

AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD

January 19, 2022

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lawrence Gill, Chairman, Woody Gilliland, Vice Chairman, Kirk Thaxton, Jordan Hibbs, Lori Dodd, Darrin Black, Randy Williams, Gray Bridwell

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Crowder, Nanci Liles

AIRPORT STAFF: Don Green, Zach Cothorn, Kate Alvarez, Alex Cargile

CITY EMPLOYEES: Stanley Smith, City Attorney

VISITORS:

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm.

2. Consideration and Action approving minutes of the December 8, 2021 meeting

Mr. Gill asked if there were any corrections to the minutes for the December 8, 2021 meeting.

Motion to accept minutes made by Mr. Hibbs, seconded by Ms. Dodd. Motion passed.

3. Agenda Items:

1. Airport Management Report:

a. Review and acknowledgement of Statistical Reports

American showed an 80% load factor. Enplanements are down to approximately 80% from 2019. This is in line with other airports numbers. The pricing report shows that flight prices are still a little higher from Abilene on average, but some prices are lower coming out of Abilene.

b. Regulatory and Legislative Issues Update

The new Infrastructure Act has \$5 billion set aside for airport terminals. This comes to \$1 billion per year. The airport will be seeking those funds.

c. Update on current projects:

New Fire Station – The estimated completion date is toward the end of March 2022. There have been some material availability problems, but most of that was preempted by advanced ordering and storing.

Terminal Improvements – Discussed proposed plans for remodeling the airport. This would like to focus on restroom remodels. There is an infrastructure bill that may provide the terminal funding. Another focus would be painting and removing the gift shop. The gift shop was too large and obstructs views, complicating navigation. The furniture and carpet projects for the terminal has helped brighten up the terminal and provides it more color. The goal is to provide a VIP experience for the passengers.

COVID Relief Grants

Aircraft Charging Station

Federal Vaccine Mandate – The Supreme Court pushed the OSHA mandate back to the 6th Circuit Court for a ruling. The Mask Mandate is still in effect until March 18th. It may or may not be renewed once it has expired.

Funding Opportunities for Land Development

Greeting Desk Proposal – Previously agreed on principle to move forward with this.

d. Air Services and Business Development Update

The airport is working with ArkStar for air service development and monitoring. Corporate travel will take longer to return or may never return to previous numbers.

4. Discussion and Action on Maintenance Agreement for Outdoor Escalators

The Airport has been in a contract with Schindler for the exterior escalators for 3 years. Reliability of the escalators have greatly improved during this time. The 2022 agreement was already implemented without being required to go to City Council and used the CARES Grant. This agreement would add an additional two years to the one year agreement. The cost for 2023 is \$33,161.88 and the cost for 2024 is \$34,156.74. There are no alternative companies capable of repairing or maintaining this equipment due to proprietary repair codes.

Motion to accept made by Ms, Dodd and seconded by Mr. Williams. Motion Approved.

5. Discussion and Action on an Abilene Aero Ground Lease Amendment

Abilene Aero was approached by a company called Beta Technologies that is testing electric aircraft for general aviation use. Their aim is to establish points every two hours across the United States. They have asked for the installation of a charging station with Abilene Aero. This Amendment would increase the Abilene Aero land lease area by 5,700sf at a rate of \$1,199.85 per year. This is subject to change based on CPI-U adjustments. This would also include a small area added in 2018 that went to the Airport Development Board, but this will include it in the lease as part of a consolidation of all lease amendments. Beta Technologies will install the charging station and provide power to it. This would also extend the security fence. The charging station would sit in the corner and provide two electric vehicle car chargers for Abilene Aero customers. Beta Technologies would charge for others to use this charging station.

Motion to accept made by Mr, Black and seconded by Mr. Thaxton. Motion Approved.

6. Discussion and Action on Parking Lot Operations

The board discussed the possibility of going to credit card only in the parking lot after all passengers have left from the last flight. The idea proposed is a one month trial run to observe the results. The board brought up points relating to processing disabled veteran free parking and lost ticket transactions. Ideas were discussed to have a lost ticket fee and to potentially provide refunds to disabled veterans. There is also a lack of interested parking attendants applying for the position. In the event of being unable to staff the booth, the automated lane could help alleviate that issue. The board was concerned about upsetting passengers who may have a difficult time with this automated system.

The Board wanted to consider this item further at the next meeting. No action was taken.

7. Consideration and Action Approving an extension to the Airport Use Agreement with Shift Sector.

Shift Sector was able to host the "Abilene Airstrip Attack" racing event one of two times during contract duration. Due to COVID-19 they were unable to host the event in 2020. The 2021 event was very successful and they would like to return. This two year contract is ending and the proposal is to extend the contract one additional year so that the second event can be held with the existing terms. The fee would stay the same at a flat \$8,000, but the airport will renegotiate a new contract for 2023.

Motion to accept made by Mr. Gilliland and seconded by Ms. Dodd. Motion Approved.

Executive Session:

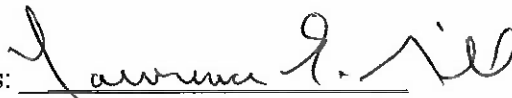
Pursuant to Govt. Code Section 551.072, a governmental body may conduct a closed meeting to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person. 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. Additionally, Section 551.076 provides that a governmental body may conduct a closed meeting to deliberate the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices; or a security audit. After discussion in executive session, any action or vote will be taken in public.

The Airport Development Board did not enter into executive session.

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Bridwell. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:48pm.

Signature of Chairman to confirm minutes:



Date: 10/09/22