

**Westmoreland County Airport Authority
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
August 6, 2024**

Regular Meeting

The Regularly Scheduled August meeting of the Westmoreland County Airport Authority was held at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024, in the Authority Conference Room at Arnold Palmer Regional Airport in Unity Township, Pennsylvania, in accordance with notice given.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Rossi, who led the Pledge of Allegiance and directed that the following members be recorded as present:

Donald Rossi - Chairman
P. Richard Ridilla - Secretary
Edward Kilkeary Sr. - Treasurer
Janice Smarto
Mark Gera
Paul Whittaker
Richard Pologruto

Also present were: Executive Director Gabe Monzo; attorney Dan Hewitt of Avolio Law, authority solicitor; Scott Kunselman of McFarland-Johnson, authority engineers; Joe Wells, Latrobe Bulletin; Quincy Reese, Tribune-Review; Valetta Mowry, pilot; Anthony DeNunzio of DeNunzio's Chophouse; Airport Manager Moe Haas and Grants Director Dwayne Pickels.

Public Comments - Mr. Kilkeary asked the engineer how the study was progressing concerning aircraft movement in regard to the hangar proposed by Laurel Highlands Jet Center at Arnold Palmer Regional Airport.

Mr. Kunselman said an airspace study was submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration for review and we are working on an environmental clearance. We had talked about possible conflicts regarding movement of aircraft and if you can provide any information about that, we could run the templates on that.”

Mr. Kilkeary thanked the engineer for that information.

Approval of Minutes

Upon the motion of Mrs. Smarto, seconded by Mr. Kilkeary, minutes of the July 9, 2024, regular meeting were unanimously approved.

Arnold Palmer Regional Airport and Rostraver Treasurer's Reports - Treasurers reports for August will be reviewed at the September meeting.

Rostraver Committee Report -

Mrs. Smarto reported that two of the three county commissioners have approved the sale of piece of Route 51 fronting airport property to Dunkin' Donuts for development of a store. Mr. Hewitt said the sale price agreed upon was \$355,000.

Upon the motion of Mr. Ridilla, seconded by Mr. Kilkeary, a motion as unanimously approved to move forward with the sale at the price of \$355,000.

Engineering Proposals

Upon the motion of Mr. Ridilla, seconded by Mr. Gera, a request for qualifications will be advertised seeking proposals for five years of engineering services for the authority was unanimously approved.

**Engineer’s Update Report - by Mr. Kunselman of McFarland-Johnson
ARNOLD PALMER REGIONAL AIRPORT**

Relocate Taxiways D and E

This project calls for relocation of stub taxiways to meet current FAA safety guidance, Mr. Kunselman said. Two grant offers have been received from FAA and a pre-construction meeting was held on July 29. The prime contractor, A. Liberoni, requests subcontract approval for Bronder Technical Services in the amount of \$454,015.59. Construction is planned to begin after airshow.

Terminal Addition & Improvements/Apron Equipment Storage Building Design

This project is to design and bid an addition and improvements for the terminal. Bids were opened for the first phase of the project on Feb. 9, 2023, which will include demolition of the LAS hangar (planned for immediately after airshow) and construction of a replacement equipment storage facility. Mr. Kunselman reported that two of the three grants for the project from FAA have been received. A pre-construction meeting was held on July 26, 2024. Construction is tentatively slated to began Oct. 1, 2024, he reported.

Snow Removal Vehicle and Equipment

This project is to acquire a 20-foot broom, carrier vehicle and equipment for snow removal through the Costars program using a BIL grant from the FAA to replace an existing obsolete vehicle, Mr. Kunselman said. The vehicle was delivered on May 30, 2024 and a final inspection was held with FAA on June 27, 2024, with punch list items (radios) to be addressed.

ATCT Improvements

This project consists of habitability and accessibility improvements of the Air Traffic Control Tower, which was originally built in 1981. The project is 100% FAA funded, Mr. Kunselman said. Final inspection for Phase I was held on June 27, 2024, with punch list items remaining to be addressed. The authority received word that it was selected for a Phase II grant for up to \$1.2 million for installation of an elevator. Bids were opened June 13, 2024. A grant application has been submitted to FAA for review.

GA Corporate Hangar Entrance

This project would include access and parking improvements to the corporate hangar area. Preliminary plans and renderings have been prepared and funding is being sought. The engineer noted that, due to compliance issues with TSA regulations, it is proposed to move forward with modifications proposed by the engineer in the near future with authority funds to improve safety and security and seek reimbursement of those costs when the larger project is funded.

ROSTRAVER AIRPORT:

AWOS Replacement

Design has begun to replace the existing AWOS, which was installed in 2000 and is now obsolete, Mr. Kunselman said. Bids are scheduled for the late fall of 2024 and a grant application will be filed with FAA in January, 2025.

Promotions - Mr. Whittaker reviewed discussions from last week’s airshow meeting.

Westmoreland County Airport Authority

REQUISITIONS - Mr. Pickels reviewed the requisitions for August, 2024:

LATROBE

Latrobe 62-22 (Acquire SRE) Requisition No. 5, totaling \$94,918.60
Latrobe 68-23 (Rehab ATCT PH I) Requisition No. 11, totaling \$32,878.60
Latrobe 71-24 (TW D&E) Requisition No. 1, totaling \$48,103.31
Latrobe 72-24 (TW D&E CA) Requisition No. 1, totaling \$22,582.63
Latrobe 73-24 (ATCT PH II) Requisition No. 1, totaling \$42,720.33
Latrobe WCIDC (Requisition No. 7, totaling \$181,360.68

Special Projects Account 7110075814 Req. No. 255, totaling \$16,560.45

Upon the motion of Mr. Gera, seconded by Mr. Whittaker, requisitions for August, 2024, were unanimously approved as presented.

Solicitor's Report - Mr. Hewitt

Mr. Hewitt said an individual interested in the restaurant facility at Rostraver, Adam Manishko, DBA Droopy's Bar and Grill LLC and Blaine Hill Catering, is looking to start with catering and takeout operations for the first year.

Upon the motion of Mrs. Smarto, seconded by Mr. Whittaker, \$2,000 short-term lease for the first year for a catering and take-out operations at the Rostraver restaurant facility to Adam Manishko, DBA Droopy's Bar and Grill LLC and Blaine Hill Catering, was unanimously approved.

Executive Director's Report — Mr. Monzo reported that there was recently a fire at a private hangar at Rostraver that caused extensive damage to aircraft and a car inside the hangar. Mr. Monzo credited the local fire departments — Rostraver, Webster and Collinsburg and all the units that responded — for preventing the fire from spreading to other hangars. "They got a quick stop on it," he said.

With the board's consent, Mr. Monzo said he will seek additional funding to upgrade the AWOS at Arnold Palmer Regional to a full ATIS system.

Chairman's Report — Mr. Rossi noted the mural that was recently painted on the hangar at the east ramp by Rapheal Pantelone. "There are some great things to see and do here."

Mr. Monzo requested that the October meeting be reschedule due to an aviation conference.

Upon the motion of Mr. Kilkeary, seconded by Mr. Whittaker, the board unanimously approved the change of the October regular meeting of the Westmoreland County Airport Authority from October 8 to Oct. 15, due to an aviation conference.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the authority will be held **Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 9 a.m.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Dwayne Pickels, Grants Director