

CITY OF WICHITA
WICHITA AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

Monday, August 6, 2001 - 2:00 p.m.

Present: Dion Avello, Tim Austin, Charles Bouly, Bill Calloway, Beth Garrison, Carl Harris, Dave Murfin, Don Slawson, Jay Swanson, Carrie Williams

Absent: Dorothy McKay

City Staff: Ernie Garcia, Doug Moshier

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

Chairman Bouly called the meeting to order and welcomed the new Advisory Board members. Introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes

Swanson moved to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2001 Wichita Airport Advisory Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

Bouly stated that nominations for Chairperson and a Chairperson Pro Tem were in order.

Swanson moved to nominate Dion Avello for Chairperson and Tim Austin for Chairperson Pro Tem. Garrison seconded the motion. There being no further nominations, the board voted unanimously to appoint Dion Avello as Chairperson and Tim Austin as Chairperson Pro Tem of the Wichita Airport Advisory Board.

Meeting Report

Dion Avello reported on the ACI-NA Marketing and Communications Conference he attended in Phoenix in June. Steve Flesher, the Air Service Development Director, also attended. There were 95 airports represented at this conference. Avello commented that Wichita is well known to these airports. Avello and Flesher met with representatives from nine airlines and left those meetings with a very positive outlook. Avello pointed out that he was the only businessman out of the 95 who met with the airlines, and the airline folks were very interested in a businessman's point of view. It was his impression that it will be an exciting year for this airport and Wichita. There are two airlines that are looking seriously at Wichita. Avello stated that the airlines are interested in commitments and what type of support the City would offer. Flesher discussed with the

airlines the surveys that are underway. The airline representatives were interested in these surveys.

Motion by Bouilly to receive and file the report. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Planning

At the previous WAAB meeting, the Board approved travel for three members to attend the annual conference of the Airports Council International – North America. The City Council approved this travel on July 24, 2001; however, the City Council requested that the Airport Advisory Board follow the travel policy and that, if there is to be an exception request made, there be a justifiable reason for the exception.

Austin stated he has discussed the travel issue with his Council member and pointed out that travel expenses were paid with funds from the Airport budget and not the City's general fund. He also stressed the fact that the Airport Advisory Board is different than other City Advisory Boards in that airports are highly regulated and in order to advise on airport matters, education is necessary.

A budget for Airport Advisory Board travel was requested but City staff denied it. There was discussion regarding the fact that the wishes of the Advisory Board are not passed on to the City Council, but instead, are stopped at City staff. Garcia stated that each Advisory Board member needs to articulate the value and importance of each travel opportunity. Garcia will relay the board's recommendation to the City Council.

It was Slawson's opinion that City Council members would not want to see headlines to the effect that the Airport Advisory Board had a severe reduction in its travel budget that was not justified. It was his feeling that the community would benefit by the Airport Advisory Board's exposure throughout the country.

It was the Board's consensus that the Chairman attend this conference, even though he has already attended one conference this year. Carrie Williams and Dave Murfin may also attend, with Tim Austin being an alternate. Dorothy McKay was to be contacted to determine if she will be able to attend.

Motion by Austin to waive the Airport Advisory Board's travel policy and allow Dion Avello to attend the ACI-NA conference in Montreal. Also, the Chairman will coordinate other members' attendance. Motion carried unanimously.

Evaluation of Boards and Commissions

Minutes from the City Council meeting of July 10, 2001 were distributed wherein criteria was established for reviewing boards and commissions. The Sunset Provisions established by the City Council require that non-statutory boards and commissions be re-authorized annually. To determine if a board should be renewed, an annual review

process with specific criteria is established. The Airport Advisory Board is not required by law and sunsets on June 30, 2002. It will be necessary for the Airport Advisory Board to set goals and indicate that there is performance from this group. Once more formal guidelines are established, a representative from the City Manager's office will make a presentation to this board.

The status of the airport master plan contract was discussed. The board questioned why this project has been put on hold. Garcia will look into it. Bell stated that 90% of the funding for this project was to come from an FAA grant, however, that grant has now expired and the funds will have to be shifted to another project. It was recommended that each board member discuss this issue with the person who appointed them to the board. The terminal remodel project is another project that has been delayed since the project went to the City's Design Council.

It was the consensus of the Board that its advice is sometimes ignored. It was discussed that the Board is limited; it discusses policy issues and not operational issues. There was discussion regarding returning this board to the Airport Authority Board. Avello stated that the airport is a major factor in the economic development of this City, and expressed his frustration with the lack of action on various projects. It was his recommendation that as an Advisory Board, issues need to be brought before the Board so it can advise the City Council. This was the charter given to the Advisory Board by the City Manager. Avello commented that there seems to be a lack of commitment from people in authority to improve the airport.

The Board felt that it should have been extended the courtesy of being advised of the activities of the Mayor's Air Service Committee. The Board feels that air service should be an issue within its scope of responsibilities. Bell pointed out that the Mayor's committee was formed prior to the change in governance of the Airport Authority because the Mayor felt there was not enough effort put forth to enhance air service from the previous Airport Authority Board.

There was further discussion regarding returning this Board to the Airport Authority. It was recommended that each member discuss this issue with the person who appointed him or her. Garcia was asked to relay the Board's concerns on various issues to the City Manager. Avello stated he would also talk to the City Manager and relay the Board's concerns.

Review of Airport Capital Projects

Mr. John Oswald, Director of Airport Engineering and Planning, reviewed the status of airport capital projects.

May and June 2001 Statistical/Project Reports

Bell pointed out that total enplanements are up about 2% over a year ago.

Other Business

Bell stated that it would be appropriate to establish meeting times for the forthcoming year.

It was the consensus of the board to continue its meetings on the first Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m. If a holiday falls on the first Monday, then the meeting will be held the following Tuesday.

There was discussion as to when to hold the September meeting due to the Labor Day holiday.

Austin moved to hold the September meeting the first Tuesday in September, September 4 at 2:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Avello thanked Charlie Bouilly for serving as Chairman of the Airport Advisory Board this past year.

Public Agenda

Mike Haggar was present at the meeting and stated that public comments are very important, and if the Airport Advisory Board is not the forum in which to bring public comments, the public needs to know where to go.

Bell pointed out that the public has always had the opportunity to express comments. In the future, the agenda will show a place for public comments after the approval of minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Valerie Wise, Clerk