



**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Syracuse Regional Airport Authority**

**Friday, January 19, 2024**

Pursuant to the notice duly given and posted, the regular board meeting of the Syracuse Regional Airport Authority was called to order on Friday, January 19, 2024, at 11:01 a.m. in the Syracuse Regional Airport Authority Board Room located in the Syracuse Hancock International Airport by SRAA Board Chair Ms. Jo Anne Gagliano.

**Members Present:**

Ms. Jo Anne Gagliano – Chair  
Mr. Tom Fernandez  
Ms. Latoya Allen - Teams  
Mr. Nathaniel Stevens  
Dr. Shiu-Kai Chin  
Mr. Kenneth Kinsey – Teams  
Mr. Damian Ulatowski  
Mr. Robert Simpson  
Mr. Michael Frame  
Mr. Michael Lazar

**Members Absent:**

Dr. Donna DeSiato

**Also Present:**

Mr. H. Jason Terreri  
Ms. Robin Watkins  
Ms. Joanne Clancy  
Mr. Jason Mehl  
Chief Mark Werbeck  
Capt. Anthony Sobiech  
Mr. Cliff Pelton  
Ms. Debi Marshall  
Mr. John Clark  
Mr. Matt Szwebjka

Chair Gagliano started the SRAA Board meeting at 11:01 a.m. and welcomed back Mr. Damian Ulatowski, Town of Clay Supervisor to the two-year rotational SRAA Board seat.

**Roll Call**

As noted above all members were present in person or via Teams other than Dr. DeSiato.

## **Consent Agenda:**

Chair Gagliano explained items in the consent agenda. Having no objections or comments regarding this resolution, Chair Gagliano invited a motion. A motion was made by Mr. Lazar, seconded by Mr. Frame, and the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

**The resolution was adopted: 10 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstain** (Mr. Ulatowski abstained/was not present at the previous meeting)

## **New Business/Discussion and Airport Scorecard:**

Director Terreri shared information on the scorecard updates for the calendar year end, 2023. Passenger numbers continue to outpace the budgeted plans. Some of the budget items are timing delay issues for construction projects and will hit the budget at a later date. Enplanement numbers are 5% above budget. December load factor numbers are incredible and consistently running above 90%. Parking numbers continue to be above budget. Concessions will be added to assist with the increased passenger loads and demand. 2023 ended with 30 nonstop destinations with Sun Country Airlines inaugural flight in June, 2024. No airline carrier is dominant in this market. SYR exceeded all previous records for number of passengers by over 400,000 passengers at 2.8M for 2023. SYR is now the 4<sup>th</sup> busiest airport in the state of New York. Director Terreri thanked all staff members for their efforts during this growth period. January numbers show SYR being 30% busier over last year. SYR is on track to finish our fiscal year, July 1<sup>st</sup> to show a 25% year over year growth. The national average is 5.5%. SYR is at 12% compared to other airports such as Rochester, being down 12%. SYR's growth is also attributed to mainline carriers and business travelers, not just leisure and low-cost carriers. The previous Master Plan forecast created prior to this growth and the introduction to Micron has had to be completely revamped for priorities because the growth levels thought to be hit in 2030 are now going to be reality in 2025, a full 5 years prior to previous development plans. From a terminal perspective, significant upgrades are needed to accommodate this accelerated growth such as baggage systems which are at capacity and the system is so old, parts are not easily available. Director Terreri discussed initiatives for baggage, parking, and utilities. Air service focus is on adding additional service times to existing markets. The airport is looking at ways to connect our regional markets to SYR via bus services, etc. The airport will be under a lot of construction over the next few years, so making sure passengers are not negatively impacted is a focus as well as land development and partnerships with companies such as NUAIR.

The Annual report book will be given out at The State of the Airport meeting downtown. Director Terreri acknowledged Matt Szwejbka, Customer Experience Manager, for his hard work in putting the yearly report together. Each year, the SRAA chooses an Employee of the Year. This year it was a tie. Febes Robertson, Custodial Worker, who is always smiling and friendly and helps everyone and Cliff Pelton, Facilities Director, who directs critical projects with his team, were both voted as the winners by their peers for this well-deserved award, congratulations to both. The custodial team as a whole was recognized for the snow removal on the curb as well as their day to day assistance and representation of the airport to our passengers. What SYR is facing in the next 3-5 years is going to take a lot of work by everyone, to accomplish our mission and goals.

Legislative updates were discussed regarding improving the efficiency of civil service requirements and codes enforcement legislation.

### **Executive Session**

Chair Gagliano invited a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the current and future investigations into the hiring of particular persons. A motion was made by Mr. Lazar and seconded by Mr. Frame. The Executive Session began at 11:30 a.m. and ended at 11:50 a.m. No action was taken.

### **Committee Reports**

Chair Gagliano asked if any of the committees had information to share with the group and there was none.

### **Adjournment**

Having no other topics for discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Frame and seconded by Mr. Stevens, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

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