

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS OF THE SALINA AIRPORT AUTHORITY  
APRIL 7, 2022  
HANGAR 600, ROOM 100**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 A.M. by Chair Kent Buer. Chair Buer confirmed that a quorum was present. Business and Communications Manager Kasey Windhorst stated that the board meeting notice and packet was published and distributed on Wednesday, March 30, 2022.

**Attendance**

Attendance was taken. Chair Buer, Directors Carlin, Gunn, Roberg and Eichelberger (via GoToMeeting) were present. Executive Director Tim Rogers; Director of Administration and Finance Shelli Swanson; Director of Facilities and Construction Maynard Cunningham; Business and Communications Manager Kasey Windhorst; Airport Administration Specialist Michelle Moon; and Attorney Greg Bengtson (via GTM) attended. Guests attending were Tim Unruh; Mitch Robinson, Salina Community Economic Development Organization; Saline County Administrator Philip Smith-Hanes; Julie Yager-Zucker and Aaron Mauer, Avflight. Gary Foss, ArkStar Group; Saline County Commissioner Bob Vidrickson; Cit of Salina Commissioner Mike Hoppock and Salina City Manager Mike Schrage attended via GoToMeeing.

**Additions to the Agenda**

Chair Buer asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Executive Director Rogers stated there were no additions to the agenda.

## **Update of SkyWest Airlines Termination Notice and Options for a Replacement Carrier**

Executive Director Rogers introduced Gary Foss, ArkStar, and provided a brief overview of SkyWest's Notice of Intent to Terminate Essential Air Service (EAS). Rogers noted that the USDOT Holding Order is not indefinite. Rogers also provided the EAS Operator Overview, traffic count, catchment area, and sample EAS proposals for reference. Mr. Foss updated the board regarding Denver Air Connections stated interest in providing non-stop service to Denver and Chicago. Denver Air Connection is a Key Lime Air Company. EAS service would include an agreement between Key Lime and United to use United's ticketing program. Rogers reviewed the EAS timeline. Staff recommendation is to not request an extension for proposals past the April 11, 2022 deadline. Community comments are due to the USDOT by April 22, 2022. Mr. Foss anticipates air service transition to be in the fall or winter of 2022.

Director Buer asked if Denver Air Connection could continue to provide daily flights with their available jets. Rogers stated that additional jets were available however the number of pilots will be key to what flights will be scheduled.

Director Gunn asked for specifics of the interline agreement referenced in the documentation. Mr. Foss reviewed the process (used by Expedia, Travelocity, etc.) that transfers travelers from one airline to another (for example Delta to United) within a singular itinerary.

## **Visitor Questions**

Mr. Smith-Hanes asked if carriers might consider community incentives. Rogers stated that SkyWest had already made the decision to leave Salina, which included vacating the funding set aside for a Houston connection. Mr. Foss stated that Key Lime might be open to incentives as the Code Share agreement alone will cost the carrier approximately \$250,000 to link in with United.

Upon a motion duly made, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 A.M.

Minutes approved at the April 20, 2022 Board Meeting.

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Secretary

(SEAL)