



Charlotte County Airport Authority

Punta Gorda Airport

James W. Herston Chair	Paul Andrews Vice-Chair	Robert D. Hancik Secretary/ Treasurer	Kathleen Coppola Asst. Secretary/ Treasurer	Vanessa Oliver Commissioner	James W. Parish CEO	Darol Carr Authority Attorney
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Monday, February 22, 2021
9:00 A.M.

7375 Utilities Road, Building 313, Punta Gorda, FL (**Reduced Room Capacity**)
Public access available by phone or online for listening purposes only.

Call in phone number: 727-502-6839
Conference ID: 593 958 634#

Find the online meeting link at www.flypgd.com/airport-authority/meeting-minutes-and-agendas/

EMERGENCY MEETING AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order:** Reminder to turn off your cell phones
- 2. Invocation:** For those who wish to join, please rise for the invocation.
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Roll Call**
- 5. Citizen's Input:** Anyone wishing to address the Board during this portion should state their name for the record. Each citizen is allowed up to two minutes to express their opinion.
- 6. Resolution 2021-02 in Opposition of Amending Chapter 98-508, Laws of Florida**
- 7. Adjournment**

Charlotte County Airport Authority
RESOLUTION 2021-01
Opposing Elimination of Single Member District Representation
on the CCAA Commission.

WHEREAS, Chapter 98-508, Laws of Florida established the Charlotte County Airport Authority (hereinafter CCAA) as an independent special district pursuant to Chapter 189 of Florida Statutes, to provide the management, operation, maintenance, planning and development of the airports, commerce parks, facilities or real estate owned, operated or managed by the Charlotte County Airport Authority; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 98-508 establishes the CCAA as a single member district political body such that each of the CCAA's five Commissioners are required to reside in the geographical district from which the candidate seeks office; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 98-508 requires the five districts to be identical to the geographical district boundaries of the Charlotte County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the CCAA interacts with the Charlotte County School Board (CCSB) which has the identical district geographical boundaries; and

WHEREAS, CCAA impacts all Charlotte County intracounty commerce, intrastate commerce and interstate commerce as home to 217 leased T-Hangars, dozens of aviation and non-aviation businesses providing approximately 500 on-airport jobs and \$1.275 billion in regional annual economic impact according the FDOT's 2018 Statewide Aviation Economic Impact Study; and the Punta Gorda Airport had 79,405 takeoffs and landings in 2020, including 10,424 air carrier operations, 1,363 air taxi operations, 66,827 general aviation operations; and

WHEREAS, the CCAA served nearly 1.2 million Allegiant passengers from more than 45 U.S. destinations in 2020 that reside and travel throughout Charlotte County; and

WHEREAS, the CCAA employs 60 full-time equivalent employees who reside throughout Charlotte County, earned \$2.6 million in operating gain at a 20% margin in 2020 and has approximately \$23 million in cash reserves; and

WHEREAS, the CCAA has an FAA-approved Airport Master Plan with nearly \$200 million in capital improvements planned over the next 15 years that impact citizens in all parts of Charlotte County; and

WHEREAS, all known Florida municipal, county, state, and federal representatives are single member districts; and

WHEREAS, single-member districts:

- provide voters with strong constituency representation because each voter has a single, easily identifiable, district representative;
- encourage constituency service by providing voters with an easily identifiable 'ombudsman';
- maximize accountability because of a single representative;
- ensure geographic representation;
- ensures diversity of representation; and

WHEREAS, the CCAA believes that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Charlotte County that the CCAA remain a single member district body so as to prevent geographical concentration of representation that would imbalance the future of CCAA operations; and

WHEREAS, no input was sought from the CCAA Board or Administration as to any need to change the single member district requirement; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Delegation meeting scheduled for February 23, 2021 was done with limited notice of only seven days to respond and does not allow sufficient time for the Citizens of Charlotte County, elected officials and all those otherwise affected to have sufficient time to prepare and/or be present at the meeting; and

WHEREAS, there is no articulated purpose or known reason to modify Chapter 98-508, the CCAA enabling legislation, to allow at-large Commissioners and thereby allow Commission packing by consolidation of representation from one geographic area.

NOW THEREFORE, the Charlotte County Airport Authority does hereby resolve that:

1. The Charlotte County Airport Authority adamantly opposes the proposed modifications to Chapter 98-508, Laws of Florida to eliminate single member districts and allow for at-large Commissioners.
2. The Charlotte County Airport Authority geographical district representations should remain identical to that of the Charlotte County Commissioners and the Charlotte County School Board members.
3. The Charlotte County Airport Authority opposes any and all efforts to change its Board Commissioner election structure without full and fair public notice and done with stated rationales and necessity in an open and transparent legislative process and then APPROVED by a majority of the voters of Charlotte County by referendum during a general election.

DULY ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2021.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

By: _____

James W. Herston, Chair

ATTEST:

Robert D. Hancik, Secretary/Treasurer