

AIRPORT COMMISSION MINUTES

June 13, 2023

3:00 P.M.

Danville Regional Airport – Eastern Conference Room

The following were present for the Danville Regional Airport Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, June 13, 2023.

Attendees:

Marc Adelman, Director	Gene Jackson	Alan Spencer, Deputy City
Stephen Daniel, Vice-Chairman	Bob Jiranek	Attorney
Michael Duncan	Fred Shanks	Todd Pinekenstein, Transportation
Phil Hall, Chairman		Bld. Grounds Superintendent

Guests:

Dr. Cornelius Johnson, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Student Services, DCC
Mark Funkey, Vice President of Workforce Services
Shannon Hair, Vice President of Institutional Advancement, DCC
Marcio Couto, DCC Aviation Maintenance Technology Program Coordinator

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to amend the agenda by Fred Shanks and seconded by Gene Jackson to reverse items two and three. Michael Duncan made a motion to approve the agenda as amended for the June 13, 2023, meeting, and Gene Jackson seconded the motion. All members in attendance were in favor and the motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Fred Shanks moved that the minutes of the May 9, 2023, Airport Commission meeting be accepted as presented and Gene Jackson seconded the motion. All members in attendance were in favor and the motion passed.

New Business

Topic: Danville Community College Aviation Maintenance Technology Program Update
Action: Dr. Cornelius Johnson updated the Airport Commission concerning progress completed regarding the college's Aviation Maintenance Technology Program.
Disposition: State aviation funding was requested in June to complete engineering services for site prep construction work related to constructing an aviation maintenance training facility.

Dr. Cornelius Johnson introduced the guests in attendance representing the Danville Community College (DCC) and updated the Airport Commission on their Aviation Maintenance Technology Program. He passed out a schedule and discussed how the program will be launched and built out to meet Federal Aviation Administration requirements. The programs offered will be a) Associate of Applied Science Degree in Aviation, b) Certificate in Powerplant Maintenance, c) Certificate in Airframe Maintenance. Marcio Couto, DCC's Aviation Maintenance Technology Program Coordinator, discussed his background and the five-phase FAA Certification Process (AMTS) with the Airport Commission. The different phases are identified on the following page.

Topic: Danville Community College Aviation Maintenance Technology Program Update (*Continued*)

- Phase 1- Pre-Application
- Phase 2- Formal Application
- Phase 3- Document Compliance
- Phase 4- Demonstration and Inspection
- Phase 5- Certification

Topic: Blue Ridge Community College Aviation Maintenance Technology Program Tour completed at the Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport

Action: Marc Adelman updated the Airport Commission concerning a tour of the Blue Ridge Community College's Aviation Maintenance Technology facility.

Disposition: Additional tour (s) of aviation maintenance technology facilities will be completed.

Marc Adelman informed members that airport staff and DCC representatives recently completed a tour of the Blue Ridge Community College Aviation Maintenance Technology Program, which is located at the Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport. Images were provided of different locations of the facility and Marc Adelman updated the Airport Commission concerning information learned during the tour. He indicated that the Blue Ridge Community College facility is very small. Due to the size of the hangar, it was not possible to store aircraft inside the machinery and equipment located in the facility. Therefore, only sections of aircraft were kept inside the hangar. Other information shared about the tour is identified below.

- The program is expensive to offer due to the cost of machinery and equipment required to support the program and aviation maintenance students pay the same tuition as other Community College students enrolled in other programs less costly to offer.
- It took Blue Ridge Community College one year to obtain FAA approval for their program.
- It took Liberty University six-years to set up their program.
- Starting pay for graduates - \$37 per hour with a \$20,000 starting bonus and \$12,000 bonus for tools is common.

Marc Adelman said that he and Todd Pinekenstein arrived early in advance of the tour and were able to visit the terminal buildings located at the Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport. Images were provided of the airline passenger terminal and the general aviation terminal building.

Topic: Update on Airport Projects

Action: Marc Adelman provided the Airport Commission and visitors an update on current airport projects and other projects recently completed and planned.

Disposition: Construction work related to the new airside canopy continues.

Identified on the following page is information shared with the Airport Commission by Marc Adelman regarding the status of multiple airport projects.

Topic: Update on Airport Projects (Continued)

- 1) Rehabilitated Runway 13/31 and Taxiway F - Project completed in September 2022
- 2) Terminal Building Renovations – Currently underway and anticipated completion this summer.
- 3) Widened Taxiway H and new Taxi-lane to support construction of a new 60' x 54' box hangar.
- 4) Plans call for developing a new aircraft parking area for large aircraft adjacent to Taxiway H.
- 5) Rehabilitate South Ramp and Taxiway Connections – Phase I of the project is complete and bids were opened last week for Phase II of the project. Due to FAA funding constraints it is anticipated that the alternate bid, which includes completing 70% of the paving work will most likely be completed this fall at the cost of \$2,327,500.
- 6) Fuel Farm Expansion – Project on hold possibly starting next fiscal year.
- 7) Hangar Construction – Construct hangar for the Aircraft Maintenance Facility adjacent to the South Ramp using Bipartisan Infrastructure funding.

Marc Adelman provided images of the soffit panels and lettering that have been recently installed to the new airside canopy. It is expected that the contractor will start the demolition of the concrete located adjacent to the terminal ramp this month so that the paving and brick pavers can be installed. In addition, the glass doors located adjacent to the AU Aviation Services counter area will be removed and new glass panels will be installed.

Topic: Airport Video Revision

Action: The current airport promotional video was reviewed by the Airport Commission to discuss edits that need to be made.

Disposition: An Aviation Promotion grant application will be reviewed by the Virginia Department of Aviation and if approved, will finance approximately fifty percent of the cost to update the current video.

Marc Adelman indicated that he wanted to review the current airport promotional video with the Airport Commission to identify different segments that need to be updated. He mentioned that he hopes that additional interviews can be included as part of the new video to improve awareness of the planned aviation maintenance technology facility and the airport's link with air traffic that is expected to increase due to the opening of the Caesars Casino Resort.

Topic: Data Collection Subcommittee Report

Action: Air Traffic data completed during 2022 was reviewed with the Airport Commission.

Disposition: The subcommittee will continue data collection activities.

Marc Adelman mentioned that the Airport Commission formed a sub-committee to compile data that will assist with planning activities related to the next Airport Master Plan Update. An excerpt from the 2009 Master Plan Update was provided to the Airport Commission that explains the airport infrastructure analysis completed at that time.

Topic: Data Collection Subcommittee Report (Continued)

Michael Duncan provided additional handouts regarding air traffic data completed last year. He mentioned that the data collected prior to completing the next Master Plan Update should help to clarify what aircraft are coming to the airport, aircraft we would like to come to the airfield and explain basic implications of that data. Mr. Duncan provided information concerning all the turbine traffic that accessed the field over the course of 2022. He stated the airport has aircraft that frequent the airfield on a regular basis where the maximum runway length on a typical day is not met or required.

Marc Adelman stated that the FAA's policy for evaluating runway length requirements is based on the most demanding/critical aircraft with at least 500 annual operations or is expected to operate, at the airport. He suggested that this policy would require the completion of five, Boeing 737 aircraft charters per week to support operational conditions to extend the primary runway. To obtain needed information, he recommended that documentation should be provided by Caesars for charters that are completed at the Greensboro and Raleigh airports. Discussion continued.

Public Comment

No public comments.

Communications

Chairman Phil Hall thanked Michael Duncan, Fred Shanks, and John Earl for working together provide the data collection discussed. He also thanked Dr. Cornelius Johnson and his group from DCC for attending the meeting and providing an update.

Adjournment

The Commission meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm. The next regular Commission meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 3:00 pm in the airport's Eastern Conference Room.**