

THE ENGLAND ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR SESSION May 23, 2024

The England Economic and Industrial Development District met in Regular Session in the England Authority Board Room, 1611 Arnold Drive, Alexandria, Louisiana, on **Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 5:53 p.m.**

Mr. Sam Spurgeon, Chair of the England Authority, requested a roll call.

Present: Mr. Sam Spurgeon, Chair, Mr. Zeb Winstead, Vice Chair, Mr. Oday Lavergne, Mr. Steven Mansour, Mr. Joe McPherson, Mr. Charlie Weems, Mr. Patrick O'Quin, and Mr. Dennis Frazier.

Absent: Mr. Jamar Gailes and Mr. Taylor Cottano

Also present were members of the England Authority staff: Mr. Ralph Hennessy, Executive Director, Mr. Scott Gammel, Deputy Director of Aviation and Capital Projects, Ms. Summer Steiner, Director of Finance and Human Resources, Mr. David Broussard, Deputy Director-Landside, and Mr. Matt Nowlin, Legal Counsel.

Chair Spurgeon asked if there were any public comments or questions. Hearing none, Mr. Spurgeon proceeded with the action items.

The England Economic and Industrial Development District was duly convened as the governing authority of said District by Mr. Sam Spurgeon, Chair, who stated that the England Economic and Industrial Development District was ready for the transaction of business.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2024, REGULAR SESSION MEETING.

Motion by **Mr. Zeb Winstead**, second by **Mr. Charlie Weems** to approve the Minutes of April 25, 2024, regular session meeting. The Chair called for any comments from the board or public. There being none, a vote was called, and motion carried. **034-2024**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE SUBLEASE BETWEEN FREEMAN HOLDINGS, LLC (MILLION AIR OF ALEXANDRIA) AND NO DRAG AVIATION DETAILING, AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR FOR SERVICES PROVIDED AT AEX.

Motion by **Mr. Zeb Winstead**, second by **Mr. Sam Spurgeon** to approve the sublease between Freeman Holdings, LLC (Million Air of Alexandria) and No Drag Aviation Detailing, an independent contractor for services provided at AEX. The Chair called for any comments from the board or public. There being none, a vote was called, and motion carried. **035-2024**

MOTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE CERTIFICATE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION FOR THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL RADIO REPLACEMENT.

Motion by **Mr. Zeb Winstead**, second by **Mr. Sam Spurgeon**, to authorize the Executive Director to execute Certificate of Substantial Completion for the Air Traffic Control Radio Replacement. The Chair called for any comments from the board or public. There being none, a vote was called, and resolution carried. **036-2024**

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MOTION TO TABLE MOTION TO AUTHORIZE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE LEASE AMENDMENT #1 TO THE LEASE BETWEEN EEIDD AND REDDY ICE, LLC FOR SPACE IN BUILDING # 1203 LOCATED AT 1616 KEGLEMAN BLVD FOR ONE MONTH.

Motion by **Mr. Joe McPherson**, second by **Mr. Charlie Weems** to table motion to authorize Executive Director to execute lease amendment #1 to the lease between EEIDD and Reddy Ice, LLC for space in building # 1203 located at 1616 Kegleman Blvd for one month.

Mr. Sam Spurgeon requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Mr. Cottano -ABSENT
Mr. Frazier -NO
Mr. Gailles-ABSENT
Mr. Lavergne-YES
Mr. Mansour-NO
Mr. McPherson-YES
Mr. O'Quin-NO
Mr. Spurgeon-NO
Mr. Weems-YES
Mr. Winstead-NO

The motion failed.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE LEASE AMENDMENT #1 TO THE LEASE BETWEEN EEIDD AND REDDY ICE, LLC FOR SPACE IN BUILDING # 1203 LOCATED AT 1616 KEGLEMAN BLVD.

Motion by **Mr. Joe McPherson**, second by **Mr. Charlie Weems** to authorize the Executive Director to execute lease amendment #1 to the lease between EEIDD and Reddy Ice, LLC for space in building # 1203 located at 1616 Kegleman Blvd. **037-2024**

Mr. Sam Spurgeon requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Mr. Cottano -ABSENT
Mr. Frazier -YES
Mr. Gailles-ABSENT
Mr. Lavergne-NO
Mr. Mansour-YES
Mr. McPherson-NO
Mr. O'Quin-YES
Mr. Spurgeon-YES
Mr. Weems-NO
Mr. Winstead-YES

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he motion carried.

Presentation by Wendell Luneau with Brown and Brown regarding insurance rates:

Mr. Luneau stated that there is a 2% increase in exposure. He spoke about current industry trends and informed the Board on the new fiscal year's upcoming rates. Mr. Luneau stated that \$179,000 was the new quote to cover vehicles due to several being new. He discussed the types of insurance explored last fiscal year to cover the new fire truck. Airport liability insurance went up from \$85,000 to \$89,000 due to inflation. Mr. Luneau stated that the Event Center rate was decreased this year. Overall, it was down several percent from last year. Mr. Spurgeon asked if the new rate was reflected in the budget, and Miss Steiner stated it was.

Presentation by Deborah Lagos regarding Land Reuse program:

Ms. Lagos stated that since the beginning of the program close to 50 million dollars has been spent. She anticipates one final grant this year from the FAA. Ms. Lagos presented a map of properties that were purchased and those that were to possibly be acquired. Ms. Lagos stated that there have been about 450 acres of property purchased. Ms. Lagos stated that the blue areas were the properties acquired. Ms. Lagos stated that there were a few properties that were being looked at in hopes of being purchased. Some properties refused, some had active offers, and some have legal issues.

E. Comments by Legal Counsel – There were none.

F. Questions by Commissioners -- There were none.

G. Comments by Executive Director – Mr. Hennessy stated that Mr. Gammel and himself were able to attend the Jumpstart Conference in DC. Mr. Hennessy stated that they met with United, SkyWest, Allegiant, and Delta to discuss several things as well as the possibilities for AEX. Mr. Hennessy also stated that they were able to meet with the Department of Homeland Security regarding the ICE facility and Lasalle Corrections at Congressman Higgins' request. Mr. Hennessy stated that Homeland Security was very intrigued and asked a lot of questions. Lastly, Mr. Hennessy stated that he would continue to work on air service issues as they continue to materialize.

H. Staff Report –

1). Financial: Ms. Steiner stated revenues were 1.7 % over budget and expenses were 6.5 % below budget. Ms. Steiner stated that everything looked great, and notes could be provided if there were any questions.

2). Air Traffic: Mr. Gammel Stated that American was up a little. The planes are full, and more capacity is needed. Mr. Gammel stated that fuel sales were up for the year. Mr. Lavergne asked if this was related to rotation and Mr. Gammel stated it was. Mr. Lavergne asked Mr. Hennessy if AEX fuel charges were comparable to other surrounding airports, and Mr. Hennessy stated that they were.

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A) Airline services: No report

B) ACE: No report.

3). Economic Development/Operations: Mr. Broussard stated it's a typical month with 100 residential calls due to warmer temperatures, around 20 commercial calls, and no ISB calls. Mr. Broussard stated he had a good catchup call with UCORE this week and they are getting a lot of inquiries from customers that are interested to come and visit.

I. Public Comments or Questions – None

There being no further business, Mr. Sam Spurgeon adjourned the meeting at **6:54 p.m.**

Sam Spurgeon, Chair
*England Economic and Industrial Development District
Board of Commissioners*

Charlie Weems, Secretary/Treasurer
*England Economic and Industrial Development District
Board of Commissioners*