



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

Friday, September 20, 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, September 20, 2024, at 11:00 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. Michael Frame – Vice Chair, Teams
Ms. Latoya Allen
Dr. Shiu-Kai Chin
Dr. Donna DeSiato - Teams
Mr. Tom Fernandez
Mr. Kenneth Kinsey
Mr. Michael Lazar
Mr. Robert Simpson
Mr. Nathaniel Stevens

Members Absent:

Mr. Damian Ulatowski

Also Present:

Mr. Jason Terreri
Mr. Aaron Harris
Ms. Robin Watkins
Mr. Jason Mehl
Ms. Joanne Clancy
Chief Justin Baum
Mr. Cliff Pelton
Ms. Debi Marshall
Mr. John Clark
Mr. Tommy Kimmes - MillionAir

Chair Gagliano started the SRAA Board meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Roll Call

As noted above all SRAA Board members were present in person or via Teams other than Mr. Ulatowski.

Consent Agenda:

Chair Gagliano referenced the June meeting minutes and documents in the consent agenda and asked for any changes or comments. Having no objections or comments regarding this resolution, Ms. Gagliano invited a motion. A motion was made by Mr. Lazar, seconded by Ms. Allen, and the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

The resolution was adopted: 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain

Airport Updates:

Director Terreri provided exciting news that the SRAA has hired a new Police Chief, Justin Baum, he has been sworn in and has vast experience that will be a great fit for SYR airport. Director Terreri gave an update on scorecard metrics and status of various projects and financial, budget and revenue performance. He discussed the updated results of both the catchment and economic impact studies. Operating expenses are doing well due to delayed projects, operating cash includes a significant amount in reserve that needs to be built upon for our future landside projects. Landed weights are lower than budget, enplanements are up 3.5% over budget and load factors continue to increase and remain above average for an airport this size. Parking updates were provided by Chief Commercial Officer, Jason Mehl. The new Designa parking system is up and operating with fine tuning and other features such as reservations for parking in early 2025. The ACC has been working with the commercial department to ensure that the concessionaires are open and operating per their contracts. August was the first month that did not have Southwest in the budget, most of the loss from those flights have been made up by other airlines adding service to the market. Economic impact results for our catchment area show a \$1.1B total economic impact to this area. This data is being used to promote capital needs for the SYR airport when speaking with elected officials, airlines and the business community. Rome-Utica area has increased by 11%, the trends are continuing to show shifts in passengers per day to SYR from smaller airports. Mr. Simpson stated that the reality of what is happening at SYR airport is now recognized widely among the business community. Top unserved markets were shown, including San Francisco and Phoenix due to semiconductor industry travel. International travel has increased and should start to help with capacity adds to the market for these connections to the leisure market. These studies are conducted yearly, and the data is helpful for discussions with the airlines.

Executive Session

Chair Gagliano invited a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the proposed lease of real property by the Authority. A motion was made by Mr. Lazar and seconded by Dr. Chin. The Executive Session began at 11:19 a.m. and ended at 11:35 a.m. No action was taken.

New Business/Discussion:

Director Terreri gave an update on the status of the negotiations for the Airline Use and Lease Agreement (AULA). The current agreement expires on June 30, 2025. These negotiations will determine if there will be a new agreement or if a Rates By Ordinance model will be implemented. More information will be provided at the December board meeting.

Resolution approving the Fiscal Year End 2024 Draft Audit of the SRAA

Dr. DeSiato gave a summary of the Audit Committee meeting and thanked CFO Watkins and the Finance

Team for their great work. Dr. DeSiato stated that the Audit Committee recommended its approval and asked the board for a motion. Mr. Lazar stated that all deadlines will be met for the various agencies the SRAA reports to. Chair Gagliano asked if there were any further comments or questions. Having no further discussion regarding this resolution, a motion was made by Ms. Gagliano and seconded by Mr. Lazar.

The resolution was adopted: 10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain

Review of the 2025 SRAA Draft Board and Committee Calendar

Executive Assistant Clancy explained the cadence of the draft SRAA board and committee meetings for the 2025 committee meeting schedule and that this will be in the Board packet for resolution vote at the December 13th meeting.

Committee Reports

Human Resources Director Marshall gave an update on civil service and the HELP program. The HELP program has resulted in the permanent appointment of approximately forty individuals after a one-year probationary period.

CFO Watkins stated that the Finance committee walked through financials for the first two months of the year and status of the AULA agreement. Director Terreri mentioned SYR received an FAA discretionary grant for the taxiway.

Chair Gagliano asked if there were any further updates from the various committees.

Adjournment

Having no other topics for discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Stevens and seconded by Ms. Allen, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.