

MEETING MINUTES
GERALD R. FORD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD
Gerald R. Ford International Airport, International Room
5500 44th Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49512
Wednesday, August 28, 2024

A quorum being present, and in accordance with notice being duly given, Chair Koorndyk called the meeting of the Authority Board to order on August 28, 2024, at 8:30 a.m.

Chair Koorndyk welcomed everyone and asked for Board Member attendance by roll call:

Board Present: Birgit Klohs, Mike Verhulst, Doug Small, Dan Burrill, Pete Beukema, Emily Brieve, Dan Koorndyk – 7

Staff Present: Tory Richardson – President and CEO
Alex Peric – Vice President and COO
Maria Kim – Chief Financial Officer
Haley Meyer – Executive Assistant
Lisa Carr – Public Safety & Operations Director
Matt Zeilstra – Controller
Ashley Thorsen – Operations Manager
Tony Gutierrez – Fire Chief
Tom Cizauskas – Business Administration Manager
Jill Haarman – Operations Dispatcher
Hannah Newtown – Badge Office Supervisor
Jon Couchenour – IT Support Analyst
Heidi Groenboom – Communications and Event Associate
Kirk Smith – Airport Rescue Fire Fighter Captain
Brett Groth – IT Systems Analyst
Casey Ries – Engineering Director

Others Present: Mary Kay Shaver (Varnum), Walter Bujak (KCC), Mary Ann Sabo (Sabo PR), Daniel Hart (Plante Moran), Ali Hijazi (Plante Moran), Darren Large (AAAE), Nick Patterson (RS&H), Ethan Fulton (WSP), Brian Picardet, John Oliver

8-1 Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Mr. Burrill supported by Mrs. Klohs the approval of the agenda.

8-2 Public Comment

No public comment.

8-3 Special Presentation

Mr. Richardson introduced Darren Large, President of the Northeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives. Mr. Large then presented the F. Russell Hoyt Presidential Award to Ashley Thorsen in recognition of her work as Vice Chair of the International Snow Symposium.

8-4 Consent Agenda

a) Approval of Authority Board Minutes – June 26, 2024

b) Reports

- Project/Construction Report
- Public Safety and Operations Report
- Maintenance and Asset Management Report
- Aviation Activity Reports
- Media Report

Motion by Mr. Small, supported by Mr. Beukema, the approval of Consent Agenda items a – b.
Motion carried.

8-5 Resolution 24-11: Acceptance of 2023 Audited Financial Statements

Chair Koorndyk said our external auditors, Plante & Moran PLLC, are present and just met with our Finance and Legislative Committee. For discussion purposes, Chair Koorndyk called for a motion for Resolution 24-12 before turning it over to Mrs. Kim and our auditors for further explanation.

Motion by Mrs. Klohs, supported by Mr. Burrill, the approval of the Acceptance of 2023 Audited Supplemental Information.

Chair Koorndyk opened the discussion on the motion by turning to Mrs. Kim to introduce our auditors, Plante Moran and to provide a quick overview of the audit. Finance and Legislative Committee Chair Klohs commended our auditors and staff for working together to address and cure the outstanding questions related to the Passenger Facility Charge Program. Chair Koorndyk asked for votes by roll call.

Yeas: Dan Koorndyk, Doug Small, Birgit Klohs, Pete Beukema, Mike Verhulst, Emily Brieve, Dan Burrill – 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

8-6 President and CEO Report

Mr. Richardson reviewed the CEO report. There was discussion about the irregular operation (IROPs) event that occurred on August 6th, but there was no action taken.

8-7 Other Business

No other business was discussed.

8-8 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

APPROVAL: _____
Birgit Klohs, Secretary to the Board

HM