



Virginia Aviation Board
Meeting Minutes

The Virginia Aviation Board held a meeting on Thursday, June 17, 2021, at the Virginia Department of Aviation, Passenger Terminal Hangar, 5702 Gulfstream Road, Richmond, VA 23250. The meeting was also available by electronic media and was audio recorded. The audio recording, meeting documents, and presentation materials are available on the Virginia Department of Aviation's website, www.doav.virginia.gov.

MEMBERS

Roderick D. Hall, Chairman	Present
J. Jack Kennedy, Jr., Region 1	Present
Victoria Cox, Region 2	Present
Derek M. Hardwick, Region 3	Present
Alan C. Abbott, Region 4	Present
Maggie Ragon, Region 5	Present
TBD, Region 6	N/A
Vanessa Christie, Region 7	Present

OTHER ATTENDEES

Governor Ralph Northam	
Christian Pedersen	Office of the Attorney General
Mark K. Flynn, Director	Virginia Department of Aviation

DOAV staff, state government representatives, federal government representatives, airport sponsors and managers, consultants, engineers, business owners, and city and county representatives were also present.

1. Call to Order Rod Hall, Chairman

The chairman called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

2. Review and approve March 18, 2021 minutes Rod Hall, Chairman

A. Review and approve March 18, 2021 minutes

Motion to approve: Abbott

Second: Ragon

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

3. Recognition Rod Hall, Chairman

A. Jack Kennedy - Region 1 Board Member Rod Hall, Chairman

The Chairman recognized Mr. Kennedy, Region 1 representative, and thanked him for his years of service, with comments echoed by several board members. Mr. Kennedy thanked the chairman and his fellow board members noting that he was hopeful on the outlook of unmanned systems and air taxi.

B. Barbara Haxter - Accomack County Airport Manager Rod Hall, Chairman

Chairman Hall acknowledged Ms. Haxter's service to Accomack County Airport and aviation. A resolution was read by Ms. Christie and presented to Ms. Haxter by Chairman Hall and Ms. Christie.

4. Update and Announcements:

A. Civil Air Patrol and VABA Report Col. Elizabeth Sydow, CAP
Bud Oakey, VABA

Colonel Elizabeth Sydow of the Civil Air Patrol provided a presentation on the Civil Air Patrol and its activities.

Mr. Oakey stressed the importance of aerospace education in local school systems. He reported a brief update on the JLARC findings regarding the aircraft parts sales tax exemption. He explained that JLARC suggested that private-owned aircraft should not qualify for the aviation parts and supplies tax exemption. He disagreed with that suggestion.

B. Danville Airport Presentation Mark Adelman,
Transportation Services
Director

Mr. Adelman provided a detailed presentation, including videos, of enhancements and renovation plans for the Danville Airport.

C. DOAV Update Mark Flynn, DOAV

Mr. Flynn introduced James Oliver, the agency's new Finance Manager. He announced that Breeze airways is flying out of Norfolk, with flights starting soon out of Richmond.

1. Advanced Air Mobility

Mr. Flynn reported the department is making progress and that he has assigned staff from agency divisions to work on the Advanced Air Mobility initiative. The department is at the idea phase with work starting on drafting state law language, following FAA activity on design standards, and identifying various groups to partner with on development.

2. Sustainable Aviation Fuel

Mr. Flynn reported that sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) is a new area for the department but is gaining popularity nationwide. The department is working with others to pursue development of SAF in Virginia. The department had contracted to receive research several years ago and is now revisiting. Major airlines and aviation businesses are very interested in pursuing biomass fuels as a green alternative. He added that Secretary Valentine has expressed great interest in SAF.

3. Aviation Special Fund Status

Mr. Flynn reported that revenues to the Aviation Special Fund have increased in the latter half of the fiscal year. As a result of greatly reduced spending and recently increased revenues, the Aviation Special Fund reserves are expected to realize a gain by the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Kennedy recommended the agency explore electric powered aircraft in addition to Advanced Air Mobility and Sustainable Aviation Fuel.

- D. FAA-FSDO Report Maury Dacey, FAA

Mr. Dacey provided an update on the FAA-FSDO activities.

- E. VAOC Report Keith Holt, VAOC

Mr. Holt provided an update on VAOC activities, including the upcoming Virginia Aviation Conference scheduled for August 17-19 in Norfolk.

5. Old Business

- A. *Airport Program Manual* Cliff Burnette, DOAV
John Campbell, DOAV

There was motion to table the local service *Airport Program Manual* amendment issue to the August meeting.

Motion to approve: Abbott

Second: Kennedy

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

Mr. Campbell stated that the department is asking the board to consider a change to grant obligation terms for projects under the Aviation and Airport Promotion Program in the *Airport Program Manual*. This change will be discussed with VAOC representatives and presented to the board in August for their consideration of approval.

- B. Airport Licensing issues - Falwell Airport Vernon Carter, DOAV

Mr. Carter provided an update on the airport licensing issues for Falwell Airport. Staff recommended that the Falwell airport license be extended to September 1, 2021 (from August 18, 2021).

Motion to approve: Ragon

Second: Christie

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

- C. Commonwealth Aviation Fund Status Cliff Burnette, DOAV

Mr. Burnette provided an update on the status of the Commonwealth Aviation Fund, noting a continued upward trend.

6. New Business

- A. Virginia Air Transportation System Plan (VATSP) Update Cliff Burnette, DOAV

Mr. Burnette reported that the Virginia Air Transportation System Plan update was underway. He added that this plan update is necessary for receiving federal funds. An in-depth update is scheduled for the August meeting.

B. Project Prioritization Process - *Airport Program Manual* Mike Swain, DOAV

Mr. Swain provided information on how projects are scored, highlighting the criteria used in the process.

C. VRA - Airports Bond Defeasance Mike Swain, DOAV

Mr. Swain presented a resolution approving the issuance by the Virginia Resources Authority of Virginia airports revolving fund revenue refunding bonds and the defeasance of certain outstanding Virginia airports revolving fund revenue refunding bonds.

Motion to approve: Hardwick

Second: Kennedy

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

D. Consideration of Amended FY21 Entitlement Utilization Plans Mike Swain, DOAV

Mr. Swain presented revisions to the following FY21 Entitlement Utilization Plans for the Charlottesville-Albemarle Airport, the Lynchburg Regional Airport, the Newport News - Williamsburg Airport, and the Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport. Staff recommended approving the revisions.

Motion to approve: Hardwick

Second: Cox

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

E. Virginia Aviation Allocations Review Mike Swain, DOAV

Tentative Allocations from the Commonwealth Airport Fund

Mr. Hardwick made a motion to table action on the Greenhouse Road Extension - Phase 1 (Construction) project request for the Culpeper Regional Airport until the next meeting.

Motion to approve: Hardwick

Second: Cox

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

Mr. Swain presented the project requests and staff recommendations. The board actions are summarized below. These results are available at www.doav.virginia.gov.

For Region 1, staff recommended the following:

Airport	Project Description	VAB Action	Amount
Grundy Municipal Airport	NPIAS Justification Study	Approved	\$129,213.00
Lee County Airport	Crack Seal, Seal Coat, and Pavement Marking	Approved	\$30,133.00
Mountain Empire Airport	Obstruction Lighting Replacement (Construction)	Approved	\$3,568.00
	Obstruction Removal - ROFA Grading (Design)	Approved	\$22,000.00
New River Valley Airport	Taxiway Crack Seal	Disapproved	N/A
Twin County Airport	Terminal Building Security Cameras Replacement	Approved	\$3,577.00
Virginia Highlands Airport	Sinkhole & Drainage Repair (Design)	Approved	\$59,200.00
Virginia Tech - Montgomery Executive Airport	Box Hangar Site Preparation (Design)	Approved	\$42,445.00
	Localizer Access Road (Construction)	Approved	\$31,146.00
	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan Update	Approved	\$6,530.00

	Terminal Parking Lot Expansion (Design)	Disapproved	N/A
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Motion to approve: Kennedy

Second: Christie

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

For Region 2, staff recommended the following:

Airport	Project Description	VAB Action	Amount
Luray Caverns Airport	Rotating Beacon Replacement	Approved	\$7,316.00

Motion to approve: Cox

Second: Kennedy

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

For Region 3, staff recommended the following:

Airport	Project Description	VAB Action	Amount
Leesburg Executive Airport	Hangar Site Preparation (Construction) (non-AIP)	Approved	\$204,800.00
Manassas Regional Airport	T-Hangar Taxilane Rehabilitation (Construction)	Approved	\$76,763.00
	Terminal Building Boiler Replacement	Approved	\$38,642.00

Motion to approve: Hardwick

Second: Ragon

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

For Region 4, staff recommended the following:

Airport	Project Description	VAB Action	Amount
Hanover County Municipal Airport	Terminal Building Furniture	Approved	\$41,126.00

For the Richmond Executive - Chesterfield County Airport, staff recommended approval in the amount of \$168,480.00 for the Southeast Apron Expansion (Design) project and \$132,165.00 for the Southeast Box Hangars Site Preparation (Design) project, contingent upon staff resolving two issues with the sponsor regarding the projects. The contingency is due to outstanding questions regarding the ultimate design and usage. A grant agreement will not be offered to the sponsor until a successful resolution is reached.

Motion to approve: Abbott

Second: Cox

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

For Region 5, staff recommended the following:

Airport	Project Description	VAB Action	Amount
Allen C. Perkinson Municipal Airport	Apron Rehabilitation (Design)	Approved	\$40,000.00
Danville Regional Airport	Box Hangar Site Preparation (Design)	Approved	\$71,116.00

Motion to approve: Ragon

Second: Abbott

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

For Region 6, staff recommended the following:

Airport	Project Description	VAB Action	Amount
Franklin Municipal Airport	Apron Sinkhole Repair (Construction)	Approved	\$11,600.00
Wakefield Municipal Airport	Runway Lighting Rehabilitation (Design)	Approved	\$40,000.00

Motion to approve: Ragon

Second: Abbott

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

For Region 7, staff recommended the following:

Airport	Project Description	VAB Action	Amount
Chesapeake Regional Airport	Terminal Building Restrooms Renovation	Approved	\$5,543.00
Hampton Roads Executive Airport	Entrance Sign Replacement (Construction)	Disapproved	N/A
	T-Hangar Taxilane Repair (Construction)	Approved	\$5,400.00
Hummel Field	Environmental Impact Report	Disapproved	N/A
Middle Peninsula Regional Airport	Access Road & Box Hangar Site (Environmental)	Disapproved	N/A
	Rotating Beacon Replacement (Construction)	Approved	\$12,160.00

Motion to approve: Christie

Second: Ragon

Vote: Aye: Kennedy, Cox, Abbott, Hardwick, Ragon, Christie; Nay: none

7. Public Comment Period

Rod Hall, Chairman

Mr. Rempe asked if the board members were aware of legislation in Massachusetts implementing a \$1,000 landing fee, or climate fee, adding that he expects this to kill general aviation in that state and have severe economic consequences. He then expressed concerns over a proposed change to the *Airport Program Manual* that he feels will defund the ability for local service airports to meet minimum federal standards for an approach to the runway whether an instrument approach or not. He referenced the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 14, Chapter I, Subchapter E, Part 77 noting that the federal government has codified 15:1 as a minimum safe approach. He added that Virginia's minimum licensing standards are 20:1, with five surrounding states setting standards at 15:1.

8. Board Member Comments and Reports

Rod Hall, Chairman

Region 1: Mr. Kennedy noted he enjoyed Mr. Adelman's presentation, adding it is interesting to see how the casino is affecting the airport. He questioned if there was any collaboration among airports who are located in the proximity of casinos. He thanked everyone for their kind comments.

Region 2: No report

Region 3: Mr. Hardwick requested that Advanced Air Mobility be added as an agenda presentation item to the August agenda.

Region 4: No report

Region 5: No report

Region 6: No report

Region 7: No report

Director: Mr. Flynn reminded all that refreshments are provided at the back of the room in honor of Mr. Kennedy.

Chairman: Chairman Hall cited his appreciation of Danville's inclusion on the agenda and would airport presentations moving forward. He polled the board members for their preference on the one or two-day meeting schedule for August, with the consensus being a one-day meeting on Thursday.

Governor Northam joined the meeting and provided remarks. He thanked everyone for their service to the Commonwealth and noted his appreciation of the department's pilots who he referred to as family.

9. Adjournment

Rod Hall, Chairman