

CITY OF WICHITA
WICHITA AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

Monday, February 5, 2001 - 2:00 p.m.

Present: Robert Alford, Tim Austin, Dion Avello, Charlie Bouilly, Beth Garrison, Carl Koster, Dorothy McKay, and Jay Swanson

Absent: Gary Adamson, Elizabeth Kinch and Larry Fleming

City Staff: Ernie Garcia, Doug Moshier

Airport Staff: Bailis Bell, John Oswald, Jean Zoglman, Valerie Wise

Chairman Bouilly called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

Garrison moved to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2001 Wichita Airport Advisory Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

DeBoer Agreements

Draft agreements regarding development of an executive hangar at Jabara Airport and a lease by and between the City of Wichita and Wichita Air Services, Inc. and Jack DeBoer were presented. These items were to appear on the February 6, 2001 City Council agenda. The general consensus of the board was that the City Council would approve these agreements even though the Wichita Airport Advisory Board was opposed to this arrangement.

Koster moved to receive and file these draft agreements. Motion carried unanimously.

2002 – 2011 Capital Improvement Program

Bell presented the 2002-2011 CIP for airport properties and stated that this is a fiscal and physical planning document. John Oswald, Director of Airport Engineering and Planning, pointed out that this is a draft document. Coffman and Associates, the master planner, will assist in the planning of the later year projects and may also prioritize some of these projects. The major projects include construction of Taxiway “AAAA”, scheduled for 2002. There is a fair amount of airport development listed. Terminal concourse improvements, changes, and expansions have been identified and planned for the years 2002 – 2006. Miscellaneous land acquisitions are planned, as there may be

some airport/industrial activities. The total capital project expenditures for the ten-year CIP amount to \$203 million.

These projects will be financed with cash if the cost is less than \$1 million. However, if the cost is between \$1 million and \$2.5 million, bonds will be used. If over \$2.5 million, temporary notes will be used during construction and bonds after construction. Bell stated that the airport is in excellent financial condition.

Motion made by Swanson stating that the Wichita Airport Advisory Board endorses the ten-year CIP and understands that changes will occur. Motion carried unanimously.

Advisory Board Travel

A listing of airport meetings and conferences in 2001 sponsored by Airports Council International was reviewed. It was suggested that priorities should be established in order to focus on what conferences to attend. There was interest in the Spring Washington Conference sponsored by ACI-NA and AAAE, and the marketing and communications conference in June. It was requested to discuss these at the March WAAB meeting. It was also requested that upcoming conferences be discussed at each WAAB meeting

Motion by Avello to include Advisory Board travel on the monthly WAAB agendas. Motion carried unanimously.

Suggestion Card Comments

There were 126 suggestion cards submitted in 2000 by users of Mid-Continent Airport. The most common complaint was high airfares. The most significant improvement over 1999 was in the passenger screening area, where there were 17 complaints in 1999 and only 3 in 2000.

Discussion focused on Rep. Carlos Mayans' plan to use Kansas lottery funds to subsidize airfares at Mid-Continent Airport. The board was interested in knowing the status of activities of the Mayor's Air Service Committee. Bell stated there are individuals within the City, Chamber and airport staff working on air service. Ernie Garcia stated this Advisory Board could be helpful in this regard and felt that air service is a legitimate issue on which the board should advise. Garcia stated there are several groups discussing air service and the next step is to get together to discuss their ideas. The board felt it should know what has been done so it does not repeat those efforts.

Bell stated that air service is the City Manager's number one priority and has hired a new Air Services Development Director.

Avello suggested that the Chamber's first priority should be attracting corporations to Wichita. Beautifying the airport is not going to attract people to the airport, but money

and businesses will. One of the priorities of the Advisory Board is to look at land development for more businesses to locate in Wichita.

Bouly stated that the Advisory Board needs to make a statement that airfares are a major concern of this board and requests an update as to the status of activities being conducted by the various groups working on air service enhancement. Further, the Advisory Board intends to be actively involved in these efforts.

The board felt that City officials should focus its efforts on lowering airfares over beautification of the airport terminal.

Garcia read from the Advisory Board functions, and according to those functions, the board has a wide road on which to advise on air service.

Bouly stated he will meet with the Mayor to find out the status of air service activities.

December 2000 Activity and Project Report

Bell stated there was a very small decline in passengers in 2000, but overall, activity was flat compared to 1999. Cargo and operations are about the same.

Other Business

Austin inquired as to the status of developing a policy for wireless communication towers. Bell stated that staff is currently reviewing the State of Michigan Tall Towers law that cites a method of keeping towers from adversely affecting air traffic from a safety standpoint and capacity standpoint.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Valerie Wise, Clerk