

**TUCSON AIRPORT AUTHORITY | Board of Directors Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, March 5, 2025 | 3:00 p.m. | TAA Board Room**

**THIS REGULAR MEETING OF THE TUCSON AIRPORT AUTHORITY (TAA) BOARD OF DIRECTORS WAS HELD IN A HYBRID MANNER. BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDED THE MEETING IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE INVITED TO ATTEND IN PERSON.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER | ROLL CALL**

Chair Hammond called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**Directors Present:** Chair Mike Hammond, Vice Chair Phil Swaim, Secretary Vance Falbaum, Treasurer Rhonda Piña, Director Todd Jackson, Director Fran Katz, Director Tim Overton, Director Judy Rich, Director Keri Silvyn

\*Treasurer Falbaum and Director Rich joined the meeting at 3:10 p.m., before any motions or actions items.

**Directors Absent:** Director Calline Sanchez, Director Ellen Wheeler

**Staff Present:** President/CEO Danette Bewley, Executive Vice President/General Counsel Chris Schmaltz, Vice President/Chief Revenue Officer John Voorhees, Vice President/Chief Financial Officer Kim Allison, Vice President of Operations Chris Deitz, Chief Communications Officer Austin Wright, Chief People Officer Kim DeLaTorre, Deputy General Counsel Kim Outlaw Ryan, IT Customer Support Technicians Hector Lopez and Kris Kmak, and TAA Acting Clerk Jennifer Shields

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion by Director Katz, seconded by Vice Chair Swaim, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes (9)** Hammond, Swaim, Falbaum, Piña, Rich, Jackson, Katz, Overton, and Silvyn

**Nays (0)**

**3. BOARD CHAIR REPORT**

TAA and Staff Recognition | New or Promoted Employees, Awards, and Acknowledgments

No topics were reported in the Board Chair Report.

**4. PRESIDENT/CEO REPORT**

**a. State of the Industry | Update**

President/CEO Danette Bewley reported the following:

- ☐ TAA is monitoring and assessing federal funding freezes and uncertainty it creates. The approval of the FAA Reauthorization Act added \$4 billion to Airport Improvement Program, up from \$3.35 billion. TAA will hope to take advantage of that additional funding for ASE. President/CEO Bewley, along with EVP/General Counsel Schmaltz and CCO Wright will be travelling end of March to Washington D.C. to meet with elected officials and present TAA's policy and legislative priorities to members of the AZ delegation later in the month.
- ☐ Southwest Airlines has submitted to TAA and other airports a request to reduce costs across the board. Also, Southwest Airlines has implemented a reduction in staffing levels to reduce its own costs. TAA will continue to monitor and continuously communicate with Southwest Airlines on the evolving Southwest Airlines efforts.

**b. Overview of Aircraft Incident Investigations**

- ☐ President/CEO Bewley recently presented to the Pima County Board of Supervisors, Morris ANG, and Davis Monthan Air Force Base, in response to recent aircraft incidents on FAA Air Traffic Control staffing levels and FAA ADO staffing levels.

**c. Strategic Plan 3.0 Update**

Executive Vice President/General Counsel Chris Schmaltz reported the following, highlighting elements of the memorandum in the Board packet:

- ☐ Delivering Project Excellence – TAA continues to focus on the priority of "All in on ASE"; TSA cyber security audit of the TAA was successful.
- ☐ Expanding Prosperity – BCD leads the continuing negotiations on a solar farm lease; Led by the Air Service Development and Finance teams, TAA continues negotiations with the airlines on the new AUA. The current focus is on the development of the new financial model.
- ☐ TAA Champions – Given the current federal uncertainties, the TAA Executive Team will continue to call on the Board and Members to advocate on behalf of the TAA.

**5. ACTION ITEM**

**Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Regional Jet (MHIRJ) Ground Lease**

Vice President/CRO John Voorhees referred the Directors to the memorandum that was included in the agenda packet, which addresses in depth the history and recent events regarding this ground lease and the proposed new lease.

There were no questions from the Board regarding the lease.

**Motion by Director Silvyn, seconded by Director Piña, to approve Resolution No. 2025-05. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes (9) Hammond, Swaim, Falbaum, Piña, Rich, Jackson, Katz, Overton, and Silvyn**

**Nays (0)**

**6. DIVISION UPDATES**

**Marketing and Air Service Development**

Chief Communications Officer Austin Wright reported the following:

- ☐ The launch of flights aboard Frontier Airlines has commenced and so far business is good for sales to both Denver and Las Vegas.
- ☐ Migrant travel has essentially come to a complete stop and while it has affected the booking of seats on the various airlines, TAA feels it will make up for it during spring break and other upcoming Tucson/Arizona related events. TAA efforts are focused on filling the increased capacity.
- ☐ TAA is collaborating with Visit Tucson to develop inbound and outbound travel and strategize on how to get more knowledge out to the community about the benefits of flying out of Tucson.

The state of the current U.S. political atmosphere and the relationship with our border neighbors to the north and south are affecting Canadian and Mexican carriers and their interest in doing business in the U.S.

\*Director Piña exited the meeting at 3:40

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion by Director Rich, Seconded by Secretary Falbaum to enter Executive Session. The motion carried the following vote:**

**Ayes (8) Hammond, Swaim, Falbaum, Rich, Jackson, Katz, Overton, and Silvyn**

**Nays (0)**

**8. RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board returned to the Regular meeting and the Chair reconvened the Public Meeting at 4:05 p.m.

**9. ACTION ITEM**

**Motion by Director Silvyn, seconded by Director Katz, to approve Resolution No. 2025-02, the TAA Employee Appeal Rights Policy.**

**Ayes (8)    Hammond, Swaim, Falbaum, Rich, Jackson, Katz, Overton, and Silvyn**

**Nays (0)**

**10. NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. | TAA Board Room

**11. ADJOURN**

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Hammond adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

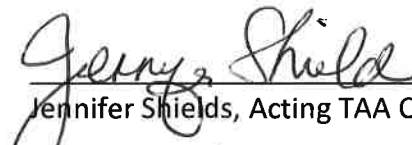
**APPROVED BY:**



Vance Falbaum, Secretary

Date: 5/7/2025

**Prepared by:**



Jennifer Shields, Acting TAA Clerk

Date: 5/7/2025