

GRAND JUNCTION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

AVIATION COMMITTEE

MEETING REPORT

MARCH 22, 1960

The long-range plan for the development of Walker Field, submitted by the committee to the City-County Airport Board in March 1958, was discussed. Plans are continuing for an up-dating of the report, with (1) Tom Clark heading the sub-committee - special emphasis is to be given on the management and operation of the field facilities (2) City-County Airport Board arrangement (3) Air route cases now pending that affect Grand Junction (4) Progress to date on the original report. The committee will meet with acting Airport Manager at 10:30 April 12th to discuss the overall plans of the management of the airport.

A discussion was held on the pending requests by Frontier Airlines, Bonanza Airlines, and Pacific Airlines to fly the Grand Junction-Las Vegas route - all applications also call for discontinuance of the service by United Airlines. Preston Walker, committee member, and director of Frontier Airlines, outlined the plans of Frontier for the committee. He indicated that much will depend on the outcome of the pre-hearing conference being held in Washington D. C., March 22nd. "The best possible service to Grand Junction is my sole desire", Walker stated.

Chairman Shipman stated that "Until the position is entirely clear that we can no longer have United service - we want to keep fighting to keep the service. The community deserves an answer to our position on this matter," according to Shipman. The committee discussed the position that should be taken and it was formally moved, seconded, and unanimously passed that support of United Airlines be continued - with support of Frontier Airlines as long as it does not include deletion of United service to Grand Junction.

A letter from J. A. Kennedy, Community Affairs Manager, United Airlines was read by Chairman Shipman. The letter is as follows:

"It is difficult for me at this time to state in detail United's policy regarding Grand Junction because the pre-hearing conference has not been held concerning Frontier Airline's application. However, we want it understood that United will not file for deletion of Grand Junction from its certificate.

The fact that Grand Junction is on a direct line with our Denver-Las Vegas run, and since we show a profit operating into Grand Junction, it is our desire to continue to serve the community.

After the pre-hearing conference of the Southern Rocky Mountain Area Local Service Case, I will be able to give you a more detailed run-down on our position. I understand the pre-hearing conference will be held March 22 in Washington D. C."

The committee also agreed to support Frontier to Las Vegas, when and if it can maintain comparable service. Frontier is the only airline that has made formal application for the route.

The committee will meet again April 12th (changed from April 5th) to discuss the operation of Walker Field with acting Airport Manager Carl Allstatt. A tentative date of April 19th was set to meet with representatives of Frontier Airlines on their application. A letter is to be directed to Vern Carlson, suggesting April 19th rather than the earlier April dates requested by Frontier.

Mark Shipman, Chairman

Aviation Committee

MEETING NOTICES

APRIL 12, TUESDAY, 10:30 a.m.

APRIL 19, TUESDAY, 10:30 a.m.