

**Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, January 15, 2004

Melele Room

Meeting called to order by Jessica Reimers at 12:20 P.M. Over 30 members and guests in attendance. Jessica wished all a Happy New Year and recognized Ambassador Greta Morris and guest speaker Jack Chong-gum in attendance

- **Review** of December Minutes. Minutes were approved.
- **Introduction of Guests:** Alberto Munez, Starkist
- **Mail Summary:** The usual magazines  
Hawaii Pacific Buyer's Guide  
2002 RMI Statistical Report  
Outgoing – Letter to President Note offer our congratulations
- **Treasurer's Report:** Report on tables - \$81.00 left over from Christmas Parade

**Guest Speaker:** Director of the Marshall Islands Airport Authority, Jack Chong-gum. He showed a presentation on the accomplishments of the MIAA for the last four years and prospects for the future

- BOMI branch
- Car Park and street lights
- Holding area
- Concession booths
- Renovation of the restrooms
- Terminal roof
- Extension of main terminal
- Rescue Equipment

New projects

- Renovation of concession stalls
- Perimeter security
- Public address system
- Restroom repair
- Bar/restaurant renovation
- Ceramic tiles for the lobby

Non-approved projects

- Repainting
- Septic and leaching field

Funding sources are from RMI, USDA, FAA-AIP, Japan, etc.

RMI is now eligible for FAA-AIP funds this is due to the work of Bobby Muller and the compact negotiators.

Questions:

What happened to the funding from the ROC four years ago for a new terminal?  
Do not know – change of government- different priorities

When will the runway repairs happen?  
This calendar year hopefully.  
How much for bathroom facilities?  
Twenty thousand but probably not enough.

A slide show was then presented of the past and present of the airport.

### **Committee Reports:**

- **Environment** – Still working on submitting legislation to create a Solid Waste Management Authority
- **Law** – Just starting – looking for members
- **P.R.** – Recognized Joseph Bigler and Robert Pinho – newly elected Majuro councilmen.  
Reminder that it is time to renew your membership – give checks to Bobo or Jessica
- **Tourism** – Thanks for participation and donations to the Block Party – special thanks to Aloha airlines. \$1,000 grants will be donated to charities – please apply. V7AB announced on the news that all arrests and accidents were the cause of the Block Party – got summary of police report that shows this is not true. Coconut Cup Committee meeting tomorrow – we can use all the help we can get. Commodore Dee Johnson - head of new yacht club  
NTO report on tables  
Upcoming MIVA events on tables
- **Transportation** – Plan to the government on objective and goals of the chamber-  
this year

### **Old Business:**

- Petition on fire safety? – new minister of justice  
Write letter to minister – congratulations and issues
- Christmas Parade summary – P.A. went out in Rita but parade went off well. \$6,000 worth of candy and goods. Police did an excellent job. Thanks to Roger Cooper and Francine Ross – Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus. Also thanks to Continental, Rais Aho and CARE for Laura float and Daniel for getting the fire engine repaired

### **New Business:**

- Fred Muller – Represents the ministry and is happy to attend. Development with the Kwaj trade still going on. RRE can now sell water. Two others still pending. Congratulations to the Chamber and keep working with the Ministry of R&D
- Janet – Hospitality and Tourism Program – first 20 students finished their core courses. Soliciting new class. If employers want to send someone please see Janet

- Kirt – Thanks for attending the concerts by Melveena and Glenn. They will be back. Thanks for the support

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 P.M.

Minutes prepared by:  
Donald Hess

Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved with Corrections \_\_\_\_\_