

# Walker Field Airport Authority

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## Minutes of the Special Board Meeting

**October 4, 2005**

**BOARD COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Craig Springer                      Doug Simons  
Robert McCormick                      Robert Little  
Gregg Palmer                      John Stevens  
Tom LaCroix

**AIRPORT STAFF PRESENT:** Ed Storer                      Charlie Novinskie  
Gary Mancuso                      Ben Peck

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mary Vader of The Daily Sentinel, Larry Kempton of Kempton Air, Paul Wisecup of WS Flyers, LLLP, Harry Tucker, Attorney at Law, and Bill Vrettos.

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:19 p.m.

### **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Palmer requested that an **Item V** be added to the Agenda, in order to discuss an upcoming Airport Conference sponsored by the Community Air Service Coalition in Orlando, Florida in December.

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Stevens seconded. Voice vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

### **III. LEASE PARCEL NO. 5 LOCATED AT 2845 AVIATORS WAY**

Lease Parcel 5 in the C1A general aviation area was leased previously to Larry Kempton. Since his lease with the Authority was terminated on August 5, 2005, the parcel is now available for lease. The parcel is 263 feet wide and 114.5 feet deep. Approximately 200 feet of the parcel fronts the taxiway. The remaining 63 feet extends to the perimeter fence and has limited taxiway access.

Staff proposes to lease the parcel pursuant to the Authority's Leasing Policy, which requires the highest and best use for the parcel. Additionally, Staff will execute a Standard Ground Lease Agreement with the successful lease applicant signed by the Airport Manager.

Interim Airport Manager Ed Storer explained that this item was listed as a courtesy to the Board and that the purpose was to inform the Board that Staff would be moving forward with leasing this parcel.

#### **IV. AIRPORT MANAGERS SELECTION PROCESS**

Chairman Springer reported that the Airport Manager Search Committee, made up of the Airport Authority Board of Commissioners sorted through 38 applicants and had narrowed the search down to 11 applicants.

Chairman Springer also noted that of those 11 applicants 4 were contacted via phone and/or in person interviews and that the Board was ready to release the names as finalists for airport manager. Upon questioning Board Members it was determined to name 3 applicants as finalists for the position

The Airport Authority went on to name the three finalists: Eddie Storer, interim airport manager at Walker Field, Rex Tippets, assistant aviation director at Pitkin County Airport, and Glenn Januska, airport director at Sioux City, Iowa.

Chairman Springer stated that he had called all of the finalists to notify them that their names would be made public during the Special Board Meeting.

A motion to accept the three announced candidates as Airport Manager finalists was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Little. Chairman Springer requested that a voice roll be taken: all voice votes were in the affirmative. Motion passed.

Airport Attorney Lloyd Quesenberry stated that according to state statutes the Airport Authority must wait a minimum of 14 days from naming the finalists to the time they award the position.

Bill Vrettos suggested to the Board that along with interviewing finalists, the Board should have the opportunity to view the candidates in a social setting.

Commissioner McCormick suggested that the finalists also be given a tour of the airport and that the tours should be conducted by Ben Peck, Gary Mancuso, and Donna VanLandingham.

After lengthy discussions it was decided by the Board of Commissioners that the finalists would be brought in on October 26, 2005 with interviews being conducted the following day. Tours of the airport would be conducted on October 26, or during the morning of October 27.

The format for interviews would consist of each finalist being interviewed before the full Board for up to two hours beginning at 8 am. on October 27. Follow-up interviews, set at ½ hour each, will begin at 3:30 pm. and will allow the finalists to ask any questions of the Board Members.

The evening would wrap-up with a cocktail party at a to-be-announced location. Community leaders, airport staff, and tenants would be invited to the after hours event. Following the event finalists will be taken to supper by Board Members.

The Board further determined that the finalists and their spouses would be invited to Grand Junction at the expense of the airport.

The Airport Authority Board of Commissioners is planning to make a final decision on airport manager by the end of October.

**V. AIRPORT CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY THE COMMUNITY AIR SERVICE COALITION**

Commissioner Palmer presented to the Board, a flyer sent to him via the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce concerning an airline networking meeting for small communities sponsored by the Community Air Service Coalition. Commissioner Palmer noted that certain community leaders were thinking of attending the meeting collectively as a community. Two of the entities mentioned were the Grand Junction Chamber and the Grand Junction Visitor and Convention Bureau. Commissioner Palmer stated that the City may consider having a City Council Member attend the conference.

Commissioner Simons asked why the Airport Board wasn't informed of the meeting.

Interim Airport Manager Ed Storer informed the Board that we were just notified of the meeting earlier in the day. Storer also pointed out that the Staff already attends meetings with airlines, both our incumbent carriers as well as potential future carriers.

Commissioner Stevens asked if we had ever visited with Southwest Airlines.

Commissioner McCormick noted that we were too small a market for the type of aircraft and frequency that Southwest would need to fly from our airport.

The Board decided that the December conference would be worth looking in to and that it might be a good opportunity for either the new airport manager and/or Charlie Novinskie to attend.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner McCormick moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Palmer seconded. Voice vote: all ayes. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THE \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

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Chairman Craig Springer

ATTEST:

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Charles S. Novinskie, Deputy Clerk