# West Calcasieu Airport Managing Board Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2016

#### I. Call to order

Chairman Dalton Langford called to order the special meeting of the West Calcasieu Airport Managing Board at approximately 4:35 p.m. on April 13, 2016, at the offices of Southland Executive Airport, Conference Room, 7000 Southland Field Road, Sulphur, Louisiana.

## II. Invocation

Wilmer Dugas led the invocation.

# III. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge led by R. K. Levens and recited by all board members and guests.

## PLEASE NOTE: THE FOLLOWING WAS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

Chairman Dalton Langford entertained a motion to accept the previous minutes. Wilmer Dugas made a motion to accept the previous minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Chamblee. No opposition. Motion carried.

# IV. Review and take action on current contract

Chairman Dalton Langford announced that the first order of business is the hangar cap and asked Airport Director Tim Lafleur to address the issue. Tim explained the hangar cap was for a hangar that was going to be built on site by First Flight, and it was capped at \$625,000. Tim further explained the hangar was supposed to have a section added to accommodate and service busses. First Flight would like to withdraw that from the contract. First Flight has a venue off site that they are using for their busses, so the cap for the hangar can go back to the Airport's money. Rhett Phillips further explained that First Flight was supposed to get a lease credit for the construction of the hangar. So now, instead of the money being spent on the hangar, it will go to the Airport funding.

Wilmer Dugas made a motion to accept First Flight's proposition to not build the hangar, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Chamblee. No opposition. Motion carried. Jackson Schrumpf suggested allowing the public to ask any questions on the issue. Chairman Langford asked if

anyone had public comments or questions. Charles Staggs asked if the hangar was going to be built. Rhett Phillips answered no. Mr. Staggs asked if the money was going to revert back to the Airport. Mr. Phillips answered yes. Wilmer Dugas asked if Chairman Langford asked if the public wanted to speak on the issue. Chairman Langford answered yes, he did. Chairman Langford asked a second time if anyone wanted to ask any questions regarding the hangar. No response from the public. R. K. Levens called for a vote. No opposition on the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Langford announced the next order of business is to amend the contract to let the busses go north to service industry north of the airport. R. K. Levens corrected the Chairman by saying it was not "the" busses but that it's a set number of busses. Chairman Langford corrected himself that the number given was 10 busses. Chairman Langford asked Rhett Phillips to elaborate on the issue. Rhett Phillips explained the proposal discusses a request made by their customer to service, on a temporary basis, a few people who work at a project north of the Airport. Rhett said the lease restricts First Flight, as well as the Parish restriction, in servicing any projects to the north of here. Rhett said the request was to remove the restriction of them going north. Rhett stated there is nothing in the amendment that provides any limitation, although that would be something they would consider, is providing a limitation on both the busses as well as time. Wilmer Dugas told Mr. Phillips when they signed the lease, they made a statement that they shall not go, at any given time, find a client north of the Airport but only south. Mr. Dugas asked Mr. Phillips if he was right or wrong. Mr. Phillips agreed that Mr. Dugas was correct. Mr. Phillips asked to expound upon his answer. Mr. Dugas said yes.

Rhett Phillips stated they didn't go find a new client to the north. Mr. Phillips explained this is an existing customer that has a new project to the north and requested this from First Flight. Mr. Phillips said that this is new information and that they are not, in any way, shape or form, trying to do anything nefarious. Mr. Phillips explained how they have customers, in the normal course of business, ask them to do different projects and different jobs. Mr. Phillips said the first step was to go to the Board to make the request and then allow the Board to vote however they wanted to vote. R. K. Levens said it was mentioned that this would be a temporary basis. Mr. Levens asked how temporary. Mr. Phillips answered he thought, approximately, a year.

Joe Palermo addressed the chairman by saying First Flight has been very good neighbors, and there have been a lot of concerned citizens about building the facility. Mr. Palermo stated they saw a lease that said that the Lessee shall not enter into contracts with people north of the facility. Mr. Palermo said that the Airport signed it, and First Flight signed it. Mr. Palermo stated that they have to take and consider what's good for the Airport and what's good for the community. Mr. Palermo told the Chairman that he came out of the gate the other day saying let them go wherever they wanted to go; but after thinking about it, looking at the lease and considering if they change the lease, they will be setting a precedent of maybe coming back and changing it again.

Joe Palermo made a motion that the Board not change or modify the lease and let it stay as written. Jackson Schrumpf asked if he meant other than the amendment. Mr. Palermo stated no, that the Board should not change or modify anything. Mr. Palermo said he wants to reject the proposal. Wilmer Dugas 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Jackson Schrumpf asked if that also applies to the hangar, because what passed a minute ago was the change about the hangar. Mr. Dugas said they are not talking about the hangar and that the hangar has

been gone for a long time. Mr. Schrumpf stated that that was not what Mr. Palermo just said.

1

Joe Palermo clarified by saying as it pertains to First Flight going north or doing business with any contractor north of this facility. Mr. Schrumpf clarified by saying the proposal that they are making would change Section 3D(i) and remove that restriction. Mr. Palermo said that they not change or modify anything in the lease pertaining to these people going to the north or doing business. Mr. Schrumpf stated that that's clear. Joe asked if Wilmer 2<sup>nd</sup> that, and Wilmer answered yes. Mr. Dugas said he respects everything that has happened; and without this, this airport would probably be closed. Mr. Dugas said he represents the City of Sulphur, the people in the community, the dock board as well as the airport board; and when he walks away from here, he can go to bed at night and sleep good. Mr. Dugas further explained his feelings on the issue.

Mr. Phillips stated that as he has spoken to other people in the room, the Board is voting and that's their job to vote and he has all respect in the world for them and will remain friends and business partners. Mr. Dugas stated that Rhett has been a good partner. Jackson Schrumpf suggested allowing anyone in the public to speak. Chairman Langford asked Brent Clement if he would like to say anything. Brent Clement told Joe Palermo he appreciated what he said. Mr. Clement said that that was a concern, that once you start making exceptions, where does it stop. Mr. Clement expressed his gratitude to the Board, briefly explained his relationship to all of the public present at the meeting as well as the board members and expressed his feelings regarding the Carlyss community. Mr. Clement further thanked everyone for trying to put a good foot forward and be a good neighbor to the residents.

Joe Palermo requested a roll call, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilmer Dugas. Chairman Langford stated that a roll call has been requested by Joe Palermo and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilmer Dugas.

Chairman Langford announced a vote to deny a change in the contract. Mr. Palermo clarified his motion is a "yes" vote, and Chairman Langford agreed. Chairman Langford asked Wilmer Dugas how he votes. Mr. Dugas said he understands what he's saying and he votes for his motion that they reject the amendment and his vote is "yes."

Chairman Langford asked Mr. Palermo for his vote, and Mr. Palermo said "yes." Chairman Langford asked Mr. Chamblee for his vote, and Mr. Chamblee said "yes." Chairman Langford asked Ms. Keel for her vote, and Ms. Keel said "yes." Chairman Langford asked Mr. Levens for his vote, and Mr. Levens said "yes."

Wilmer Dugas apologized to the minutes recorder.

Chairman Langford announced the motion passed to deny the change in the contract for First Flight to go north and do business.

#### V. Adjourn

Chairman Langford entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wilmer Dugas made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. K. Levens. No opposition. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:50 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL OF THE SPECIAL MEETING THAT WAS ON THE AGENDA WAS NOT DONE DURING THE SPECIAL MEETING, BUT THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WERE PRESENT AT SUCH TIME:

## Board Members Present:

- ✓ Dalton Langford
- ✓ Don Chamblee
- ✓ Wilmer Dugas
- ✓ R. K. Levens
- ✓ Joe Palermo
- ✓ Dana Keel

(Others also present at the meeting were: Darla Perry, Tim LaFleur, Chuck Stutes, Jackson Schrumpf, Rhett Phillips, Chad Brossett, Sheila Burton, Charles Staggs, Brent Clement and various unnamed individuals from the public.)

Chairman

Acting Secretary