

SAM BARRESI
Group 4 – AIRPORT AUTHORITY

1. WHAT ARE YOUR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS ELECTED POSITION?

I understand Business Aviation, General Aviation, Property Management of Leased Facilities, Airport Operations, Air Traffic Control, Airport Development and Planning for Future Expansion, including the opportunity for commercial air service and a transportation hub.

I have been a commercial pilot and airplane owner for over 60 years, and have used our airport General Aviation operations for 10 years. I have knowledge and experience in international business and with regional airlines. I was on the Airport Planning Committee for the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission at the Philadelphia International Airport overseeing airline and business aircraft facilities and air traffic routing. As a simulator pilot, did FAA training of Air Traffic Control personnel. Flew life-saving sea patrols and rescues, and am a volunteer pilot for the Civil Air Patrol. For operations enhancement, I was a contractor for runway extension at LaGuardia Airport. As a design/build contractor and President and founder of Burlington Steel Corporation, I oversaw the building of more than a million square feet of steel buildings, including 250,000 sf of hangars and airport structures. Currently I am founder and CEO of Rampart General LLC, a hurricane storm surge protection business. I have strong executive experience as the Chief Operating Officer of a public company and Trustee of a college. As a former Corporate pilot, I understand business aircraft, as well as General Aviation needs.

2. IF ELECTED, WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR THIS OFFICE AND WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO ACHIEVE IN THIS POSITION?

As the current representative to the Airport Authority Board for the St. Augustine Airport Pilots Association, I present observations and suggestions on behalf of more than 200 members of SAAPA at the Northeast Florida Regional Airport. However, I/we cannot actually vote on decisions made for the airport operations. Current board members have little aviation experience. For example, at the September 2020 meeting of the Authority, changes to the East Terminal access road, new T-Hangar Rows B&C, Taxiway B and Apron construction, in addition to the preliminary budget for 2020/21 will be discussed and possibly voted on.

3. WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR THE COUNTY?

The Northeast Florida Regional Airport is already a premier facility for general and business aviation, but there is potential for positive future growth and sustainability which will enhance the commerce of our county. Potential additional commercial use and transportation needs make it an interesting challenge for me to contribute my background and experience to make the airport be the best it can be.

4. WHAT IS YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND?

Bachelor of Science in Engineering.