

Walker Field Airport Authority

ORIGINAL

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting

February 18, 1997

BOARD COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Larry Jokerst Martin O'Boyle
Robert McCormick Jim Richards
David Graham

Gary Morris and John Heimbarger were not present.

AIRPORT STAFF PRESENT: Corinne Nystrom Dennis Wiss
Ted Balbier Susan Stokes
John Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Sveto Djokic as interested citizen; Miles McCormack of the Confederate Air Force; Ron Rouse of Colorado Air Lines; Peg Wallace of Thunder Mountain Ground Service; and Harry Griff as Airport Attorney.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman McCormick called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

An executive Session to discuss runway litigation was added under Section VIII, Other Items.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Manager Nystrom distributed to the Board copies of correspondence written to United Express by Marian Brosig regarding their service. Ms. Brosig had forwarded a copy of the letter to the Authority for our information. Manager Nystrom stated that she will respond to the passenger in writing. Commissioner O'Boyle asked if the number of customer complaints against United Express had declined recently. Manager Nystrom responded, yes.
- B. Chairman McCormick distributed to the Board copies of a draft letter of commendation for WFAA employees Frank Tenorio, Todd Watkins, and Ben Peck for their contribution in a medical emergency that occurred at Timberline Aviation in January 1997. Staff will prepare a final letter for Board signature.
- C. Mr. Sveto Djokic of 583 McMullen in Fruitvale, addressed the Board regarding excessive noise from low-flying military aircraft. Discussion followed. Mr. Djokic agreed to track noise patterns for the next 6 months and report this information to Staff.

IV. SPECIAL PRESENTATION TO LARRY JOKERST

Chairman McCormick presented Commissioner Jokerst with a plaque commemorating the 8 years Mr. Jokerst served as a Commissioner on the WFAA Board. Commissioner Jokerst thanked those who had worked with him, both Board members and WFAA staff, and his family. Commissioner O'Boyle asked Commissioner Jokerst what advice he would offer to the Board. He said: 1) be realistic, 2) get back to formal planning, and 3) finish the Personnel Manual.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes: January 21, 1997, Regular Board Meeting

B. Resolution 1997-004: Banking Resolution

The resolution changes the names of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board on banking documents to reflect the recent election of Robert McCormick as Chairman and Martin O'Boyle as Vice-Chairman.

C. Isbill Associates Contract for Runway 11/29 Repair Engineering Services

The contract is for engineering services associated with the repair of Runway 11/29.

Commissioner O'Boyle moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Commissioner Graham seconded. Roll call: all ayes. Motion carried.

VI. ACTION ITEM: Request for Proposals for Financial Consulting Services for Passenger Facility Charges Program and Capital Improvement Projects Program

Manager Nystrom provided background on the PFC program, noting that the initial program will expire in 1998, and that WFAA must now submit an application for a new program. She requested authorization to enlist, via an RFP, the services of a professional consulting firm to help draft the new program, and informed the Board that failure to submit a new application could result in WFAA having to refund unused PFC monies to the airlines. Discussion followed. Commissioner Jokerst moved to approve putting out an RFP for a consulting firm to draft the new PFC program; Commissioner Richards seconded. Roll call: all ayes. Motion carried.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. At-Large Board Member Recruitment Update

Commissioner Richards explained that candidate interviews would begin on February 20, and invited all Board members to sit in. The timetable for the selection process was discussed.

B. Request for Proposals for Legal Services

Commissioner Richards gave a chronology of the search process, and explained the methods used in the present search. Discussion followed regarding methods of disseminating the RFP. The RFP ad running in the Notices section of the *Daily Sentinel Classifieds* will be changed to the Legal Notices section in one week.

C. Board Workshops for Airport Planning

Chairman McCormick outlined a plan for holding planning workshops with the Board: meet the 1st Tuesday of each month, limit discussion to 2 topics, and limit the length of each session to 2½ hours. The first meeting will be held Tuesday, March 4. It will consist of a brainstorming session followed by discussion of the WFAA mission statement.

D. Financial Statements Presentation Schedule

Discussion was held regarding the schedule for presenting financial statements. The consensus was to present the statements for a given month at the 2nd Board meeting following the end of that month to give the staff time to gather all the information needed for statement preparation.

E. Colorado Ski Country, USA Information Booth

John Thomas and Manager Nystrom explained to the Board that the Colorado Ski Country booth would return to the airport imminently after a 2-year absence.

F. Runway 11/29 Repair Update

Manager Nystrom presented the repair chronology, stating that work is scheduled to begin April 15 and that Runway 11/29 would be closed for the duration of the project. She noted that the staff is in the process of negotiating the fee structure for the engineering contract, and that the Notice of Award, which is contingent upon the availability of funds and the ability to work out the fee structure, has been hand-delivered to Elam Construction. She explained that Isbill Associates is in the process of making final modifications to the plan which will then be sent to the FAA for approval.

Manager Nystrom explained that the projected cost of repair was c. \$650,000, including Elam's additional work and the additional engineering fees with Isbill. She noted that the last project came in \$100,000 under budget, and that this money may be applied toward the up-front costs of the repair. The FAA has committed \$257,000 + \$100,000. Actual funding availability is contingent upon the Federal Aviation Trust Fund's balance at the time that reimbursement requests are submitted.

Airport attorney Harry Griff gave an update on the status of the litigation, remarking that all parties had been served. He said that case management and document-swap discussions have been held with Corn Construction.

G. Federal and State Issues Update

Manager Nystrom spoke on the status of the Aviation Trust Fund, pointing out that the elimination of the aviation excise tax and the discovery of a \$2 billion Federal accounting error mean that the FAA may not have funds to pay for improvement projects unless the excise tax is reinstated. She stated that those projects already under grant will receive funding priority; all others have been put on hold.

Manager Nystrom informed the Board that she had spoken in Denver with State legislators about aviation issues at the Colorado Airport Operators' Association Legislative Breakfast. She provided a summary of proposed legislation which pertains to aviation.

H. Air Service Update

Manager Nystrom said the Intrastate Air Service Study had arrived, and was available for the Board to review. John Thomas distributed copies of the results of an airfare rate survey for the top 20 cities to which Grand Junction passengers fly. The staff has scheduled meetings in March to meet with Skywest management in St. George and with Mesa in Farmington. Discussion followed.

VIII. OTHER ITEMS: Executive Session: Runway 11/29 Litigation

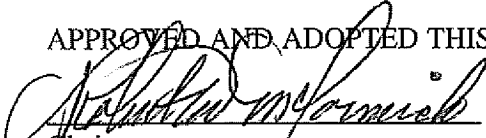
Commissioner Graham moved to go into Executive Session; Commissioner O'Boyle seconded. Roll call: all ayes. Motion carried, and the Board entered Executive Session at 7:50 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 8:54 p.m.

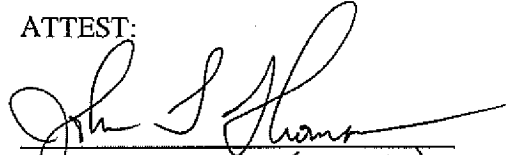
IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Jokerst moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Graham seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 18th DAY OF March, 1997.


Chairman

ATTEST:


~~Susan Stokes, Clerk (Deputy)~~
John Thomas