The England Economic and Industrial Development District met in Special Session at its regular meeting place, the England Authority Board Room, Building 1803 Arnold Drive, England Industrial Airpark and Community, Alexandria, Louisiana, on Wednesday, May 1, 1996, at 4:35 p.m. (Central Standard Time).

There were present: Mr. Jim Meyer, Chairman, Mr. Gene Cotton, Secretary/Treasurer, Ms. Bridgett Brown, Mr. Tom Fowler, Mr. Barry Hines, Mr. Kit Provine, Mr. H.K. Stanley, Mr. Phillip Terrell. Absent: Mr. Michael Tudor, Mr. George Thompson, Vice-Chairman.

Also present were: Mr. Alvin Mycoff, President-Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Elton Pody, Exec.Dir.-Chamber of Commerce, Mr. David Pugh, Cleco, Mr. Brady Baudin, Cleco, Gen. Ansel Stroud, La.Air National Guard, Lt. Col. Harry Trosclair, LANG, Lt. Col Rufas Warren, LANG, (Ret)Mjr.Gen. Frank Denton, Secretary-DOTD, Mr. John Newhouse, II, Ms. Christi Baxter, MIT, Mr. John Ducote, Midwest Air Traffic Control, Mr. Jon Grafton, Executive Director, members of England Authority Staff, legal counsel, members of the public, press and media.

Mr. Elton Pody gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The England Economic and Industrial Development District was duly convened as the governing authority of said District by Mr. Jim Meyer, Chairman, who then stated that the England Economic and Industrial Development District was ready for the transaction of business.

## AUTHORIZE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH AIR FORCE NATIONAL GUARD AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL UNIT.

Motion by Mr. Cotton, seconded by Mr. Terrell to authorize the Chairman of the Board and Executive Director to sign necessary documents to lease Building #820 and associated lands and secure services all in regards to the establishment of an Air Force National Guard Air Traffic Control Unit at England Airpark.

Mr. Grafton briefly gave the Board an overview of the elements involved in the relocation of the Air Force National Guard Air Traffic Control Services Division. He stated that upon relocation of the Air Force National Guard the move will consist of 70 drill-status guardsmen of which 35 fulltime jobs will be gained at the Airpark. He further stated that various major equipment items will be gained such as a MPNK-14 Radar, TACAN and pending availability from the USAF, a Microwave Landing System. Mr. Grafton informed the Board that a Maintenance School House and various mobility training programs for the Air National Guard personnel nationwide will also be conducted at the Airpark.

Mr. Meyer introduced Gen. Ansel Stroud who explained how the project evolved in terms of considering England as a possible site for the relocation of this particular unit. Gen. Stroud introduced Lt. Col. Rufas Warren and Lt. Col. Harry Trosclair as the gentlemen that will manage this program at the Airpark. He also introduced Mr. Frank Denton, (Ret.) Major General, LANG

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who is presently the Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development (Aviation Division) for the State of Louisiana.

Mr. Grafton concluded his report by stating that Rapides Parish is looking at a \$2,000,000 positive impact on our local economy. He stated that the Authority can expect a gain of approximately \$6,5000,000 of equipment at AEX. He further stated that this project falls in line with the Authority's Intermodal Transportation Development Plan which will allow the Authority to market itself with more sophisticated air cargo or transportation companies nationwide.

Mr. Meyer welcomed Mr. Mycoff, Mr. Pody, Mr. Pugh, and Mr. Newhouse to the meeting. The Chairman called for a vote. The Board voted unanimously, the motion carried. **0046-1996** 

## PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Mr. Jim Meyer, Chairman

England Economic & Industrial Development District

Board of Commissioners

Mr. Gene Cotton, Secretary-Treasurer

England Economic & Industrial Development District Board of Commissioners