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## **Bob Watkins named Airport Authority Board Chairman**

SAN DIEGO – July 30, 2009 – Airport Authority Board member Bob Watkins has been named chairman of the Airport Authority Board by San Diego mayor Jerry Sanders. Watkins, who joined the Board in December 2006, takes over for former chairman Alan Bersin, who left the Board in April when he was appointed by the Obama administration as the “Border Czar.”

Watkins is the founder, President and Chairman of R.J. Watkins & Company, Ltd. with offices in San Francisco, San Diego and London, since 1980. He has been President/CEO of a \$280-million operating company and managing director for the San Diego office of the international consulting firm of Russell Reynolds Associates. He also served as management consultant for the national accounting firm Deloitte & Touche.

Watkins serves on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation and is an active member of the boards for Regenesys Biomedical, Urogen Pharmaceuticals and Meals on Wheels. Watkins served three terms as the President of the San Diego County Board of Education and is also a founding member and three-year term President of United States Rugby. He is a founding member and trustee of the San Diego National Sports Foundation/ US Olympic Training Center. Watkins is a graduate of San Diego State University.

San Diego County sheriff Bill Kolender appointed Watkins to the Airport Authority Board for a term ending January 31, 2010.

*The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority was established by state law in 2003 to operate San Diego International Airport and to address the region’s long-term air transportation needs. San Diego International Airport — funded through user fees — served 18.1 million passengers in 2008 and generates some \$10 billion in annual economic impact for the region.*

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