

# **AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

April 10, 2013

## **MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Lawrence Gill, Chairman, Woody Gilliland, Vice Chairman, Michael Redden, Myrna Grigsby, Kirk Thaxton, Gray Bridwell, Cindy Haley, David Lynn

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Stan Egger, Jacque McCoy, Joe Crowder

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

**CITY EMPLOYEES:** Richard Burdine, Assistant City Manager, Daniel Santee, City Attorney

**VISITORS:** E'Lisa Smetana, Metropolitan Planning Organization

### **1. Call to order**

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

### **2. Introduce visitors**

E'Lisa Smetana was introduced as the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Planning Office.

### **3. Swear in Re-appointed Members**

### **4. Consideration and Action approving minutes of the February 2013 meetings**

Mr. Gill asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the February 2013 meeting. Hearing none, the February 2013 meeting minutes stood approved as distributed.

### **5. Facilities and Planning Sub Committee Report**

Mr. Gilliland presented the Facilities and Planning Sub Committee Report. The FAA is focusing on Runways and Taxiways primarily for grant funding.

The Airport is currently going through an Engineering RFQ process for a new 5 year contract.

The Air Traffic Control Tower hours are expected to be reduced.

The airport body imaging machine was replaced with a metal detector. The imaging device is expected to go to higher risk airports. It is unknown when it will return.

## **6. Finance and Operations Sub Committee Report**

Mr. Lynn presented the Finance and Operations Sub Committee Report. The FY13 financials are in good shape overall. The FY14 budget process will start once guidance is given by the City.

The TXDOT Loop 322 project will move back the airport highway exit. It will turn the two-way roads along the highway to one-way roads. The project will reverse the underpass “U-turn” lane. Lastly, it will add an overpass that will link both access roads to each other. By extending the access road farther down, it opens up access to airport property for economic development.

The American Eagle lease expired in 2000. There was a new lease ready, at the time the bankruptcy occurred. It was decided to wait until the bankruptcy was completed. Along with the new lease, a new landing fee will be discussed.

Moose’s Snack Shack is doing very well. The service and food are terrific. The beer and wine permit is in its final stage.

## **7. Economic Development Report**

Mr. Burdine presented the Economic Development Report. The design for the “Doghouse” for Hangar 1 and Hangar 0 is complete. EASI has asked the City to hold off on construction of the doghouse’s at this time. EASI is requesting a work order system to keep track of customer orders.

## **8. Airport Management Report:**

a. AMR Bankruptcy/Merger - The bankruptcy judge approved the merger, but it must go through Department of Transportation and Department of Justice reviews. US Airways is rumored to be switching to “One World” from “Star Alliance” due to the merger.

b. Review and Acknowledgement of Statistical Reports

Revenue Enplanements were up in March 2%. Charters were a significant improvement over 2012. Rental Car Revenues seem to be effected by government travel. Parking lot revenue is up approximately 3.5%.

The DOT regional air service report shows Abilene down 4% for the quarter ending Sept 30, 2012. Abilene’s fare average yield is one of the highest in the region. According to American Eagle, Abilene is their number one most profitable market in the region and #3 as far as profitability in the American Eagle system.

The new flight has been moved back to 4 days a week. ExpressJet will no longer be flying into Abilene. This will be handled by American Eagle.

c. Regulatory and Legislative Issues Update

There are two bills in the Texas House of Representatives. House Bill 80 would stop TSA from performing hand searches and pat downs. House Bill 1719 would require all Texas airports to apply for the Security Partnership Program, which would opt out of TSA and have TSA contract with a screening provider. This would require even General Aviation airports to apply for this program.

d. TRACON Consolidation

No changes since the last meeting.

e. Sequestration

The Air Traffic Control Tower has suggested operational hours of 10:00pm to 6:00am. Dyess is requesting closure from 1:00am to 6:00am. The airport's response is that from an air carrier standpoint, the 10:00pm closure would not cause serious problems, but asked the FAA to rethink the closure based on Dyess' response.

f. AirFest

AirFest was cancelled due to Dyess being unable to participate due to Sequestration.

g. Update on Current Projects –

Taxiway C Reconstruction – Substantially complete. The North Section will be closed off for 30 days to let the asphalt cure before striping.

Parking Lot Repair – A few cracking issues have been identified. The engineer has been notified. The parking lot is no longer under warranty.

Projects in Design – M, N, and P Design is in progress. Runway 17L/35R is ready to go into initial design.

h. Air Service and Business Development Update

The airport has a new commercial and a new video. Unfortunately, they sent it in the wrong format, but it will be viewable next meeting.

**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 Executive Session was entered into at 3:37pm and exited at 3:56pm with no decisions being made.

- 9.** Consideration and Action to recommend approval of Airport Use Agreement for Experimental Aircraft Association Fly-In.

This action will approve a May 4<sup>th</sup> Fly-In for an event in lieu of AirFest.

An airport use agreement is important as it will insure areas outside the lease agreement. As an organized event, if something were to happen in that area, the airport would have a responsible party to go to.

Motion to accept recommendation made by Ms. Haley, seconded by Mr. Redden. Mr. Bridwell abstained due to his relation with EAA. Motion approved.

- 10. Adjourn.**

Motion to adjourn at 4:32 pm made by Mr. Haley. Seconded by Mr. Redden. Motion passed.

Signature of Chairman to confirm minutes: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_