

The Seven Hundred-Forty-seventh Meeting of the Worcester Regional Airport Commission was held on Monday, July 31, 2006, at 6:30 PM in the Conference Room at the Worcester Regional Airport.

Members present were: Chairman Jim Delehaunty, Vice-Chairman Joe Zwirblia and Commissioners Tim DeSantis, Tom Gorham, Robert Nemeth, Tom Reynolds and Pat Santa Maria.

Also present were: Jorge Panteli, Economic Planning & Development, Massport, Phil Niddrie, Airport Liaison and Eric N. Waldron, Airport Director.

Chairman Delehaunty called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

1. Approval of the minutes of the June 19, 2006 Meeting

Commissioner Nemeth asked that the minutes be amended; they erroneously listed him as attending the meeting, and he did not.

Commissioner Gorham moved, seconded by Commissioner Zwirblia, to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2006 Meeting, as amended. **All in favor - So Voted.**

2. Report of Commission Chairman

Chairman Delehaunty reported on the following items:

- Welcomed new Commissioner Tom Reynolds, who's nomination was approved by City Council at a recent meeting.
- Cingular Wireless Lease status – The Chair noted that the lease reviews by all legal parties has been completed and that construction is expected after January 1, 2007. Staff advised the Chairman that a vote Commission is required, authorizing the lease and further authorizing the Chairman or Vice Chairman to execute all documents related thereto. After explaining that this lease is for a tower construction, to be located next to the airport Maintenance Building for an initial five-year timeframe and an option, by mutual agreement, for three additional five-year periods, the Chair presented it to the Members for consideration.

Commissioner Nemeth moved, seconded by Commissioner SantaMaria, to authorize the lease of property from the airport to Cingular Wireless, for the construction and operation of a tower to house cell phone communication antennas, under the terms and conditions outlined, and to authorize the Chairman or Vice Chairman to execute all documents related thereto. **All in favor - So Voted.**

3. Commissioners Reports

Marketing- Commissioner DeSantis reviewed the advertising schedule/program that has been implemented by Allegiant and Worcester since the Carriers inaugural flight. The report identified the joint marketing and advertising that has been done by Allegiant and the City, as well as what has been done independently by Worcester. There was also significant discussion regarding the changes to the airport Web Site. Those in attendance were asked to review the Site, and make any suggestions that they have for changes or improvements to Phil Niddrie.

Aviation- Commissioner SantaMaria and Airport Director or Waldron outlined efforts taken to recruit additional tenants and GA, including corporate jet and private charter services. There was much discussion related to the RFP's for development at the airport that are scheduled to be released next month. There was additional discussion concerning the National Business Aircraft Association (NBAA) Conference in Orlando and the intent to send a team from

Worcester to the Conference to highlight the central location of Worcester to companies, pilots and flight operations personnel attending the annual event.

Master Plan- Chairman Delehaunty reviewed the highlights of the second public meeting of the Master Plan that was held in June.

4. Reports of Airport Director –

Report on Allegiant operations – Airport Director Waldron indicated that the Allegiant numbers are very strong during the months of June and July. However, he pointed out that there is concern about the yield for Allegiant. The cost of fuel is continually going up and this dramatically impacts a low-cost carrier like Allegiant.

Development site(s) RFP - Mr. Waldron briefed the Members on aviation related development sites identified through the Master Plan that are the subject of RFP's for development at the airport. It is the hope of Massport and the City that the RFP's can be published by late August. The initial RFP is for two sites at the northerly side of the airfield. It is expected that RFP's will be issued for two additional sites at some point later in the year.

Cingular Wireless - Covered in Chairman's report.

NBAA Conference - Covered in Aviation report.

Annual Airport Certification Inspection - The Director advised that the annual Airport Certification Inspection by FAA will be held over the course of three days next week.

Runway & Taxiway repairs – Mr. Waldron informed the Members that work has been accomplished on runway 11 due to accelerated deterioration of prior repairs caused by excessive rain and the reverse thrust used by the MD80 aircraft that Allegiant flies. It was originally hoped that the airport would get by this year with only additional crack sealing repairs to the runway, but it was necessary to mill and pave a number of areas on the runway, a couple of taxiways, and one ramp area. The Capital Program for the airport contemplates rebuilding a section of this runway in FY 08.

Airport Full-Scale Tri-Annual Exercise- Mr. Waldron announced that this event will be moved this year from the traditional May schedule to an October date.

NERASP Study-Status - FAA has announced that the NERASP study is expected to conclude by mid-October. The results will be announced publicly at the FAA Airport's Division regional conference, in Burlington, Massachusetts.

Wi-Fi in terminal and Weather Bug - Mr. Waldron advised that both of these items have been installed, but are not yet activated in the terminal. It is expected that activation will occur sometime in August.

5. Old Business -

- **Marketing Report** – Covered in Commissioners Report.
- **Airport Name Change - update** – No Change.
- **Energy Task Force Update** - Vice-Chair Zwirblia advised that the City Energy Task Force met again and that he attended the meeting on behalf of the Airport.

6. New Business -

- **Development Site(s) RFP's** - Covered in Airport Director Report.
- **Boston Tunnel closures** - There was brief discussion regarding the tunnel closures in Boston and the request by the City Council and Mayor for the City Manager to approach Massport, offering Worcester Airport as a site for airlines to operate from to alleviate traffic congestion in Boston. No action was taken at this time.

Prior to adjourning, the next meeting date was tentatively set for August 14, 2006, at 6:30 PM.

7. Adjournment

Commissioner Gorham moved, seconded by Commissioner Santa Maria, to adjourn the meeting. **All in favor - So Voted.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Eric N. Waldron, A.A.E., ACE
Airport Director and
Clerk of the Commission