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2	COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION 5702 Gulfstream Road
3	Richmond, Virginia 23250-2400
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6	VIRGINIA AVIATION BOARD MEETING
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11	STONEWALL JACKSON HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER 24 South Market Street
12	Staunton, Virginia 24401
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16	9:00 A.M.
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20	CRANE-SNEAD & ASSOCIATES, INC.
21	4914 Fitzhugh Avenue - Suite 203 Richmond, Virginia 23230
22	Tel. No. (804) 355-4335
23	
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1	VAB Attendees on April 25, 2007:
2	MR. ROGER L. OBERNDORF, Chairman
3	MS. MARIANNE RADCLIFF, Vice Chairman
4	MR. RANDALL P. BURDETTE, Director, Department of Aviation
5	MR. TERRY J. PAGE, Manager FAA, WADO
6	MR. BOB DIX, Region 1
7	MR. RICHARD C. FRANKLIN, JR., Region 6
8	MR. ALAN L. WAGNER, Region 7
9	MR. BITTLE W. PORTERFIELD, Region
10	MR. WILLIAM J. KEHOE, Region 5
11 12	MR. JOHN J. BEALL, JR. Senior Assistant Attorney General
13	DOAV Staff, Federal Government Representatives, Airport
14	Managers and Sponsors, Consultants, Engineers, State
15	Government Representatives, Business Owners, and City
16	and County Representatives
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2	MR. OBERNDORF: I call the regular meeting of the
3	Virginia Aviation Board to order.
4	Do I hear a motion on the Minutes?
5	MR. DIX: Move approval, Mr. Chairman.
6	MR. PORTERFIELD: Second, Mr. Chairman.
7	MR. OBERNDORF: All in favor?
8	BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
9	MR. OBERNDORF: Opposed?
10	NOTE: No opposition voiced.
11	MR. OBERNDORF: The ayes have it.
12	We are ready for the Department of
13	Aviation report. Randy.
14	MR. BURDETTE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Finally
15	flying weather is back. Welcome to spring.
16	Our vision as we've continued the work
17	with the multi-way system. Looking through this hard work
18	possible. Three-phase mission: Events, aviation systems,
19	safety and security and economic development, you see a lot of
20	information data on the economic development side as far as
21	the reauthorization. Promote aviation awareness and
22	education, provide executive flight services for the

coming into the fleet. The Board is bringing

Commonwealth leadership. As we mentioned earlier, sent out

the news to you, it's good news, we got two aircraft, Beech --

23

24

1 them on board. I think they will really enjoy the increased

- 2 comfort and ride. We have eleven-passenger capability.
- 3 Aviation safety statistics. Since
- 4 we last met we have had four accidents. I will tell you
- 5 a little bit of detail about that. We are not surprised
- 6 to see the trend here, the trend this time of year, we start
- 7 seeing an increase as people start breaking out their aircraft
- 8 and begin the spring flying. We hoped to see fewer, but
- 9 that's the way it is right now.
- 10 Classification. Single-engine land were
- 11 the most recent accidents we will talk about in
- 12 detail in a moment. We looked at the printouts, 2005, we
- 13 saw basically single engine were predominant, but 2005
- had a low rate of only 13 accidents. Before, 2006 was a
- 15 significantly bad year for us. As a whole, we had
- 16 twenty-five accidents, most of them focused on single-
- engine land, including experimental there.
- This year so far we have had five
- 19 single-engine land, one earth craft. These are the
- 20 aircrafts that are involved in the accident incidents.
- 21 We have discussed January and February at the last
- 22 meeting. Since our last meeting, we have had a
- 23 helicopter struck power lines while checking a gas line,
- 24 a 172 veered off the runway, struck a sign, minor pilot
- 25 injuries, a Beech Sundowner, aircraft bounced on landing,

- 1 applied brakes, departed runway, came to rest upright.
- 2 Unfortunately this month we have had a pilot reported a
- 3 medical emergency resulting in two fatalities. That was going
- 4 into Danville, wasn't it, Mike? I believe it was going into
- 5 Danville. The pilot crashed about a mile short of the runway.
- 6 MR. PORTERFIELD: The pilot is the one that had
- 7 the medical emergency?
- 8 MR. BURDETTE: That's the inference we have right
- 9 now. We don't have NTSB. The pilot incurred medical
- 10 emergency. That's really all we have right now. The
- 11 crash was about a mile short of the runway. We are
- assuming that it was a pilot issue.
- 14 Looking at the location of the
- accidents, we had two down in Danville in 2007. So
- looking at the spread, we really don't have a pattern
- 17 that says we have an area that either has a navigational
- or congestion area issue.
- 19 Injuries and fatalities for 2007, we
- 20 have had three with no injuries, and then we have had
- 21 one minor injury, one serious, and one accident with two
- 22 fatalities.
- The weather, as we commonly see, time
- 24 and time again, is really not a factor, these are VFR
- 25 accidents, we don't see an IFR one at all so far in 2007.

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1
                        Pilots' residency, we looked to see if
 2
       there is something that we can help do with our pilots
       internally. The accidents we have seen to date, we have
 3
       four of them out-of-state pilots, two of them are in-
       state Virginia residents. For 2007 we haven't gotten
       any NTSB reports back that says this is the result and
       this is the cause of the accidents. We don't have any
       information to share with you today. As soon as those
 9
       are posted, we will see where they are. But historically,
       the landing phase is always the most dangerous, it is
10
       the most tired part of the flight. It is one of the
11
       critical parts of the flight. We expect to see that trend
12
13
       continue.
14
                        How does Virginia compare with the U.S.?
       We are trying to monitor to see how we are doing across
15
16
       the board. This year, starting off seeing 2005, we had
17
       a very good point, less than 1 percent, 2006 was bad for
       us at 1.9 percent. And this year so far, early in the
18
19
       season, we are at 2.3 percent of the national total.
20
       Six accidents, we're up to 259. When we compare with
21
       the latest data we were able to get from FAA, 2005 data,
22
       we had about 3 percent of the aircraft in the U.S. We
       had about 3 percent, little over 3 percent of the hours
23
24
       flown 2005, saying 2.3 percent could be relevant, but
25
       it's never what we want. We want to always try to go
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- lower than that.
- 2 Virginia Aviation Safety Week is coming up. John
- 3 Nance will be our special guest speaker for the program. We
- 4 will be traveling four days next week going to the National
- 5 Airspace Museum, Virginia Aviation Museum, Air and Space
- 6 Center and the Air Transportation Museum. What we will be
- 7 doing at those meetings, John Nance will go over, talk about
- 8 resource management, talk about the various accidents we've
- 9 had, talk about how Resource Management might assist. We will
- 10 also bring the people that attend up to our safety statistics
- and ask for their assistance and also give them a brief
- 12 overview on what has happened on reauthorization.
- 13 I would like to invite anybody, many of
- 14 the board members attending I will see you at some of these,
- and let you know in advance I will be glad to meet with you.
- 16 The resources --- has just been raised to the Air Safety
- 17 Foundation and all reported at the active Web site
- 18 Landings.com, NTSB reports, the State Police accident reports.
- 19 You might recognize development we feel the
- 20 FAA reauthorization is probably one of the most significant
- 21 acts to come before us in recent history. Yesterday you heard
- 22 from the FAA on their position on the reauthorization act.
- You heard from me on our analysis of the act and how they
- 24 impact Virginia as a whole.
- 25 Today I have asked Henry, we call him

- 1 Henry O., as many of you know, he is President of the
- 2 National Association of State Aviation Officials, to join
- 3 us give you a perspective on what is going on on the
- 4 Hill, and what is going on in the House, what is going
- on in the Senate and the House, and things that are
- 6 happening. Henry just came from last night briefing the
- 7 Lieutenant Governors' Association, so if you would help
- 8 me welcome Henrico O. to the podium, please.
- 9 (Applause). Henry Ogrodzinski.
- 10 MR. OGRODZINSKI: Thank you very much,
- 11 Mr. Burdette, Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen. It is
- 12 a pleasure to be before the Board again. I sincerely
- appreciate your invitation.
- 14 As Mr. Burdette mentioned, I was
- 15 briefing the National Governor's Association yesterday
- 16 afternoon, and the presentation that I am passing out
- 17 now to the members of the Board and others was the back-
- 18 up material that I provided NGA yesterday. For those of
- 19 you, if we run out of copies, if anyone would like
- 20 additional copies, just give me your e-mail address and I
- 21 will e-mail the entire package to you.
- 22 One of the things that you need to know
- about, for those of you who may not be familiar with the
- 24 NASAO, is that NASAO has been around for seventy-six years.
- 25 NASAO was invented by the states, because the states

- did not feel that the federal government was adequately
- 2 involved in aviation, and believed that aviation clearly
- 3 was the wave of future transportation. So, we have been
- around for a long time. You, on this Board, have been
- 5 instrumental in the economic development of aviation
- 6 here in the Commonwealth. And there are bodies like you
- 7 across the nation. I report to fifty-two people,
- 8 including Randy Burdette, the State Aviation Directors
- 9 of Aviation in all fifty state, Guam and Puerto Rico.
- 10 So what I am about to share with you is a consensus of those
- 11 states' views and how we view this bill, and how we
- 12 have been working with folks on the Hill. Randy has
- 13 briefed me on the views of the Commonwealth, which are
- 14 substantially similar to NASAO's. In some cases there
- are slight divergences because, of course, the NASAO
- 16 paper must be based entirely on consensus so that we can
- 17 speak with one voice before Congress as NASAO. And,
- of course, the Commonwealth has its own voice. So we
- 19 very often find ourselves working in parallel, never
- 20 against each other.
- 21 But the first page in that hand-out is
- just some background on NASAO.
- 23 The second page, very important, is our
- 24 2007 National Legislative Agenda. As a member of the
- 25 Board of Directors of NASAO, Randy Burdette worked on

- 1 this with the NASAO legislative committee, and this paper
- 2 has been on the street for over a year now. It
- was re-endorsed this January, and re-endorsed this
- 4 March; but I hasten to say that it has been on the
- 5 street for over a year, because we wanted to make sure
- 6 that the administration and its endeavors to put
- 7 together an aviation bill were on the right track.
- 8 Unfortunately, they diverged greatly from what the
- 9 states believe are most important to any
- 10 re-authorization bill.
- 11 There are thirteen points here that the
- 12 states collectively believe must be included in any
- 13 re-authorization program. And unfortunately, the
- 14 administration has either not gone far enough on some of
- these points, or has totally ignored most of those
- 16 points. Since you have that before you, I am not going
- 17 to read all of those to you. But let me just mention
- 18 also that NASAO has testified before the House
- 19 Aviation Subcommittee, and we testified that the
- 20 President's bill was not in the public interest. We
- 21 reviewed it. We looked at all the detail. You saw a
- 22 briefing yesterday from Mr. Burdette which pointed out
- 23 many of the features of the bill, which is clearly not
- in the public interest; so that was NASAO's view
- 25 before Congress a few weeks ago. And I've included the

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1 testimony of Travis Balien of Colorado, who is Randy's
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- 2 counter-part in the state of Colorado, and this year the
- 3 Chairman of NASAO.
- 4 If I may, I just want to highlight a
- 5 couple of minor things, well, not minor, but some things
- 6 we put together in the testimony that we think is
- 7 extraordinarily important. Although NASAO opposes
- 8 this bill, we, we are part of the group that is working
- 9 to modernize the Air Traffic Organization. I serve on
- 10 the Institute Management Council of the JPDO, the Joint
- 11 Program and Development Office. The states collectively
- 12 want to see the Air Traffic Organization modernized, and
- in fact, we think modernization is too timid a word; we
- think transformation is necessary. We are very much
- 15 involved with ADSB. We are very much involved with all
- 16 the programs that we need in order to prepare this nation
- for a three-time growth in passenger traffic for the
- airlines by 2025. So we are very active in this.
- 19 Unfortunately, the President's bill, although it talks
- 20 about reform, although it talks about next gen, has
- 21 nothing to do with it. It is simply a bill that
- transfers costs from some users to other users.
- The President's bill does not go far
- 24 enough in AIP. The Airport Improvement Program is
- 25 extraordinarily important to the Commonwealth and to all

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1 states across the nation. This year, if we were not
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- working under a continuing resolution, we would have
- 3 3.7 billion dollars in AIP for all of the states.
- 4 Unfortunately, what the President is proposing for next
- year is only 2.7 billion dollars. NASAO strongly
- 6 recommends 3.8 for next year, and growing by one hundred
- 7 million dollars for each succeeding year of the
- 8 reauthorization. In that, we are very close to what
- 9 the General Aviation Associations are saying, and very
- 10 close to what the Airport Association, such as Triple A,
- 11 E and ACI are saying. We do put these analyses
- together, independently, representing our own interests.
- 13 In my case the interests of the states and the states'
- 14 constituents. But it's remarkable that most of the
- 15 other organizations in Washington that work on aviation
- issues and NASAO are so close together on so many
- 17 facets of this bill.
- 18 Because so many states operate large
- 19 airports, like BWI and Honolulu International, we do have
- some experience in large airport operation, and we think the
- 21 President's bill goes in the right direction by
- increasing PFC's, but just doesn't go far enough. We
- 23 believe the number that should be targeted is \$7.50,
- and there ought to be additional flexibility for those big
- airports, because then they are not using the AIP money that

- our smaller airports can use across the nation.
- 2 Unfortunately, and I know Ben DeLeon of
- 3 FAA was here yesterday; unfortunately, the non-primary
- 4 grant, non-primary entitlement has become a bone of
- 5 contention in this bill for a lot of us. By the way,
- 6 one thing I want to stress, and I have stressed every
- 7 time I have talked about this bill, is that there is no
- 8 rift between NASAO, the states and FAA. I see Mr.
- 9 Page here at the front table, we work with FAA every day
- of our lives, both at the Washington level and here in
- 11 the Commonwealth, in the capitol and at each individual
- 12 airport, every airman and every FAA employee interact
- in some fashion. I mean no criticism of FAA in any way;
- 14 I am, however, highly critical of this bill, which is not
- in the public interest. This bill was not written by
- 16 FAA; it was written by political entities.
- 17 The NPE's, the Non-Primary Entitlements,
- 18 as Randy explained yesterday, there will be four
- 19 categories, the largest category getting \$400,000, the
- 20 smallest category getting zero. The states,
- 21 collectively, disagree with this. I have been working
- 22 with FAA, and I met with them most recently two
- 23 weeks ago at 800 Independence Avenue in the Airports
- 24 Office talking about how we might modify this part of
- 25 the proposal so that it can work better for the states.

- 1 They are currently, FAA is currently running some
- 2 calculations for me. I have asked them for technical
- 3 assistance in examining the NPE program, and where we,
- 4 the states, might find a way to make it appropriate for
- 5 all of us within the parameters set up by the
- 6 administration. I'm meeting again with FAA this
- 7 afternoon at 2:00 P.M. to go over those numbers, because
- 8 I think we may be able to, we the states may be able to
- 9 find a way to make some modifications with folks on the
- 10 Hill, to talk about how we might improve the
- 11 administration's proposal.
- 12 One of the things that we do support
- about the Administration's proposal, is the \$300,000,000
- 14 floor under state apportionment. We must not let state
- apportionment fall any further. We must protect that.
- And we are very strong in our support of that, and in
- 17 fact, in our meeting today with FAA, in my meeting today
- 18 with FAA I will be talking about how we may be able to
- 19 put more money into state apportionment for every state,
- 20 rather than seeing that eroded.
- 21 We are very disappointed, because as
- you know, many states are EAS states, Essential Air
- 23 Service states. NASAO has recommended, for over a
- year, that EAS be funded at \$127,000,000 at a minimum. That
- is the minimum that we need for the Essential Air Service

- 1 program.
- 2 This bill would cut EAS to
- 3 \$50,000,000 and take sixty rural communities that have
- 4 no other access to the Air Transportation network out of
- 5 the program. We do not believe that is in the public
- 6 interest.
- 7 One of the things that puzzles me and
- 8 NASAO is this constant drive to change the funding
- 9 system. The administration wants to change the funding
- 10 system. The airlines want to change the funding
- 11 system, and yet, Dr. Gerald Billingham of the GAO says
- 12 there is no reason to change the system, it works just
- 13 fine. Inspector General Calvin Scoble of DOT says the
- 14 system works just fine, we don't have to change it. DOT
- 15 Inspector, retired DOT Inspector General Ken Meade says
- the system works just fine, we don't have to change it.
- 17 And last September the Acting Director of the
- 18 Congressional Budget Office said, if we don't touch the
- 19 system, we will have nineteen billion dollars in an
- 20 uncommitted balance in the Trust Fund by 2010.
- 21 And so changing the system is not in
- 22 the best interest of the public, it's not in the best
- interest of the aviation community.
- 24 We have had, as you know, a general
- fund contribution of a certain level over the years.

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1 Historically it has approached as much as 25 percent of
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- the AIP budget has come from the general fund.
- 3 Unfortunately, this administration would cap the general
- 4 fund contribution at 19 percent, which is completely, it
- is incredible that they would cap it at 19 percent,
- 6 because every American, as you well know, benefits from
- 7 the entire transportation system. Whether they fly or
- 8 not, whether they get FedEx packages or not, they benefit
- 9 from the system. And so every American needs to
- 10 contribute to the system, and that's why NASAO is
- 11 advocating a 30 percent general fund sharing.
- 12 We think, collectively, as the states,
- 13 that the administration is seeking to throw away thirty
- 14 years of wise governance of FAA and AIP for a system that
- is unproven, and frankly, unnecessary. It will, in our
- 16 view, cripple general aviation. Increasing that tax by
- 17 300 percent is going to drive down the number of hours
- 18 flown both by business and private pilots; that means
- 19 that Board that Randy told you about yesterday, is going
- 20 to have to meet again and decide to spin up the taxes
- one more time, which means fewer people will fly.
- Now one of the fragile parts of this
- 23 bill is that this bill would take about thirteen cents
- 24 from that fuel tax, and the international departure and
- arrival tax, and that's what AIP would be based on. The

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1 Airport Improvement Program for the entire nation would
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- 2 be based upon that. So what happens if we start flying
- fewer hours? The number of dollars goes down. The
- 4 number of dollars available to our nation's airports
- 5 goes down. What if there is another SARS scare and
- 6 international travel stops? What, heaven forbid,
- 7 happens if there is a genuine pandemic and international
- 8 travel stops? Our airport programs also stop in that
- 9 case. That, clearly, is not in the public interest.
- 10 Speaking of the public interest, one
- thing we must have taken out of this bill, is the fact
- 12 that Randy told you yesterday about this Board. Now
- this Board has a number of people with fiduciary
- interests, apparently those people who are going to
- lend FAA five billion dollars in this program, so FAA
- 16 will be beholden to them, and then there are the airlines
- 17 interests and a number of other people. In this Board,
- they will make a recommendation to the FAA administrator,
- she will become the appropriator, not Congress, and the
- 20 decision of the secretary is final. This is the thing
- 21 that is definitely not in the public interest. The
- decision of the secretary is final regarding fees and
- 23 taxes, regarding safety, regarding I mean, the Board is
- in charge of safety. In spite of what the
- 25 administration will tell you, it says in the bill that

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they are in charge of safety, the Board, this new Board
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- 2 of Directors of FAA. And none of their decisions can be
- 3 reviewed by the judiciary.
- 4 There are two prohibitions in this bill
- 5 that prohibit judiciary review of these decisions.
- 6 That, clearly, is not in the public interest, and that's
- 7 why the states collectively must oppose this bill.
- 8 The 7.5 percent ticket tax works very
- 9 well. I know the airlines and the administration will
- say, oh-h-h, you know, that's a lot of money, it
- doesn't match, it's not quite right. Well, if it's not
- quite right, we can fix it. But, I have never heard an
- airline passenger complain about 7.5 percent of their
- 14 ticket tax going to the system. And the airlines, of
- 15 course, think it's their money, and as we all know,
- 16 passengers pay taxes, not airlines.
- 17 The administrator has said repeatedly
- 18 that if anyone has a better idea than this, show me.
- 19 Before Congress we said vision one hundred works very,
- 20 very well. Vision one hundred has provided us the best
- 21 funding for our aviation system in the history of
- 22 aviation. Let us take vision one hundred, let us take
- 23 the NASAO thirteen points, let us even take some of the
- 24 existing bill like the three hundred million dollar
- 25 floor under state apportionment, and go back to Congress

and work on a new bill, and discard this one entirely.

- 2 Now Randy asked me to mention a little
- 3 bit about what is going on in Congress right now. On
- 4 the House side and the Senate side, they are preparing
- 5 their own versions of this bill. They have been doing
- 6 this ever since the Easter break. Unusually, many
- 7 staffers stayed in Washington during the spring break,
- 8 while their members went back to the district, and they
- 9 the end of May, we will see some new products, and I
- 10 believe there will be a second round of hearings on
- 11 those products. So there is a good probability that we
- will be able to have a bill to vote on before the
- 13 September 30th elapse of the taxes and authorization of
- 14 the current bill. However, NASAO is very concerned.
- 15 You saw an article from the Associated Press two week
- 16 ends ago. It came out of San Francisco. I talked to
- 17 that writer for two-and-a-half hours over two days,
- 18 telling him about the importance of general aviation
- 19 to our rural communities, talking about emergency air
- 20 evacuation, talking about angel flight. I wasn't
- 21 quoted.
- 22 Yes, sir.
- 23 MR. BURDETTE: Henry, maybe some of the Board members
- and some of the others didn't see the article, could you
- 25 paraphrase the article you are referring to?

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1
               MR. OGRODZINSKI: Thank you very much, Mr.
 2
       Burdette. The article basically said general aviation
       is subsidized by commercial aviation, and that smaller
 3
       airports that do not have commercial traffic are being
       subsidized by the airlines. And clearly it was an
       airline generated article. It appeared in nine hundred
 7
       newspapers across the country. For the past forty-eight
       hours or so I have been furiously writing letters to the
 9
       editors of those newspapers saying, no, that was not
       true. Here are some facts for you. But that is clearly
10
11
       a concerted attack on those who are saying that this
       bill does not answer the mail.
12
13
                        Now I am very concerned, the President
14
       of the airport, of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots
       Association, Phil Boyer, is very concerned, and the
15
       President of the NBAA, the National Business Aviation
16
17
       Association, Ed Boleman, is very concerned. We are so
       concerned about this very well-funded attack, that we
18
19
       feel it cannot go unanswered, and we have been -- We are
20
       the founding members of a new coalition, a new alliance.
       It's called the Alliance for Aviation Across America.
21
22
       We just kicked it off two weeks ago, because we need to
       make sure that average Americans, and especially opinion
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24
       leaders across the country, who do not understand
25
       aviation but who are political leaders and opinion leaders
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1 understand that there is another story out there, not
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- just the propaganda being spread by the administration
- 3 and the airlines. So we put together this Alliance. I
- 4 was at a press conference two weeks ago. I was one of
- the folks who spoke, along with a mayor from West
- 6 Virginia whose community would be devastated if they
- 7 lost their General Aviation Service. I spoke with the
- 8 President of the League of Rural Voters. I spoke with
- 9 the President of the Air Care Alliance, which is the
- 10 group that includes Angel Flight America. So there is a
- 11 big group out here that is now coming together to
- oppose this bill, because we believe it is absolutely
- 13 necessary. There is just too much misinformation out
- 14 there. I saw that Randy grabbed his computer and is furiously
- 15 trying to do something with that --
- MR. BURDETTE: I'm bringing up the Web site for
- 17 you.
- 18 MR. OGRODZINSKI: He's bringing up the Web site
- 19 for us. If nothing else, from this presentation, if you
- 20 have an opportunity, go to AviationAcrossAmerica.org.
- 21 It's all one word. AviationAcrossAmerica.org. And you
- 22 will see a Web site there where you can join the
- 23 Aviation Alliance. You will see a Web site where you
- 24 can send a letter to your member of Congress. You will
- 25 see facts and figures there to bolster the argument of

- 1 those who say that this bill is not in the public
- 2 interest, and facts and figures that will bolster the
- 3 argument of those of us who want to preserve America's
- 4 entire network of airports. And, by the way,
- 5 someone at NGA asked me yesterday do I hate the
- 6 airlines? No, I don't hate the airlines. I fly the
- 7 airlines several times a month. I think almost
- 8 everybody in this room flies the airlines. But, they
- 9 are attacking a large component of the entire system,
- and that's what we have. We put it together that way
- intentionally, it's a system, it's a National Aviation
- 12 Transportation System. And you just can't chop off a couple
- of arms and a leg and say well, the airlines don't serve
- 14 that gang, and they don't need to be funded. So, no,
- 15 I'm not anti-airlines, but I'm definitely against their
- 16 views on these issues.
- 17 If I may, Mr. Chairman, I will be happy
- 18 to answer any questions, or deal with any tomatoes or
- 19 rotten eggs.
- 20 MR. OBERNDORF: Do we have any questions from
- the Board or the audience?
- 22 MR. FRANKLIN: What's the scuttlebutt about what the
- 23 leaders, the committees, charged with this work have said
- about some of the key provisions?
- 25 MR. OGRODZINSKI: First of all, thank you very

- 1 much. First of all, in the House, I see almost
- 2 universal opposition to the many, many of those key
- 3 provisions we are talking about. Chairman Oberstar said
- 4 a couple of weeks ago, that we ought to give this bill a
- 5 decent burial. The Chairman of the House Aviation
- 6 Subcommittee, Mr. Costello, said that, when the
- 7 Administrator was testifying before him,
- 8 subsequently, he said you are defending the
- 9 indefensible. So there are many people in the House who
- are strongly opposed to most of the provisions in this
- bill, especially the most onerous ones, the prohibition
- 12 and judicial review and things of that nature. However,
- in the Senate--I wish I had a better word--but one of
- 14 the words we use on the Hill is squishy. We've got a lot
- of squishy people up there. People who told me last
- 16 year they were going to oppose user fees, are telling me
- 17 this year everything is on the table. Both Democrats
- and Republicans are saying well, we may have to consider
- 19 additional fees to raise more money. I keep telling
- them, GAO says you don't need more money. CBO says you
- 21 don't need more money, so why do you need to raise more
- 22 money? A good friend of mine, a senior staff member on
- 23 the Republican side said, just a week ago, we need to
- 24 raise a billion dollars more. I still don't understand
- 25 why. I keep pursuing that. I try to make sure that

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1 they understand the arithmetic of the problem.
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- 2 And this is a Web site of the Alliance
- 3 for Aviation Across America. The Web site itself is
- 4 AviationAcrossAmerica.org.
- 5 MR. BURDETTE: Henry, does the bullet --
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED: Randy, maybe you can put that
- 7 bullet right there. I will have to send a letter.
- 8 MR. BURDETTE: Does that go to Oberstar?
- 9 MR. OGRODZINSKI: Yes. Or send a letter to
- 10 Congress.
- 11 NOTE: Conferring about placement of screen.
- MR. OGRODZINSKI: Every one of you in this room
- is eligible to join the Alliance. And on behalf of NASAO,
- I encourage each and every one of you to join the
- 15 Alliance. There is no cost. There is nothing there
- that says, you know, you are an opponent of this or
- 17 that; only that you are an opponent of user fees. No
- 18 user fees. And it would be very helpful to have your
- 19 name up there along with the thousands of names. By the
- 20 way, we started out with five hundred people. And I
- 21 think we are over five thousand now. So the Alliance is
- 22 growing. And that's very important.
- 23 Any other questions, please?
- Mr. Chairman, Mr. Burdette,
- 25 apparently --

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1 MR. BURDETTE: Well done. Thank you.
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- 2 MR. OGRODZINSKI: Thank you very much. I
- 3 appreciate your time, and again it is an honor to appear
- 4 here again. I appreciate your patience. (Applause)
- 5 MR. BURDETTE: Mr. Chairman, that concludes the
- 6 Department of Aviation Report.
- 7 MR. OBERNDORF: Thank you very much. Next is
- 8 the FAA Report, Terry Page.
- 9 MR. PAGE: Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, I
- 10 wish we had a little bit more enthusiasm for you.
- 11 (Laughter)
- 12 Ladies and gentlemen, I have a short
- 13 list of items I would like to bring before the Board,
- and also the audience today.
- 15 First, the newest engineer in our
- 16 office. Our newest project engineer is with us today.
- 17 I would like to introduce him to the Board. Wayne Switzer.
- 18 Wayne, stand up and take a bow. Wayne comes to us --
- 19 (Applause) Wayne is our engineer that comes to us from
- 20 MWA, formerly of the Metropolitan Washington Airports
- 21 Authority. He was an engineer on staff there for quite a
- few years. He has good airport experience. He's
- learning to work with smaller airports in MWA,
- obviously. And his area of responsibility is the
- 25 Tidewater of Virginia and up the Eastern Shore. He will

be handling the airports in that area for our office. We

- 2 are pleased to have Wayne on board.
- 3 Also today we have Valerie Cook with
- 4 us. Valerie has been with us to the VAOC meeting and
- 5 also here for the Board today. So, say hi to
- 6 Valerie. (Applause) Valerie is with FAA in Air
- 7 Traffic Organization. She is in an executive training
- 8 program. Executive management training programs. She
- 9 wanted to see how this part of FAA works. How we work
- with the states, how we work with the airport sponsors.
- 11 So she came down to attend the VAOC meeting and the
- 12 Board meeting today, to see how this relationship works.
- We are pleased to have her, also.
- 14 On my list of technical items, just
- 15 to note that this year we close out grants always that are
- four years old. So any sponsors that have grants
- 17 that were issued in 2003, we will be closing out by
- 18 mid-July time frame, recovering those funds to use
- on other grants this year. That will be a deadline
- 20 for our sponsors, mid-July to get the final
- 21 documentation on any of those older grants. I think we
- 22 have about fifteen, overall, in Virginia that need to be
- 23 closed out, get the final documentation in, and there
- 24 is nothing really that difficult. It is all moving
- 25 along fairly quickly. Usually, the toughest grants are land

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1 acquisition projects to close out, get the final land
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- documentation in. That's on the oldest grants.
- There is on the new grants, grants for this
- 4 year. The deadline was published in the Federal
- Register of May 1st to notify FAA if an airport is going to
- 6 use its entitlement money, its federal entitlements, either
- 7 non-primary entitlements or air carrier entitlements.
- 8 That doesn't mean they have to have a grant application
- 9 to us, but they do need to let us know if they are going
- 10 to use those entitlements; otherwise, we turn them
- 11 back in and it becomes discretionary money, and can be
- 12 used for other airports. We do need to know if an
- 13 airport is not going to use those funds by May 1st.
- We have good news on this year's
- 15 program. This year's Federal grant program, before I
- 16 left the office, I ran a printout to see how far into
- 17 the program we are. A normal year in Virginia is about
- 18 \$80,000,000 in grants for airport development. Order of
- 19 magnitude. Goes up as high as a hundred, a hundred and five
- 20 million dollars some years, some years it has been down
- 21 to as low as sixty million dollars; depending on what
- 22 projects, what needs we have. This year we have already
- 23 put into the system for release through the Congressional
- 24 process over sixty million dollars as of now. It will
- 25 be a healthy year, I believe. That includes projects

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1 such as the new runway at Dulles, 26 million dollars
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- there; taxiway renovations in Roanoke, over 16 million
- 3 dollars there. Some noise mitigation in Roanoke also for 2
- 4 million dollars. The Chesterfield runway
- 5 rehabilitation, Danville land acquisition, the Lynchburg
- 6 runway extension rehabilitation projects; and as we saw
- 7 yesterday, the Tappahannock project, the last phase of that,
- 8 the apron construction for the new Tappahannock airport.
- 9 All of these are in there, along with a few other smaller
- 10 projects. We are up to the 60 million dollar level already
- 11 here in mid-April. Should be a very good year. We are
- 12 moving quickly with the program.
- 13 Our program doesn't run all year long,
- 14 like the Board's does. You all meet every two months
- 15 and allocate your funds; our highlight, our high time of
- 16 the year is after the Congressional appropriation from about
- 17 April through July. Our whole program comes in in a big
- 18 flood. After July we are out of money, dead in the water
- 19 until next year we get the appropriation again.
- In a very short period with a lot
- of activity. We are in the middle of that right now.
- 22 But things are moving well, sponsors are getting the
- documentation in to us, and the consultants are working
- real hard, and everything is going very good this year.
- We are ahead of the game.

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                        The issue now, next years program and
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       beyond. The final request for discretionary money. If
       someone wants to be in next year's program, has to be in to
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       us by April 30th. That is our deadline. So, an airport
       sponsor out there, consultants also, make sure your
       sponsors are aware that April 30th is the cutoff for us
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       to get requests in for next year's program. We take
       our ADO requests, mix them with the other requests from
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       the other ADO's in the Eastern Region, and come up with a
       final program that then goes into Washington headquarters,
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11
       to be mixed with the whole nation request, to be
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       finalized by June 1st. That month of May is when we do
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       that finalizing work. The end of April is the deadline
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       for discretionary requests for next year.
15
                        And I would like to thank the
       Department, Randy, your staff met with my staff down in
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17
       Richmond, we all had a nice get-together in their conference
       room. We went over the plans for next year's Federal grant
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19
       program with the Department, to see what requests that you all
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       have in front of the Department for upcoming years, make
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       sure that our priorities are your priorities, that we are
22
       aware of what is going at all the various airports, trade
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       information back and forth, update each other, had a real
       good meeting here in early April we all sat down together
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25
       and went through that. We do this every year. It's a regular
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1 thing, in April we get together and discuss our airports
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- 2 with our staffs and make sure we are all working together
- 3 to improve Virginia's airports. We do appreciate that, Cliff
- 4 and Randy, for the staffs all getting together.
- 5 That's the last thing on my list. I'll
- 6 take any questions, Mr. Chairman. If you all have any
- questions, I'll be glad to address those.
- 8 MR. BURDETTE: Terry, the sweep-up period
- 9 where other states may not have been able to utilize their
- 10 money, and where Virginia may have opportunities, are we
- 11 prepared for that? What does your crystal ball look like as
- 12 we come in, is everybody being as efficient in getting the
- 13 money, are there any opportunities ahead of us that we might
- 14 be able to take?
- 15 MR. PAGE: We have quite a few projects that we
- are still waiting for those discretionary monies to come in
- for. Quite a long list. I have the list with me over here.
- 18 What we have is a list of the region of all projects, and in
- 19 order of priority, and they start working their way down that
- 20 list. And we still have quite a few projects that are on
- 21 that list. What helps us is the sooner we get the projects
- off the top of the list, as the money comes up, the faster
- 23 we can pick up further down the list. So we are doing real
- 24 well in getting these early projects out of the way.
- 25 So I'm optimistic that we'll be able to reach all those

- 1 projects, that we have the requests, and they're in our
- 2 discretionary program this year. We believe we will reach
- 3 them all. The AIP program is healthy this year. It is a
- 4 little tricky this year, because this is the last year of the
- 5 current authorization; so a lot of times people try and
- 6 use their money and not carry it over. What they carry
- over, we turn into discretionary money and can reallocate
- 8 this year. If they don't carry it over and use it all, it's a
- 9 little bit less at the end of the year for reallocation.
- 10 But I'm optimistic we will be able to
- 11 get everything we've got in our program this year. Last year
- 12 we left a few. We weren't able to reach a few last year, so
- 13 we've got to make sure get all this year. So if the sponsors
- 14 and consultants have done their part to get those requests in,
- 15 get the bids in, getting all the grant applications together
- for us, I think we are in pretty good shape.
- 17 MR. OBERNDORF: Any other questions from the
- 18 Board, or the audience? Thank you, Terry.
- MR. PAGE: Thank you.
- 20 MR. OBERNDORF: Next will be a VOAC report from Greg
- 21 Campbell.
- MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Board:
- 23 Good morning. My name is Greg Campbell. I am Director of
- 24 the Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport. I'm filling in today
- for Mark Courtney, who is the VAOC President. He was not

able to make this meeting, due to the need to testify on

- 2 the Hill today for some very relevant topics.
- First of all, I want to thank you all for
- 4 moving your meeting to Staunton, and doing that in
- 5 conjunction with the VAOC Spring Workshop. Also, I
- 6 want to thank the Department of Aviation for all of
- 7 their assistance with the workshop, particularly in
- 8 developing the program and providing us with some
- 9 speakers. We had a wonderful work session this year,
- 10 probably one of the most well-attended that we have held
- 11 so far. We had about one hundred attendees.
- 12 And as you may be aware, this spring workshop is open
- 13 to all airport sponsors, both VAOC member airports
- and non-members. We are able to do that through
- 15 the generous support of many of the businesses here in
- 16 the Commonwealth that are involved in aviation, mainly
- 17 consultant firms. We also want to thank those folks.
- 18 As I mentioned, the program committee
- 19 put together some very interesting topics that were very
- 20 relative to some of the things that are going on and some
- of the discussions that you all had over the last year.
- 22 Some of those topics were construction management for
- 23 airport sponsors, grant administration, which the
- 24 Department of Aviation provided some insight into how to
- 25 make that process a little easier for airport sponsors,

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1 safety and security for GA airports, and a whole session
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- dedicated to obstructions. Also, another session was
- 3 held regarding insurance and liability for airport
- 4 sponsors.
- 5 So a very worth while conference. That
- 6 sort of makes up our VAOC report, because it has been our
- 7 focus over the last couple of months.
- 8 I will certainly be glad to take any
- 9 questions.
- 10 Again, I want to thank you all for your
- 11 willingness to combine your work session and your
- 12 regular session with the VAOC Spring Workshop. It's
- very difficult for many of our member airports and
- 14 non-member airports to get out and attend a lot of
- 15 meetings, and by combining these two, it certainly helps
- 16 the attendance for both the VAB meetings and for the
- workshop.
- 18 Next year we will return to Staunton,
- and we would like to request that you all consider once
- 20 again having your meetings in conjunction with the spring
- 21 workshop. But again, I just want to thank you.
- 22 If you have any questions, I will be glad to take
- 23 those, but otherwise, welcome to Staunton. Now that I'm
- done with the VAOC report, just to let you know, the City
- of Staunton is one of the five member jurisdictions that

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1 make up the Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport Commission.
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- 2 They are joined by the cities of Waynesboro, Harrisonburg,
- 3 and the counties of Augusta and Rockingham. On behalf of all
- 4 those, welcome to the valley. We are glad to have you.
- 5 MR. PORTERFIELD: Thank you. We are glad to be
- 6 here.
- 7 MR. BURDETTE: Greg, before you leave, sir. Vernon
- 8 and Cliff sent out a notice to remind everybody on
- 9 obstructions, and we want to make sure everybody has every
- 10 opportunity to take care of those before our August Board
- 11 meeting of course, with our major distribution. With that
- 12 e-mail and the letters, the obstructions, do you feel that the
- 13 airports are getting the word on obstructions, that we're
- reaching the audience we need to reach?
- 15 MR. CAMPBELL: I think so. It's one of the topics
- 16 that came up early on with the Planning Committee, so I
- 17 think there is a lot of top-of-the-mind awareness of
- 18 obstructions with much of the discussion that the
- 19 Board has held over the past six months or so.
- 20 So I think the awareness is very high. The good thing
- 21 was we had a lot of the smaller airports that maybe
- haven't made it to the VAB meetings actually attend the
- 23 spring workshop, and I think some eyes were opened to
- 24 not only requirements, but how to understand what they
- are facing, PhotoSlope, and how to read that, and

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1 generally just to be aware of obstructions. So I think that's
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- 2 kind of my sense, but I'll certainly be glad to consult with
- 3 the VAC Board and make sure that
- 4 they feel comfortable the message is out there.
- 5 MR. KEHOE: Mr. Chairman.
- 6 MR. OBERNDORF: Yes.
- 7 MR. KEHOE: I just want to say, Greg, that I
- 8 participated in the full VAOC Workshop, it's the best
- one, to my knowledge, that has been held, period. Was
- 10 well attended, as you said, and I would like to see the
- Board, I know, we are going to talk about our meeting
- 12 format, Mr. Chairman, in a little while. I would like to see
- 13 us consider also supporting the workshop as one of the
- meetings that we involve ourselves in.
- MR. OBERNDORF: We have been doing this for a
- number of years. I think we will continue. I don't
- 17 think there is any dissension on the Board about that.
- MR. KEHOE: Good.
- MR. OBERNDORF: Okay, thank you, Greg.
- 20 Okay. Now we'll have old business. I
- 21 know we would like to talk about the meeting format.
- Who wants to start it off? Marianne, do you have any
- 23 suggestions?
- 24 MS. RADCLIFF: I don't really have a suggestion,
- except for the fact that I think there is room to do a

- 1 compromise there where it doesn't all have to be on one day,
- 2 but Alan Wagner here was enlightening me that he thinks that
- 3 it's perfectly acceptable to do it in the evening and then
- 4 the following day, so maybe he should lay out his proposal,
- 5 which is, I think, very good.
- MR. OBERNDORF: Can we make that in the form of
- 7 a motion?
- 8 MR. WAGNER: I would like to move that for the
- 9 ability for improved attendance of Board members, as
- 10 well as for ease of access of those people who are
- 11 members of VAOC, that to make a minimum impact on
- their average work days and in consideration of the costs
- necessary to attend these meetings, and to try to
- promote as much harmony as we can and as much we
- 15 feel we will be able to get done, that we consider
- 16 instead of taking up two full work days for what appears
- 17 to be three to five hours worth of real committee work and
- 18 workshop work; that instead we consider getting together the
- 19 evening before our meeting, have it be a public available
- 20 meeting, and a dinner meeting, that would allow for
- 21 workshop activities to take place, a collegial atmosphere.
- 22 It's a lot nicer to break bread together, I think, than just
- 23 sitting in a big room, and you know, sometimes there are big
- 24 attendances like we have here, and there are other times we
- 25 have had maybe five or six people sitting out in the

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audience, that were not members of the Department; so as to

have a dinner meeting, open to the public, where the workshop
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- activity could take place, and then the next morning have a
- 4 meeting like we are having here today, again open to the
- 5 public, where the business aspect will take place.
- 6 The support of the VAOC and its meetings here, I think is
- 7 critically important, too. I agree with you. We have
- 8 done that. And it has been, I think, very beneficial to all
- 9 concerned. There has been a free flow of ideas. So that at
- 10 those meetings, that there would be an evening meeting or
- if it was necessary to continue or add time in the afternoon,
- 12 I think would afford everyone the opportunity for the
- 13 conference, for those people who would like to attend other
- 14 aspects of the VAOC meeting, to support that as well.
- 15 For those meetings in Richmond, the
- 16 same idea, but it would be an evening meeting and then a
- 17 morning set aside for business. I think that would allow
- 18 us to have maximized attendance. It would minimize the
- 19 impact financially to the various participants, and I
- 20 think allow us to be more in line with those other Boards
- 21 that meet on behalf of the state. We are the only Board
- of our size, or smaller, that has a two-day meeting.
- 23 And it is a significant impact. There may be one or two
- 24 exceptions, but for the majority, the majority of folks
- 25 meet for a one-day meeting.

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1 So I would like to move that we
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- 2 consider changing our meeting format so that the
- 3 meetings would be an evening meeting, and a morning
- meeting, as opposed to two half days that actually
- 5 constitutes two full days of business.
- 6 BOARD MEMBER: Mr. Chairman, I will second the
- 7 motion.
- 8 MR. OBERNDORF: Any discussion?
- 9 MR. KEHOE: Just a question. Allen, you did say
- 10 that that, of course, would, if we decided to do
- something like the workshop, and particularly the annual
- 12 meeting --
- MR. WAGNER: Right.
- 14 MR. KEHOE: -- which this year in Virginia Beach
- 15 would be an extended meeting.
- MR. WAGNER: Yes, sir.
- 17 MR. OBERNDORF: Allen, as part of that it ought to be
- 18 the August meeting at the conference should be the same
- 19 format as in the past.
- MR. WAGNER: Yes, sir.
- 21 MR. OBERNDORF: And we may make some modifications,
- 22 depending on where the meeting is held, but the Richmond
- 23 meetings definitely would be the evening and morning
- 24 format.
- MR. WAGNER: And if possible, those not in

- 1 Richmond, as well.
- 2 MR. KEHOE: Well, let's say wherever possible,
- 3 we should go to the evening and morning format.
- 4 MR. WAGNER: Certainly.
- 5 MR. OBERNDORF: Any other discussion?
- 6 MS. RADCLIFF: Mr. Chairman, I have a question.
- 7 MR. OBERNDORF: Ms. Radcliff.
- 8 MS. RADCLIFF: First of all, simple tragedy that
- 9 the court reporter was not here to record that
- 10 outstanding motion and did get all of Randy's
- 11 presentation yesterday. VAOC, don't they have a -- We have a
- 12 spring meeting -- Okay. Isn't there another one we do it
- in conjunction with, too? Just the conference. Okay.
- 14 I'm thinking there was a (Overlapping)
- MR. OBERNDORF: All in favor?
- BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
- MR. OBERNDORF: Opposed? The ayes have it.
- 18 Any new business now? All right.
- 19 Mike, if you have the tentative allocations?
- 20 MIKE SWAIN: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Board,
- 21 good morning.
- 22 If you would turn to the program tab in
- 23 your manual. The first sheet in there is Commonwealth
- 24 Airport Fund Statement. Shows our starting fund. I
- 25 would like to refer next to the, actually the second

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1 page, which is the memo to the Board from Cliff Burnette,
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- 2 Director of Airport Services Division, highlighting
- 3 changes that have taken place since that financial
- statement was printed. It is a two-page memo. I
- will not go over all of them, but basically these are changes
- due to partial reimbursement of the Bridge Loan,
- 7 return of a tentative allocation, and the return of
- 8 balances of closed projects.
- 9 The second page of the memorandum,
- which is shown at Page 3, at the bottom, highlights
- 11 funds available as of today for allocation. And the Air
- 12 Carrier Reliever Discretionary Fund. You have
- \$1,804,707.02 available for allocation.
- 14 In the General Aviation Discretionary
- 15 Fund, \$118,610.77.
- 16 As we discussed projects yesterday, I
- 17 would like to turn now to Region 1, and simply as we have
- done in the past, review these on a regional basis. And
- 19 actually Regions 1, 2 and 3 we have no requests. So if you
- 20 would turn to Region 4. We will start there.
- 21 The first project request and
- 22 recommendation in Region 4 is Richmond International
- 23 Airport, access road, in the amount of \$1,074,097.92.
- 24 The staff recommends funding for that project.
- 25 And on the second page following that,

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there's a request Tappahannock, Essex County, for
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- terminal building furniture in the amount of \$25,000.
- 3 And another request from Tappahannock for maintenance
- 4 equipment storage building construction, in the amount
- of \$21,000, and the staff recommends funding of all
- 6 three projects.
- 7 MR. OBERNDORF: Do I hear a motion?
- 8 MS. RADCLIFF: Mr. Chairman, I move the approval
- 9 of the staff recommendations for this project.
- 10 BOARD MEMBER: I second.
- 11 MR. OBERNDORF: All in favor?
- BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
- 13 MR. OBERNDORF: All opposed? The ayes have it.
- 14 MIKE SWAIN: Region 5. On the first page.
- 15 Request from Charlottesville-Albemarle for T-Hangar Taxi
- 16 Lane construction in the amount of \$568,311.
- 17 And on the page following. Request
- 18 from William M. Tuck, taxiway Drainage Improvements
- design/construction, request for \$49,182. The staff
- 20 recommends funding of both of those projects.
- 21 MR. FRANKLIN: Mr. Chairman, I move the staff
- recommendations for Region 5.
- BOARD MEMBER: Second.
- MR. OBERNDORF: All in favor?
- BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

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1 MR. OBERNDORF: Opposed? The ayes have it.
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- 2 MIKE SWAIN: Region 6 we had no requests.
- 3 So if you would move to Region 7. On
- 4 Page 1. For the first page of Region 7 request from
- 5 Hampton Roads Executive, Hangar Site Preparation; for
- 6 West T-Hangar construction, increase in the amount of
- 7 \$140,400. The staff recommends approval of that
- 8 project. And on the next page, there are two other
- 9 requests from Hampton Roads Executive versus the
- 10 Wetlands Mitigation, Phase I, for the Replacement Runway;
- 11 second request from Hampton Roads on this page,
- 12 Replacement Runway design. The staff recommends not
- 13 funding those two projects.
- MR. WAGNER: Like to move the staff
- recommendation for Region 7, Mr. Chairman.
- BOARD MEMBER: Second.
- 17 MR. OBERNDORF: All in favor?
- BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.
- 19 MR. OBERNDORF: Opposed? The ayes have it.
- 20 MIKE SWAIN: And that's it.
- 21 MR. WAGNER: I have a question, Mike.
- 22 MIKE SWAIN: Yes, sir.
- 23 MR. WAGNER: In the past we have asked as to being
- 24 able to track what the request is and then the turn
- 25 around time for approval for some of our projects; and

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1 we are awaiting the EA's being turned around to the
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- various sponsors. Do you have any idea how long it really
- 3 takes, because many times it seems like the sponsor is
- 4 ready, the Department is ready, the FAA is ready, and
- 5 yet as a customer we are not being served well by the
- 6 EA, the EA being delivered in a timely fashion. Do you
- 7 have any idea how that works?
- 8 MIKE SWAIN: I would like to defer to Cliff on
- 9 that.
- 10 MR. WAGNER: It actually depends, the timeliness
- of getting the EA approved depends on the scope of the work,
- 12 obviously complexity, and it's a two plus process by DEQ as
- 13 well as by the FAA. And in the case, you are referencing
- 14 Hampton Roads, I believe, with FAA that's waiting for
- 15 approval, and Terry can probably speak to the scheduling
- of that.
- 17 UNIDENTIFIED: I just thought that whether it was
- 18 something in my region, we have a lot of wetlands conflicts,
- 19 but a lot of times we are ready to go, and it seems to just be
- 20 delay, delay, delay, and I'm concerned about monies that
- 21 are going to come out of Terry, they are going to say,
- 22 well, we are going to have to re-alot that or go some
- 23 place else with it. And I was just, I'm kind of
- 24 curious, have we ever really tracked, do we have any
- 25 idea, gee whiz, it's a variable because there is no

- 1 performance measures. I know I have to return a phone
- 2 call within so many hours, you know.
- 3 CLIFF BURNETTE: But the question is whether Terry can
- 4 conclude it in his office or whether it has to go up to
- 5 headquarters.
- 6 MR. WAGNER: I have never heard him complain on the
- 7 FAA, I always heard out of the environmental side. As to,
- 8 you know, who is doing the assessment and that sort of thing.
- 9 MR. PAGE: Let me address that a little bit,
- 10 Dr. Wagner. Most of the environmentals for certainly the
- 11 federally obligated airports have to be signed by FAA.
- MR. WAGNER: Right.
- MR. PAGE: So if there is a, the
- 14 ultimate end signature comes from our office. So we are
- aware of the status, and if there is a delay, we are
- 16 involved somewhere along that way, the Hampton Roads
- 17 project is especially complicated because of the quantity of
- 18 wetlands. We were informed by the Corps this project,
- if they knew then what they know now, they would have
- 20 required this to be an EIS. They wouldn't have let
- 21 it go through as an EA. They have approved to go through
- as an EA because they are aware of all the impacts. We
- are getting it assigned to the higher level because of
- 24 the level of impacts. It's a little bit more complicated
- 25 than your average EA. And it has taken at least every

- 1 bit of four years. But, there are other ones that are
- 2 short form EAs that can take as little as two or three
- 3 months.
- 4 MR. WAGNER: Right.
- 5 MR. PAGE: So I think according to the
- 6 complexity of the project, Cliff is one hundred percent
- on that, but the average is two years for an environmental,
- 8 a normal environmental assessment, not a short form but a
- 9 normal project with average impacts. The high side of
- that would be if it is very complicated, it would be
- 11 closer to four years like we have at the Hampton Roads
- 12 Airport.
- MR. WAGNER: Thank you very much.
- 14 BOARD MEMBER: I have one other question. You
- 15 are saying that by the end of this month, our airports
- 16 have to make sure they have requested for their
- 17 disbursements for the federal funds, or they will be
- 18 withdrawn and reallocated. Are these matching funds
- 19 that we are expecting or anticipating our state dollars
- 20 to be able to match them to be released? If they are
- 21 reallocated?
- 22 MR. PAGE: They just need to notify us that they
- are going to use those entitlement funds this year. That
- 24 they are going to give us a grant application --
- 25 MR. WAGNER: But if they don't, when you take

- those monies back and reallocate them, should we, as a
- 2 state, have budgeted the funds to be able to match them
- 3 if they are going to be reallocated in a different way
- 4 for the rest of this year?
- MR. PAGE: What they will be reallocated to are
- 6 the projects that we are already requesting funds for
- 7 that are already in our program. I have a list of all
- 8 the projects that are seeking discretionary funds. We
- 9 knocked off the top half of those projects. And this is
- 10 what -- to reallocate those to the next ones down the
- list. They are already in the program.
- 12 MR. WAGNER: Okay. But do we, as the State
- 13 Board, need to have funds set aside and reserved to be
- able to match those funds for you to be able to release
- them to the new or different projects?
- 16 MR. PAGE: They will need to be, have state
- 17 matching funds, but they are already in the program. And
- 18 the state has --
- MR. WAGNER: So we already have the funds
- 20 matched to it, but we will just be moving it from this
- 21 set of projects as a link to another set of projects
- as a link, presumably.
- 23 MR. PAGE: If they are already in the program,
- 24 it's just a matter of once we have assigned the funds, I
- 25 guess no one really cares where those monies came from.

- 1 They will just be, show up as Federal funds for the
- 2 project. The state funds are already somewhere in the
- 3 works. (Overlapping) We will have time to allocate
- 4 those monies.
- 5 MR. WAGNER: I just want to make sure we have
- 6 budgeted the funds, or we have the ability to move
- quickly enough to withdraw those funds from a project
- 8 that did not get funded, so as to be able to have that money
- 9 to maximize the Federal allocations that are available to us.
- 10 MR. PAGE: It works out real well, also, because
- if the funds are available by the June Board meeting, if
- 12 the project is known they can come before you then; if
- 13 not, the August Board meeting, when you have more funds
- 14 available to the Board, works out well, then you can
- 15 catch up on the ones that are already on the case.
- 16 MR. WAGNER: Just wanted to make sure. Thank
- 17 you very much.
- 18 MR. BURDETTE: Mr. Chairman, if I may. Another thing,
- 19 Dr. Wagner, on your point. The FAA is very aware and
- 20 concerned about the environmental assessments holding up
- 21 projects. In fact in the reauthorization bill they have set
- 22 money aside to streamline that process. This is a national
- 23 problem they are aware of, and they are working to take
- 24 action on that.
- MR. WAGNER: Thank you, Mr. Director.

- 1 MR. BURDETTE: Thank you.
- 2 MR. OBERNDORF: Okay. Hearing any other
- 3 comments from the Board?
- 4 MR. KEHOE: Mr. Chairman, as you are aware, the
- Charlottesville-Albemarle Airport, there has been a
- 6 management change. Brian Elliott, the long-time manager
- 7 has moved on. He has been appointed Assistant County
- 8 Executive, and Barbara Hutchinson, and Barbara, if you
- 9 would stand please, has been named acting director at
- 10 Charlottesville-Albemarle Airport. (Applause) And
- 11 there are many of us hopes she becomes the permanent
- 12 director. Thank you.
- MR. OBERNDORF: Thank you very much. Do we have any
- comments from the audience? Yes, ma'am.
- 15 MS. HUTCHINSON: I would just like to take this
- opportunity to thank you for, again, adjusting your
- 17 schedule to meet the VAOC schedule that enables a lot of
- 18 participation, and it is a great sign of support for the
- 19 airports that you are able to do that.
- 20 I also would like to thank the staff again
- 21 because of their support for our workshop, and the speakers
- 22 and the audio-visual and everything that they do, and I
- 23 know that's a great chore for them, and we greatly appreciate
- 24 their effort.
- 25 Finally, I would also like to recognize

1	the staff. I know Cliff and Mike and Amy and Jerry have					
2	undertaken an effort to turn around things to airports					
3	more quickly, such as pay requests or grant amendments or					
4	what have you. In our case it has just been remarkable,					
5	not just a noticeable improvement but phenomenal, and we					
6	greatly appreciate whatever you are doing to do that.					
7	It is a boon for us with out construction projects to be					
8	able to pay the contractors more timely, and just keeps					
9	things running a little more smoothly; so we greatly					
10	appreciate those efforts.					
11	And finally, we would just like to thank					
12	you for the funding for our project. That was a project					
13	that came in over-bid earlier in the fiscal year. We					
14	were real excited when Cliff announced at the last VAOC					
15	meeting there would be funds available, so this will be					
16	a great project for our GA community, and we					
17	appreciate those funds. Thank you.					
18	MR. OBERNDORF: Thank you very much, appreciate that					
19	Hearing no other comments from the staff or					
20	Board, I declare the meeting adjourned.					
21						
22						
23						
24	HEARING ADJOURNED AT 10:00 A.M.					

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4					
5	CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER				
6					
7					
8	I, Howard Keith Crane, do hereby certify that				
9	I was the court reporter at the foregoing Virginia				
10	Aviation Board Meeting on April 25, 2007, held at the				
11	Stonewall Jackson Hotel and Conference Center, 24 South				
12	Market Street, Staunton, Virginia.				
13	I further certify that the foregoing				
14	transcript is a true and accurate record of the				
15	foregoing hearing.				
16	Given under my hand this 7th day of May, 2007				
17					
18					
19					
20					
21	Howard Keith Crane, RPR, CSR 0313034				
22					
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