



TENTATIVE AGENDA

Mississippi Airports Association Annual Conference
Wednesday, September 13 – Friday, September 15, 2023
The Riley Center
Meridian, MS

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 13

9:00 – 5:00 pm: Exhibitors set up, Riley Center
10:00 am: Tour of Meridian Regional Airport
11:00 am: Golf and Lunch, Northwood Country Club
1:30 pm: Sporting Clays, Binachi Shooting Sports
6:00 pm: Opening Reception – The Riley Center Exhibitors Hall

THURSDAY, SEPT 14

6:30 – 7:45 am: Breakfast
8:00 – 8:08 am: “Welcome & Introductions,” Tom Heanue, President, Mississippi Airports Association
8:08 – 8:10 am: Sponsor Presentation: GovDeals
8:10 – 8:55 am: “Mississippi’s Current Economic Development Landscape,” Gray Swoope, President and CEO, VisionFirst Advisors
8:55 – 9:30 am: “MDOT and Your Airport,” Brad White, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Transportation
9:30 – 9:40 am: Sponsor Presentation: Jackson Municipal Airport Authority
9:30 am: Spouses depart for their outing – Merrehope Home tour, “Simple Floral Arrangements You Can Make at Home” presentation, Lunch
9:40 – 10:05 am: Break – Exhibitors’ Room
10:05 – 10:35 am: “How to Easily & Compliantly Dispose of Unwanted Airport Assets at Absolutely Zero Cost or Risk,” Carey Welsch, Manager, South Central Region, GovDeals
10:35 – 10:37 am: Sponsor Presentation: JBHM Architecture
10:37 – 11:07 am: Robert Stewart, Retired NASA Astronaut and U.S. Army Brigadier General
11:07 am & 11:15 am: Shuttles depart for Soule’. Soule’ is within easy walking distance if preferred, or car parking is available.
11:15 am – 1:00 pm: Lunch and Tour, Soule’ Industrial Museum
1:00 pm & 1:10 pm: Shuttles depart for Riley Center
1:30 – 2:00 pm: “Military Aviation in Mississippi,” MG Barry Blanchard, Assistant Adjutant General of the Mississippi Air National Guard

THURSDAY, SEPT 14 (CONT.)

- 2:00 – 2:45 pm:** “Helpful Info Regarding DBEs” – Taffy Pippin, President, Taffy Pippin Consulting; Mary Geter, DBE Specialist; Carolyn Bell, Civil Rights Director, Mississippi Department of Transportation
- 2:45 – 2:55 pm:** Sponsor Presentation: Neel-Schaffer
- 2:55 – 3:15 pm:** Break
- 3:15 – 4:15 pm:** “FAA 1 on 1 Meetings” Sign up for a meeting at the registration desk.
- 3:15 – 4:30 pm:** Board Meeting
- 5:30 – 7:30 pm:** Party at the Mississippi Arts & Entertainment Experience (MAX)
- 8:00 – 9:30 pm:** Chapel Hart Concert, Riley Center Theater

FRIDAY, SEPT 15

- 6:30 – 7:45 am:** Breakfast
- 8:00 – 8:28 am:** General Membership Meeting
- 8:28 – 8:30 am:** Sponsor Presentation: Michael Baker International
- 8:30 – 9:00 am:** “Recognizing Insider Threats,” Special Agents Tara Ford and Nick Amiano, Federal Bureau of Investigation
- 9:00 – 9:30 am:** “Overview of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA),” Eric Tomasovic, Environmental Protection Specialist, FAA Jackson ADO
- 9:30 – 10:00 am:** Break
- 10:00 – 10:30 am:** “The Federal Outlook for Aviation,” Brad Brandt, Aviation Director, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
- 10:30 – 10:45 am:** “MDOT Aeronautics Report,” Josh Stubbs, Director of Aeronautics and Rails, Mississippi Department of Transportation
- 10:45 – 11:00 am:** “FAA Report,” Rans Black, ADO, Federal Aviation Administration
- 11:00 – 11:15 am:** “Legislative Report,” Jeff Wagner, Shareholder, Baker Donelson
- 11:15 – 11:30 am:** “TSA Report,” Kim Jackson, Federal Security Director in Mississippi, Transportation Security Administration
- 11:30 am:** Closing Remarks, Wes Kirkpatrick, President, Mississippi Airports Association