport's financials, and looks forward to bringing back more reports on the MPO.

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**Commissioner Herston** – Complimented and thanked staff for their work. He commented that he liked Dr. Pitz comments regarding the sense of urgency, that it's a tough area to delve into and that individuals can make mistakes.

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**Commissioner Coppola** – Commented that she agrees with Dr. Pitz remarks, shared her experience with aviation through the high school, that she feels the high schools would be a good place to start to recruit, and opines that it's a tremendous idea to have a college onsite due to the need. She opined that she would also like to know what happened with WMU, where it fell apart, that the Authority should have had more control over the matter, that there's many questions, and that no one asked the Authority for help. She opined that through the experience, staff should know how to handle the situation next time to set guidelines. She inquired if the Authority is allowed to require the next program to do certain things, including publicity, appearances, and TV related items. She commented that many people said it was the Airport's fault that WMU left and expressed that she disagrees as the Airport provided the airfield and hangar and the County provided the refurbishing of the hangar.

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**Commissioner Hancik** – Commented that he's already expressed his opinions.

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**Attorney Carr** – Commented that he would like to address the sense of urgency concept because he feels many do not know everything the community did for WMU. He commented that he worked with County Commissioners, Airport Administration, the Board, and WMU. He commented that he has a series of emails to WMU asking them to perform, that WMU decided not to proceed with the proposals that were put forth, and that he knows of nothing that the County Commission, the Board, Airport Administration, or legal counsel failed to do to promote WMU. He opined that if anyone implies that there was a lack of urgency, the individual is ill-informed and uninformed as to everything that was done to promote the opportunity.

5 **Chair Seay** – Thanked everyone for attending, commented that there was a lot of robust conversation, that it’s important to discuss the topics, and opined that it’s important to find a way to make the Airport function in the best way possible for all of its constituencies. She commented that it would be great to find an educational program to come back to the property, and if one is not available, the Authority will find the next best use for the property. She commented that staff does ask for information when a business comes to the Airport, and that when an agreement is signed, the Authority does support and help but does not police the business. She opined that the news is devastating for the staff of WMU at the Airport, that capitalizing on the opportunity is better than focusing on something that did not work, and that she is ready to move forward.

17. Adjournment

15 Meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

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 Pamella A. Seay, Chair

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 Kathleen Coppola, Secretary/Treasurer