

MINUTES  
WICHITA AIRPORT ADVISORY  
BOARD

Monday, June 6, 2022

3:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Wichita Airport Advisory Board (WAAB) was held at 3:00 p.m. in the Administration Building Board Room, 2173 Air Cargo Road and via a virtual format.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Charles Fletcher, Tim Bonnell, Randy Frazer, John Hennessy, Jr., Ron Ryan, Joseph Ellzey, David Eslinger, Marco Alcocer, Jerome Cottner, Jonathan McRoy, Randy Mullikin, Sierra Scott.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Brad Christopher, Asst. Director of Airports; John Oswald, Engineering and Planning Manager; Valerie Wise, Marketing & Air Service Manager; Kevin Reiser, IT Manager; Traci Nichols, Properties Manager; Jill Darge, Admin. Aide II; Jay Hinkel, Deputy City Attorney; Roger Xanders, Airport Police & Fire Chief; Jason Jones, Airport Police & Fire Deputy; Scott Loesch, Airport Field Maintenance Supervisor; Bill Hogan, Airport Asst. Building & Utilities Manager; Ian Martel

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Jill Darge took roll call. Charles Fletcher called the meeting to order once a quorum was established.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Board approved the Minutes of the Advisory Board meeting held on May 2, 2022.

No public comments were received.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- Brad Christopher introduced Roger Xanders, Airport Police & Fire Chief; Jason Jones, Airport Police & Fire Deputy; Scott Loesch, Airport Field Maintenance Supervisor; & Bill Hogan, Airport Asst. Building & Utilities Manager.
- Brad Christopher presented a packet of information regarding the Airports which included Airport layout maps, management structure, parking information and a partial tenant list. He also discussed the budget.
- Randall Mullikin was introduced as the appointee for Councilwoman Maggie Ballard, District VI.
- Sierra Scott was introduced as the appointee for Councilman Jeff Blubaugh, District IV.
- Marco Alcocer was re-introduced as the appointee for Councilman Mike Hoheisel, District III.
- Brad Christopher asked that remaining Airport Authority staff introduce themselves and state what their title is and what they do and how long they have been with the Airport.

## **PROJECT UPDATES:**

John Oswald presented the following project updates:

- General Aviation Apron has a projected budget of \$23,708,400.00. Garver is the Engineer for the project and Pearson Construction is the Contractor. The project began May 30, 2022, and should be completed Dec. 2, 2023.
- Streetside Pavements Rehabilitation has a projected budget of \$3,152,000.00. Certified Engineering Design is the Engineer with the Contractor being Pearson Construction. The project is scheduled to begin on June 20, 2022, and end Dec. 17, 2022.
- Fuel Farm Rehabilitation project has a projected budget of \$6,025,870.00. The Engineer is Currier & Company with the Contractor being KEAR Civil. The project has 3 phases and began March 2021 with a completion date of July 2022.
- Airfield Pavement Rehab project has a projected budget of \$732,000.00. Garver LLC is the Engineer with Snodgrass & Sons being the Contractor. The project began May 2, 2022 and is projected to end July 12, 2022.

## **AIR SERVICE AND MARKETING:**

Valerie Wise gave an update on the Airport's advertising contract. A new agreement was signed with the Greteman Group for creative advertising services. The contract also includes creative strategy, creative design, creative writing, & website management. The Airport Authority also contracts with Copp Media for media strategies.

The airline industry is in recovery mode. April 2022 enplanements were at 84% of April 2019. Many flights have been oversold. Load factors have been over 90% indicating the need for more capacity.

Q2 2022 seats are down 10% from Q2 2019 but up 71% from 2020.

Wichita's average fare during Q4 2021 was \$357.40, an increase of 18% from Q4 2020. During 2020, the airlines greatly reduced fares in order to stimulate demand. The Q4 2021 fare is still 16% less than the Q4 2019 fare. Wichita's fare is comparable to its peer markets.

Looking ahead, in Q3 2022, 70% of total seats will be flown on narrowbody aircraft. Seats will increase 11% while flights will stay about the same. The increase is due to the following:

- American Airlines plans to add a seventh daily flight to Dallas and a third daily flight to Chicago in September.
- Delta Air Lines replaced a 110-seat B717 with a 160-seat 737-800 on its Atlanta route in June.
- Allegiant added a fourth weekly flight to Destin in June.
- Southwest added a third daily flight to Denver in June. Southwest resumes service to Las Vegas and Phoenix on Saturdays only in June.

- United will add a fourth daily flight to Houston and Chicago in November. United will also add a fifth daily flight to Denver in November.

The airlines monitor passenger demand, pilots and crew availability, and may make adjustments as necessary.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Next month we will be electing a new Chairman and Vice Chairman.

The next regular meeting will be held on July 11, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. in-person and with virtual participation.