

AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD

July 13, 2011

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lawrence Gill, Chairman, Woody Gilliland, Vice Chairman, David Lynn, Cindy Haley, Kirk Thaxton, Joe Crowder, Stan Egger, Myrna Grigsby

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Leonard, Jimi Coplen, Michael Redden

AIRPORT STAFF: Don Green, Chris Taylor, Melissa Murphy, Alex Cargile

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

VISITORS:

REGULAR SESSION

1. Call to order.

Mr. Gill called the Airport Development Board meeting to order at 3:34 pm.

2. Introduce visitors

There were no visitors in attendance.

3. Consideration and Action approving minutes of the May 2011 meeting

Mr. Gill asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the May 2011 meeting. Hearing none, the May 2011 meeting minutes stood approved as distributed.

4. Planning and Facilities Sub Committee Report

Mr. Gilliland presented the Planning and Facilities Sub Committee Report. A 2011 committee will meet to review the specific details for the unveiling event. The revealing event will take place on September 13th. The static display installation is being funded by Joe Crawford. The Airport is partnering with the Abilene Philharmonic Orchestra to kick off their season. The airport staff was commended for their work with Airfest.

5. Finance and Operations Sub Committee Report

Mr. Lynn presented the Finance and Operations Sub Committee Report. The board has added three new committee members; Joey Cope, Lisa Love-Williams, and Mary Lee Brooks. The sub-committee covered the first three quarters of this fiscal year. The bottom line is that the airport is doing approximately \$35,000 better than expected. This is despite non-increases in airport budget in the last two years. Utilities are expected to be under budget at the end of the year. The expenses budget is under budget, while revenue is slightly under as well. Airport leases are up to date, except for American Eagle.

6. Economic Development Report

Mr. Burdine presented the Economic Development Report. Mr. Burdine discussed the Hangar 4 and water system improvement project plans. This is a \$3.15 million project. Included is an \$117,000 fire access road. This project will provide high pressure fire suppression system for the Eagle Aviation hangars as well as the new Hangar 4. The City is participating in up to \$1.3 million. City council has agreed and the DCOA is moving forward with this project. There have been a few delays, which may delay completion by a few weeks. Eagle Aviation is working with DCOA make arrangements for these delays. The Abilene EASI maintenance base is in competition with a location in the Midwest. The Texas Forest Service will be indirectly benefitted by the water system additions. The new system will allow for increased water pressure, which will benefit their firefighting efforts.

7. **Airport Management Report:**

a. **Review and Acknowledgement of Statistical Reports**

Mr. Green presented the Statistical Report. Revenue enplanements are up 19% in June compared to 2010. There was an 82% load factor for June. A large portion of this increase is from the increased Texas Forest Service activity in the area. The increase can also be attributed to a more favorable economic environment. There was a 9% drop in Non-Revenue enplanements due to lack of seats. For the year, enplanements are up 9%. Car rental revenues are up dramatically due to companies coming to town for hail repairs.

b. **Discuss Change Order 1 to Airfield Lighting Control Project**

There was a change order for Epic Construction on the Airfield Lighting Control Project. The original plans missed a circuit for Taxiway C that leads to the lighting control vault. This had to be added back into the project. That change order was for \$69,000. The board tabled this item in June. During that time the airport was able to negotiate the amount to \$22,000.

c. **Regulatory and Legislative Issues Update**

Currently the FAA is in an extension, but has not been reauthorized.

d. **Budget Update**

Sales tax for the city is up 13.45% over last year.

e. **TRACON Consolidation**

The FAA is still going ahead with their plan to move the TRACON to Dallas. This project has been delayed for a year. During that time a mobile TRACON will be brought in. This delay is caused by their focus on installing the new STARs system. The City received a response through Congressman Neugebauer's office from FAA Administrator Randy Babbitt on their business case review. The independent review showed \$18 Million in savings by leaving the TRACON in Abilene. Mayor Norm Archibald sent a letter to Congressman Neugebauer, requesting his inquiry into the independent review of the TRACON project. This request seeks to specifically address the discrepancies between the independent review and the business case presented by the FAA.

f. **Meeting schedule**

The board discussed the Airport Development Board meeting schedule. No changes were made.

g. **Update on Current Projects:**

Airfield Lighting Control System/Beacon Replacement – Complete and powering the runway lighting system.

New Control Tower – Tower is expected to be completed in March/April 2012.

Wildlife Hazard Assessment – Will be completed in October. Next phase will be looking for small mammals.

Snow Removal Equipment Building – Received a bid for this project that was over budget. New plans will be completed in the next 2-3 weeks.

Projects in design -

h. **Air Service and Business Development Update**

Mrs. Murphy presented the pricing report. Abilene remains competitive on American pricing compared to other cities in our region. Airport staff keeps in contact with American to reduce prices.

Executive Session:

Pursuant to Govt. Code Section 551.072, a governmental body may conduct a closed meeting to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person. Additionally, Section 551.087 allows a governmental body to discuss or deliberate on commercial or financial information that has been received from a business prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the City and with which there may be ongoing negotiations or deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect. Further, Section 551.071 provides that a governmental body may seek advice from its attorney regarding a pending or contemplated litigation subject, settlement offer, or attorney-client privileged information. After discussion in executive session, any action or vote will be taken in public.

The Airport Development Board entered Executive Session at 4:33 pm and ended at 4:51pm with no decisions being made.

8. Consideration and Action to recommend award for Taxiway C Reconstruction

This item was pulled from the agenda.

9. Consideration and Action to recommend award for Taxilane EASI Reconstruction

This item will not go to council until the airport has FAA funding. Funds are expected to be available by September 1st. This is done in advance in order to be able to start the projects upon receipt of AIP Grant.

There were two bids for this project. Epic Construction bid \$1,239,329 and Jay Reese Contractors bid \$1,850,950. The engineer reviewed the bids and recommends awarding to Epic Construction.

Motion to accept made by Mr. Thaxton and Seconded by Ms. Haley. Motion passed

10. Consideration and Action to recommend approval of URS Task Order 28

Task order 28 is to perform project management and testing for the Taxiway C Reconstruction and Taxilane EASI Reconstruction projects. This project is contingent on AIP Grant Funding. This task order is for \$302,870.96 and has been reviewed by the city engineer.

Motion to accept made by Mr. Gilliland and Seconded by Mr. Thaxton. Motion passed

11. Adjourn.

Motion to adjourn at 4:58 pm made by Mr. Crowder. Seconded by Ms. Haley. Motion passed.

Signature of Chairman to confirm minutes: _____ Date: _____