

AIRPORT BOARD MEETING, JUNE 9, 1969

2:00 P.M.

Those Present: County Commissioners Edwin Lamm, Jack Wadlow, and Lawrence Aubert, City Councilmen Ray Meacham, Richard Youngerman, and Stan Anderson, Airport Manager Gus Byrom, City-County Attorney Gerald Ashby and County Budget Officer Ted Ford, and City Manager Richard Gray.

Airport Manager Byrom told the Board the Forest Service would like an agreement which would allow them to bring in aircraft in the case of serious forest fires. The Board unanimously gave Mr. Byrom the approval to sign the agreement.

Byrom advised that requests were received from both Avis and Hertz Rent-A-Car Agencies for additional land at the airport for storage of rent-a-cars. Byrom said the firms would improve the land by leveling it, adding gravel, fencing the land and perhaps even adding lights. Byrom said the rent-a-cars experienced some vandalism last summer and also needed more room to safely store their cars.

Byrom also reported that some complaints have been received from local Grand Junction car dealers because of the selling of rent-a-cars by at least one rent-a-car agency. The Board discussed the possible legal implications involved in the agencies disposing of their automobiles by sale to the public at Walker Field. Byrom advised the Board that Avis does not plan to dispose of their cars in this market and Avis Manager, Gordon Hopkins, who attended the meeting, concurred.

Commissioner Aubert wondered if there was anything in the lease contract that would stop the rent-a-car agencies from selling cars. Board Attorney Gerald Ashby opined that it wouldn't matter. If the agencies wanted to sell the cars in this manner they could find a way even if it did not involve the airport in any way.

Member Anderson suggested that a stipulation be put in a lease for the requested additional land so the land would not be turned into a used car lot. Anderson made this stipulation part of his motion to lease the land to Avis rent-a-car agency at a cost of \$50 per acre per month. Attorney Ashby was instructed to draw up a three year lease. Member Meacham seconded the motion and the Board unanimously passed it.

Byrom said a fiscal agent and engineer were needed for the upcoming proposed runway and taxiway extension. Byrom recommended Boettcher and Company be hired as the fiscal agent and that City Finance Director William Manchester act on the Board's behalf in dealing with the fiscal agent.

Byrom said some problems exist in the large fee that would be needed for the engineering work, especially if the project were not given approval for FAA funds. City Manager Gray suggested an arrangement could be made with Boettcher

and Company similar to the city's arrangement on the water and sewer bonds. Under that arrangement, the fiscal agent received a percentage if the bonds were sold and only a minimal fee if they were not sold. Attorney Ashby suggested a similar arrangement could be worked out with the engineer.

The Board briefly discussed the possibility of having a feasibility study made to determine if proper revenue is available to finance the project. Airport Manager Byrom suggested a study session for the Board to fully discuss the method of finance.

Byrom also suggested that the renewal of the landing fee lease with United and Frontier airlines should be involved. He reported the two airlines have agreed to the proposed \$5 per square foot rent for terminal space.

Included in a brief discussion on the method of financing was a proposal from the city that the county put on a mill levy to finance the airport. Commissioner Aubert said he was opposed to this. He indicated the present arrangement should continue; and if the county puts on a mill levy for operation of the airport, the city should match it. Aubert also said that if a county tax is the only government support for the airport, then Walker Field should become a county airport. The purpose of the possible mill levy was to be able to pay off the airport's share of the planned runway and taxiway extension in a shorter period of time, thus saving a lot of interest.

The Board decided to hold a study session at 10:30 A.M. on June 16, and it was also decided to set up a meeting with the airlines to discuss the landing fees after the June 16 meeting.

The Board was shown revised construction plans for the parking lot at Walker Field to be constructed by APCOA at a cost of \$36,000. The cost of the parking lot is higher than earlier anticipated, and Byrom said if APCOA wishes concessions because of this, he will bring the matter back to the Airport Board.

Jim Anderson of Air Photo Survey told the Board he was interested in the engineering for the airport. No action was taken on this request by the Board, but Member Meacham said the Board should give full consideration to local people.

The Board was approved the building of an information center at the airport. The center will include a large tourist map indicating all scenic attractions and tourist pamphlets. The project will hopefully be paid for by Club 20 and/or the Chamber of Commerce, although it is possible the Airport Board may later be asked for some financial help in the project.

The Board adjourned at 3:33 P.M.

T. M. Ford, Secretary