

October 19, 2016

Via Email: thopkins@caddo.org

The Caddo Commission 505 Travis St. Post Office Box 110 Shreveport, Louisiana 71101

RE:

Ark-La-Tex Regional Air Service Alliance, a 501c4

Dear Caddo Commissioners:

It has come to my attention that the Commission has requested information and any current actions taken related to the Ark-La-Tex Regional Air Service Alliance, a 501c4 ("RASA") regarding funds received thru the Hotel/Motel Occupancy Tax which went into effect December 2015. This request was forwarded to me from the Director of the Shreveport Regional Airport, Henry Thompson. For future reference, please direct all inquires to my attention as RASA is a non-profit separate from the Shreveport Regional Airport and its operations.

As for the information requested, RASA has received a net sum of \$414,093.71 since implementation of the legislation and this information is public record. The sum is net as both Caddo/Shreveport and Bossier/Bossier City Sales and Use Tax Offices charge a One Percent (1%) fee for audit costs. The funds are held in FDIC accounts pursuant to the Investment Policy of RASA which is published for public view on our website www.arklatexrasa.org along with our By-Laws and Minutes.

RASA can not disclose current projects or negotiations with any airline or carrier as those are confidential. Further, it is not in the best interest of our community to disclose any details until a written agreement is in place with a carrier as many other communities are also seeking additional air service. RASA is continually working on obtaining additional air service to the East Coast and Midwest. To date, RASA has not spent any funds received from the occupancy tax nor will it until an agreement for new or additional air service is in place. RASA is limited in its mission to the support of air service only. RASA has no employees and any expenses that are incurred are paid with funding provided by supporting organizations, like the various Chambers of Commerce.

I pray the above information answers your questions. Should you need any further information or have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

ARK-LA-TEX REGIONAL AIR SERVICE ALLIANCE

Timothy W. Wilhite, Director and Past President

CC: Board of Directors