



Grand Junction Regional Airport Authority Board

Meeting Minutes

September 27, 2011

Opening:

Mr. Tom LaCroix, Board Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Grand Junction Regional Airport Authority Board to order at 4:00 PM on September 27, 2011 in Grand Junction, Colorado and in the County of Mesa.

Present:

Commissioners:

Tom LaCroix, Chairman
Doug Simons, Vice Chairman
Denny Granum
John Stevens
Morgan Hamon
Dave Hibberd
Bill Pitts

Other:

Shannon Kinslow, TOIL
Bradley Sullivan, Colorado Flight Center
Guy Parker, Citizen
Betsy Kirschbaum, Aero-GJT
Collin and Marissa Fay, Colorado Flight Center
Bill Marvel, Clear Blue Sky
Bob Erbish, Aero Fuel
Eddie Clements, GJ Balloon Port
Debbie Gaul, Aero Fuel
*Multiple other attendees that did not sign-in.

Airport Staff:

Rex Tippetts, Director of Aviation
Ed Storer
Amy Jordan
Gary Schroen
Kathie Lucas

I. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Granum moved to approve the agenda. Vice Chair Simons seconded. Voice vote: All Ayes. The agenda was approved as distributed.

II. Adjourn into Executive Session

Discussion Items

A. Security Sensitive Information from the Transportation Security Administration

Commissioner Granum moved to adjourn into executive session. Vice Chair Simons seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Pitts said that he did not think the Board needed to adjourn into executive session to discuss security sensitive information. Commissioner Pitts said that all the people in the room have airport security badges

and that these people should be able to hear what is discussed. Chairman LaCroix said that no decisions will be made in the executive session and that the Board needs to go into executive session at the beginning of the meeting. Voice vote: Six Ayes, One NO. Commissioner Pitts voted NO. The Board adjourned into executive session at 4:07 P.M.

III. Adjourn into Regular Session

The Board adjourned into regular session at 4:39 P.M.

IV. Public Comments and Communications

David Shepard asked to address the Board with comments. Chairman LaCroix asked Mr. Shepard to proceed. Mr. Shepard said that he has been acquired by the tenant association at the Grand Junction Regional Airport as a consultant and would like to bring up concerns on the associations behalf. Mr. Shepard stated that there are two primary concerns. The first concern being security and the second begin leases. Mr. Shepard explained that the associations issue with security is that the airport's security plan is "over-the-top", that the requirement of fingerprinting is "over-the-top", and that the electrified fence is "over-the-top." Mr. Shepard said that the association believes that the grant application for the fence project was fraudulent and Mr. Shepard referred to and read aloud a segment from the Department of Justice regarding grand fraud. Mr. Shepard said that the association feels as though the grant money for the fence project was not handled appropriately.

The second issue Mr. Shepard spoke of was leases. Mr. Shepard said that there has been a prevailing practice in the community and that there is a question of fairness concerning the airports leasing policy.

Mr. Shepard submitted an open records request to Director of Aviation, Rex Tippetts and the Board.

Chairman LaCroix stated that the airport is being proactive in regards to security and the requirement to be fingerprinted.

Eddie Clements asked to address the Board about an incident that occurred in early September. Chairman LaCroix asked Mr. Clements to proceed. Mr. Clements said that a friend of his flew an aircraft into Grand Junction and parked the aircraft in the T-Hangar parking. Mr. Clements friend then proceeded to leave the airport to go into town. When Mr. Clements friend returned to the Airport after 9:00 pm, he could not get to his airplane. Mr. Clements friend asked West Star to escort him to his aircraft, and West Star said that since he was not their customer, they could not escort him, and that he would have to contact the owners of the T-Hangars, where he parked his plane. Unfortunately, the owners of the T-Hangars could not be reached. Mr. Clements friend called 911, who then called airport operations. Mr. Clements said that his friend had to climb the fence to get to his airplane.

Dana Brewer asked to address the Board. Chairman LaCroix asked Mr. Brewer to proceed. Mr. Brewer stated that he was selling his hangar and moving his business to Mack Mesa Airport.

Bob Erbisich stated, "This is not our airport."

Steve Bottom stated that he had a customer come to pick-up an airplane and could not get to his airplane. Mr. Bottom said that he was gone and his shop was closed and West Star would not escort his customer to his hangar. Mr. Bottom said that West Star only escorts their own customers.

Commissioner John Stevens said that the airport has not fabricated any rules or regulations.

Mr. Shepard said that the association wants a timeline of all efforts made and all documents created to take action against the new security requirements.

Director of Aviation, Mr. Tippetts, explained to the audience the FAA grant process. Mr. Tippetts explained that the FAA is actively involved in the design of all projects, as well as the approval of all reimbursements. Mr.

Tippetts explained that detailed invoices for work completed must be submitted to the FAA prior to reimbursement. Mr. Tippetts also stated that the airport has never misused any federal funding.

Chairman LaCroix asked that the Board move forward with the meeting.

V. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes: June 2011 Regular Board Meeting

B. Minutes: July 2011 Regular Board Meeting

C. Minutes: August 2011 Regular Board Meeting

D. Financials: July 2011

E. Financials: August 2011

Commissioner Pitts said that he did not have enough time to review minutes and would like to remove them from the consent agenda and consider them at the next meeting.

Commissioner Stevens moved to approve the consent agenda, with the removal of the minutes. Commissioner Hibberd seconded. Voice vote: All Ayes. The consent agenda was approved, with the removal of the minutes.

VI. Action Items

None.

VII. Discussion Items

A. Presentation of the 2012 Airport Budget

Director Tippetts and Deputy Director: Finance, Gary Schroen, presented the Board with the 2012 Budget. Tippetts highlighted that the Airport currently has over \$3.4 million in unrestricted cash, over \$1.6 million in restricted cash, and \$2.4 million in restricted bond cash. Tippetts said that approximately \$4.3 million in Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funds are programmed for the airport in FY2012. Director Tippetts said that overall the Airport is budgeting very flat in regards to revenues and expenditures. Tippetts said that operating revenue will go from approximately \$5.2 million to \$5.8 million in 2012 and that operating expenditures will go from \$4.8 million to \$4.6 million in 2012. Tippetts

said that the Airport would be approximately \$650,000 in the black for 2012. Tippetts said that the Board would be doing a workshop on the 2012 Budget in October.

B. Airport Open House

Chairman LaCroix said that he would like to discuss the idea of holding an annual Airport Open House. Chairman LaCroix asked for input from the Board. Commissioner Granum stated that he thought that would be a great idea and that the sooner we could host an Open House, the better. All the Commissioners agreed that an Open House would be a good thing to do.

C. Managers Update

Director Rex Tippetts reminded the Board that following this meeting is the Grand Junction Area Chamber Business After Hours Event that the Airport is co-hosting with West Star Aviation. Tippetts asked if the Board would please plan to attend that event. Tippetts told the Board that he recently visited United Airlines headquarters in Chicago and meet with executives to discuss Grand Junction. Tippetts said the meeting went well and that United is pleased with how the Denver and Houston service is performing. Tippetts told the Board that the Replacement Runway White Paper is on the website. Tippetts also told the Board about an emergency landing that occurred earlier in the month, when Virgin American had to land at the Airport at 2:00 A.M. because of engine problems. Tippetts noted that this emergency brought some deficiencies to the surface, regarding after hours emergency response. Tippetts said that he would be looking into how to correct those deficiencies.

D. Construction Update

Construction Manager Storer updated the Board on the fence project. Storer stated that the project is nearing completion. Storer said that approximately 4000 feet of skirting still needs to be installed and back-filled. Storer also commented that only approximately 1,200 linear feet of fence remain to be installed. Storer also said that they are working on installing mailboxes at the gates, as well as a signboard and call boxes.

VIII. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 5:45 P.M. The next meeting of the Airport Authority Board will be at 5:15 P.M. on October 18, 2011.

Tom LaCroix, Board Chairman

ATTEST:

Amy Jordan, Clerk to the Board