

AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD

February 12, 2014

MINUTES

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Redden, David Lynn, Stan Egger, Gray Bridwell

AIRPORT STAFF: Don Green, Chris Taylor, Alex Cargile, Kate Alvarez

CITY EMPLOYEES: Danette Dunlap, City Secretary

VISITORS:

1. Call to order

Mr. Gill called the Airport Development Board meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2. Introduce visitors

There were no visitors in attendance.

3. Consideration and Action approving minutes of the December 11, 2013 meetings

Mr. Gill asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the December 11, 2013 meeting. Hearing none, the December 11, 2013 meeting minutes stood approved as distributed.

4. Economic Development Report

DCOA and the Airport are working on a new plan for American Airlines aircraft parking. There is a potential for 22 aircraft to be parked at the airport. This would allow for job security at Eagle Aviation Services. It takes the EASI mechanics to maintain these aircraft. The new area would be along Taxiway D. Upon further discussions, it is possible that up to 60 aircraft could be stored. The types of aircraft will be mainly E-140 and E-145s. These aircraft are maintained in hope of later sale. Dimensions and property lease values will be brought to the board. In addition to new aircraft, this may allow for the existing aircraft to be moved away from the freeway.

5. Finance and Operations Sub-Committee Report

This report was moved to the March meeting.

6. Marketing and Development Sub-Committee Report

The committee reviewed the commercials that are currently out. Currently in talks with Texas Highways Magazine to show the art exhibits at the airport.

7. **Airport Management Report:**

a. **AMR Bankruptcy/Merger**

American Eagle is now Envoy Airlines. This new entity is still under American Airlines. American Eagle's name is now owned by American Airlines. There will be no major changes to branding at this time. Envoy will be allowed to enter contracts with other carriers with other destinations. A new contract proposal was presented to pilots. Pilots were given the option to fly the new aircraft or they would be distributed elsewhere. There is currently a pilot shortage, which may affect American Airlines. There are a lot of retirements and a new requirement for 1,500 hours fly time for new-hires. There is also an increased requirement for crew rest.

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

American Eagle enplanements are up 31% over last year. Total enplanements are up 28%. Parking lot revenue was up 25% in January.

c. **Regulatory and Legislative Issues Update**

Congress has passed their budget and the FY14 budget is in place. Grant funding is expected by April.

d. **TRACON Consolidation**

The 804 process may be starting up again. This will allow the Airport to participate in the reconsideration. However, the airport may be put together with other airports in the region.

e. **Update on Current Projects –**

Taxiways M, N and P Reconstruction- 3% Complete

Parking Lot Repair- Will bring in a rolling deflectometer.

Tower Demo- The FAA has not begun major demolition of the tower.

Runway 17L/35R- Finishing design. The engineer saw an 8-9 month project shortened to a 3 month project. The engineer met with the higher ups at Duinick. As this is a straight shot, Duinick is confident that they can complete within 180 days. With Grant funding, the project may begin in June assuming funding arrives in April.

PFC- Applying for authorization of the airports third PFC. This adds a \$4.50 fee to each ticket, with the airport receiving a portion depending on the number of legs of the trip. Collection of PFC application #2 will be completed soon. These revenues go toward the City Grant Match.

Entrance Landscaping- The bid will take place within 6 weeks. Funding will come from the parking lot funds. The approximate value will be \$100,000 if the airport includes irrigation.

Projects in design – 17R/35L – Surveying and core boring.

f. Air Service and Business Development Update

KTXS announced Delta to Atlanta service starting in Abilene, due to a listing mistake. Delta denied this and didn't know where the rumor came from.

1. Boyd Group Reports

Boyd has developed an air service reality matrix. They found that Abilene had a 66% load factor. The focus continues on looking at attracting United Airlines service to Denver. They encouraged getting businesses on board. They noticed the fare drop. Boyd sees service quality is in line with other carriers and the fares are within average standards. They also found that the number of delays were in line with other airports our size.

2. Master Plan Update

The airport is looking develop an Airport task force. This will look at a 15 year plan to utilize the airport effectively.

A report has stated that 85% of regional airports will be gone within the next 5-7 years, so planning is important. It would be advantageous to look for alternative opportunities for the airport.

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 Meeting did not go into executive session.

8. Adjourn.

Motion to adjourn at 4:56 pm made by Mr. Crowder. Seconded by Ms. Haley. Motion passed.

Signature of Chairman to confirm minutes: _____ Date: _____