

AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD

January 10, 2007

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Gill, Chairman, David Lynn, Joe Crowder, Woody Gilliland, Cindy Haley, Vic Corley, Stan Egger, Vince Swinney, Kirk Thaxton, Lori Dodd, and Steve Fehr

MEMBERS ABSENT:

AIRPORT STAFF: Don Green, Chris Proctor-Cleveland, Tina Cargile

OTHER CITY EMPLOYEES: Dan Santee, Interim City Attorney; Richard Burdine, Assistant City Manager

VISITORS: Bill Ehrie, Abilene Industrial Foundation; Jerry Reed, Abilene Reporter News

REGULAR SESSION

1. Call to Order

Mr. Gill called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m. Mr. Gill welcomed new board member Kirk Thaxton who replaces Bob Patterson.

2. Consideration and action approving minutes of December 13, 2007 Airport Development Board meeting.

Mr. Gill asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of December 13, 2006. Mr. Gill recommended amending the December 13, 2006 minutes to reflect that this was the final meeting for Bob Patterson and Dan Weber and that the board gave their congratulations and best wishes to both. Mr. Gilliland moved to approve the minutes with the correction. Mr. Crowder seconded. Motion passed.

3. Economic Development Report

Mr. Burdine reported that the DCOA is working closely with Eagle Aviation Services, Inc. on the addition of a fifth dock line to Abilene. There would be 40-45 jobs associated with that. Eagle, in conjunction with the DCOA, has committed to hiring a full-time recruiter. If the program is fully staffed by March, there will be over 400 Eagle employees at the Abilene location. Mr. Burdine also reported that the DCOA will meet with URS regarding a study of options available for additional hangar space for Eagle.

4. Airport Management Report:

a. Review and acknowledgement of January 10, 2007 Statistical Report

Mr. Green reported that passenger enplanements for 2006 were up 16% over 2005. Allegiant announced a service suspension effective February 5, 2007. As a point of reference, if Allegiant had not offered service in 2006, the airport still would have shown a 9% growth. At this time the Airport's enplanement numbers are well above the national average for an airport this size.

b. Air Service Development Update

Ms. Proctor-Cleveland reported that the City Council approved the contract with Sabre, ABI's airline service development consultant. During the first two quarters of 2007 Staff hopes to present proposals to at least two additional airlines to provide service. Staff also plans to do the biennial Air Service Study Update.

Staff is continuing to try to find new tenants for the restaurant and/or gift shop.

c. Update on Current Projects

Terminal Phase IV is on schedule with a projected re-opening of the upper level in March 2007. The lower level will close at that time. Final completion date of September 2007 is scheduled. Air Carrier and GA Ramps Reconstruction and Taxiway D Extension are on schedule. The Security Fence and Detention Pond were completed in December 2006. It was noted that Ms. Dodd coordinated the donation of the salvaged airport fencing material to some farmers/ranchers in Eastland County who lost their fencing during the wildfires last year. Bids should be taken this summer for Runway Lighting Rehabilitation and T-Hangar Taxilane Reconstruction.

4. Report of the Economic Development and Public Relations Subcommittee

Mr. Crowder reported that the subcommittee met on January 3, 2007 and was also attended by Ms. Haley, Ms. Proctor-Cleveland, Mr. Green, Ms. Nanci Liles, and Mr. Burdine. That subcommittee reviewed updates on Allegiant Air and also the restaurant/gift shop situation. In March 2007 when the lower level driveway is closed for construction it may necessitate the use of a shuttle bus for passengers parked in the airport parking lot. Staff will confer with City Link and other possible providers about providing solutions or service.

5. Consideration and action on a recommendation to approve the by-laws for the West Central Texas Air Service Advisory Council

Ms. Proctor-Cleveland reported that Ms. Dodd (TMCN's delegate to the ADB) would be the Chairman of the Advisory Council and the Vice-Chairman of the ADB would also serve as the Vice-Chairman of the Advisory Council. The Advisory Council will meet quarterly. Delegates will be appointed by county judges. If the by-laws were approved by the ADB, they would be presented to the City Council for approval.

Ms. Dodd made a motion to approve the by-laws. Mr. Gilliland seconded. Motion passed.

6. Consideration and action on a recommendation for the size and extent of covered parking in the design of the terminal parking lot

Mr. Green presented the architect's drawing of the proposed parking lot. The board should decide on using concrete vs. asphalt to pave the lot. The life of concrete is approximately 3 times the life of asphalt, but the cost of concrete is only 40% higher. The board also should consider how much of the parking area needs to be covered. These issues need to be resolved before the engineer can proceed with cost estimates and bids. The rental car area of the parking lot will be paved with concrete and the cost of paving and covering that area will be covered by the Customer Facility Charge.

Mr. Swinney made a motion to design the entire parking lot with concrete and roads and to also get a primary bid to cover the rental car and premium parking lot. The motion also included getting supplemental bids to cover ½ of the regular parking lot and an additional supplemental bid to cover all of the regular parking lot. Mr. Crowder seconded. Motion passed.

- 7. Announcement of the next Facility and Planning Subcommittee, February 7, 2007 at 3:30 P.M. to be held at the Abilene Regional Airport Training and Conference Room**
- 8. Announcement of the next Airport Development Board meeting, February 14, 2007 at 3:30 pm, to be held in the Abilene Regional Airport Training and Conference Room**
- 9. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn at 4:44 P.M. was made by Mr. Thaxton. Mr. Crowder seconded. Motion passed.