

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF WICHITA**  
**WICHITA AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD**

**Monday, December 1, 2014**

Present: Dave Bayouth, Charles Fletcher, U.L. Gooch, Dwight Greenlee, John Hennessy, Richard Kerschen, Carl Koster, Thomas Pryor, Bill Ward, Brent Wooten

Absent: Dr. Thom Rosenberg, Karyn Page

Airport Staff: Victor White, Brad Christopher, Susan Hale, Traci Nichols, John Oswald, Valerie Wise, Jean Zoglman

City Staff: Jay Hinkel, Deputy City Attorney

Others: Pat McCollom, ACT 3 Project Manager, AECOM  
Lonnie Wright  
Keith Osborn, TSA

Chairman Hennessy called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Chairman Hennessy asked if anyone was present to speak on the public agenda. No one came forward to speak.

**Approval of Minutes**

*Motion by Mr. Fletcher, second by Mr. Bayouth, to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2014 Wichita Airport Advisory Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Director's Report – Victor White**

Mr. White gave the floor to Keith Osborn, Federal Security Director of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Mr. Osborn presented each member of the Board with a specially made pin commemorating the World Trade Center (WTC) artifact that is on display in the terminal. He thanked the Board and noted that without their support and endorsement, the display would not be possible. He also informed the Board that Wichita Mid-Continent Airport (ICT) is the only airport in the country that hosts a WTC artifact.

Mr. White shared that multiple school choirs are scheduled to visit the terminal over the next two weeks. Groups will sing Christmas carols for the passengers and airport staff. All performances will include licensed music that has been authorized to sing in public entities. Ms. Wise has scheduled visits by Santa Claus to ICT.

Also included from Mr. White was an update on the airport name change. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) had to move more quickly than originally expected in order to meet its publication schedules. Effective November 13, 2014, the airport's name was officially changed from Wichita Mid-Continent Airport to Wichita Dwight D. Eisenhower National Airport and is

shown as such on all FAA documents, aeronautical charts, instrument approach procedures, airport facility directories, etc. The new name is also beginning to be seen on various airline and travel websites.

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) has been working diligently to figure out how to address the 20+ directional signs on the area highways. Mr. White has been debating with KDOT over a policy change regarding signage rules. A new rule recently implemented prohibits an airport name to be on the overhead trusses on Kansas highways. Instead, only a street name is used. Mr. White has stressed the importance of having the airport name on the signs, so the public can easily decipher where to go. In the event that KDOT holds firm with its new policy, Mr. White has requested that the City rename Mid-Continent Drive to *Eisenhower Airport Parkway*. Numerous City and County departments have approved this change. If KDOT holds firm to this new policy, overhead highway signage at the entrance to the airport will then read *Eisenhower Airport Parkway*, so as to provide better guidance to the traveling public. The preference is still to have the airport name on the signs, however. The goal in which to implement these changes is tentatively scheduled for January 2015.

Mr. Ryan asked where the new road will end (how far north does it go). Mr. White responded that it will continue just north of Kellogg to the intersection of Taft and Ridge Road. The only two businesses that will have to change their address are WAA facilities – the new terminal and the parking garage.

Due to the name change happening so quickly by the FAA, airport staff may have to roll out the new name sooner than originally desired. Staff is working with Sullivan Higdon & Sink (SHS) on branding and logo development. These items will be shown to the WAAB at the January meeting for adoption. The new airport website (including the new name) will also be introduced after the first of the year.

Events for the dedication week of the terminal have begun. An event planner (Wichita Festivals) has been hired to assist with the scheduling and organization of events happening prior to the first flight. This includes tours for the media, airport and tenant staff members and their families, as well as a community/public event. Also taking place prior to the first flight will be the gala (by invitation only) celebrating the dedication of the building. It is hoped that the dedication will take place the last week in March, or early April, depending on the schedule for the first flight. Pat McCollom added that the airlines need a sixty (60) day notice to start transitioning into the new terminal, as this is a very complex and carefully orchestrated move that will literally happen overnight. Another challenge will be to move the TSA checkpoint equipment, as two sets of equipment is not available to use. The intent is for the first flight to occur in April, but it cannot occur until the facility is finished and all tenant and airline construction is completed and testing of equipment is done.

In preparation for the gala dedication event, Mr. White has been communicating with Mary Jean Eisenhower, who is the official representative (granddaughter) of the Eisenhower family. She is very enthused about being a participant at the dedication. Mary Jean and her son will visit Wichita

in a week or two to tour the new terminal. Representatives from the Eisenhower Museum, Library, and Foundation in Abilene will also be visiting to take a tour after the first of the year.

Mr. White also updated the Board on the status of the Columbine Constellation aircraft that some hope to display at ICT. The National Airline History Museum (NAHM) in Kansas City is also interested in acquiring the aircraft, so there is competition to acquire it. If NAHM does secure the aircraft, they plan to move it to Kansas City where it will be restored to flying condition. Once restored, they will fly it around the country to use as an educational piece. Dave Franson with the Wichita Aero Club, is exploring the possibility of forming a joint venture with NAHM to help with the restoration process. One concept would be for the aircraft to have a joint base, where it would be both in Kansas City as well as Wichita.

Regarding the dedication ceremony, Mr. Gooch asked if there has been any thought about how the timing of the events will work out with the timing of the new mayor taking office. Mr. White responded that there has been careful consideration of this subject. There has been a lot of discussion as to when the dedication will take place versus when the actual first flight will occur, in order to work with this transition.

Mr. Hennessy inquired about who is handling the event planning. Mr. White replied that airport staff have created an internal planning committee, headed by Ms. Wise. SHS is preparing themes, invitations, etc. for the events. Mr. White encouraged the Board to share any ideas they might have for the events, including things such as giveaways, gifts, and goody bags for those who attend the events. Any comments/ideas are to be sent to Mr. White. Also hired to work on the event is Wichita Festivals, Inc (WFI). They will assist with the planning of menus, number of tables and set-up, chairs, speaker lineup, organizing volunteers, and all of the logistics that go into such an event. Mr. Ryan commented that they (WFI) were very good and that they were very excited about working with the airport.

Associated with this topic, Mr. White informed the Board that a 501C3 corporation (charitable foundation) is being created for these events and other airport support activities in the future. The name is Wichita Airport Foundation, Inc. An outside attorney is preparing the corporation filing papers this week. Sponsors and those donating to these events will be able to contribute to the foundation through a bank account that is set up specifically for this purpose. Expenses will be paid from this account and therefore, kept separate from the Wichita Airport Authority and the City of Wichita.

### **Presentation: Southwest Airlines Impact at ICT – Valerie Wise**

Ms. Wise informed the Board that the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program (KAAP) is on the City's legislative agenda and will be coming up for discussion in January. Ms. Wise stated that in order to comply with federal law, as an airport, we are not involved with the program. However, since the program does support Southwest Airlines (SWA), it is important to understand the impact that SWA has had on our market. She wanted to share some statistics so that when the Board communicates with their appointees at the City and County, the information can be shared and used to make an informed decision about the KAAP. A few of the highlights shared in Ms. Wise's presentation included the following:

- Seat Capacity: ICT was on a downward trend in 2008 due to the economic downfall. The result was that ICT was down 18% through 2012. In 2013 when SWA entered the market, ICT had an increase in capacity and is now up 9% from the 2012 low.
- Fare comparison: Third quarter 2012 compared to third quarter 2013 (first full quarter of SWA's presence at ICT) revealed that fares from various routes have decreased anywhere from 18% to 66%.
- Passenger growth/traffic: SWA has helped increase this statistic as well, with growth in numerous destinations ranging from 161% (to Dallas), to 61% (to Chicago), and 18% to (Las Vegas).
- Additionally, SWA offers more than just savings through cheaper airfare. They also help passengers save by not charging luggage fees (2 bags fly for free) and not implementing change fees.
- SWA is important to this market because they provide competition to the other airlines. Without their presence, fares would go up and the number of passengers would be down. SWA is the only low cost carrier in the industry that can impact the majority of the destinations and can compete with the legacy carriers.
- On October 13, 2014, the Wright Amendment was lifted, which gives passengers flying out of ICT into Dallas Love Field many more connection options when using SWA.

Mr. Ryan asked if a measurable impact has been seen since the Wright Amendment has been lifted. Ms. Wise responded that officially, not yet. However, representatives from SWA confirmed that they are booking ahead of last year. Ms. Wise also added that looking forward to the SWA growth plan in late 2015, there will be more options for travelers with destinations to Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean, Canada, and South America out of Dallas. She noted that this will be very good for business travelers.

Mr. Koster asked Ms. Wise to email him the presentation so that he could share it with the Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) leadership team. Ms. Wise confirmed she would, and would also send it to all the Board members for their reference.

Mr. Ryan shared that he (and some other members of the present Board) were active when originally working to get the KAAP approved – which he added, was not an easy task. Once it went into effect however, positive results were felt immediately. He reiterated how important this program is - especially in keeping SWA running - until they can stand on their own. Ms. Wise stated that she was informed by SWA that it takes them about three (3) years to mature in a market.

Mr. Pryor and Mr. Hennessy asked if this was the same presentation that was going to be offered to the County Commissioners. It was asked that clarification be given on who is actually making the application. Mr. White clarified that first, the legislature must approve the funding and once they have the money approved and available from the state, then the county has to request it (money) from them. The County is the administrating agency, and the City also provides funding

to the County. Mr. Ryan asked if there was a feel for any resistance from the county at this time. There is no report of information regarding this question at the moment.

Referring back to a slide in Ms. Wise's presentation, Mr. Gooch wanted clarification on if there was or was not a SWA non-stop flight offered from ICT to Houston? Ms. Wise advised that there is no direct flight, and that the slide was referring to fares to Houston through connections. Mr. Koster also asked clarification on if there was a direct flight from ICT to St. Louis. Mr. White confirmed that no, there is not a non-stop flight offered at this time.

### **Parking and Rental Car Facilities Project Update – John Oswald**

(Note: The October 2014 Project Status Report for the Airport Parking and Rental Car Facilities was distributed, as it was not included in the agenda packet.)

Activities for this coming month are similar to last month's activities. The contractor (Crossland Construction Company, Inc. or CCC) is currently working on the Rent-a-Car (RAC) Customer Service Center, as well as the garage ramp. CCC has only one (1) more ramp to construct. Electrical work continues throughout and work is occurring on the exit plaza (a photo of the exit plaza location was shown). The glass is now installed on portions of the canopies that cover the walkways to/from the parking garage to the terminal. However, there are some sections of the glass missing in the center of the canopy due to the contractor ordering it incorrectly. The center portion has been reordered. This is not anticipated to have an impact on any openings. Three (3) of four (4) of the garage sides have been installed on the front of the garage and have framing for the metal panels. A rendering of the completed panels was shown to compare the present status to the finished look.

Inside the building rough-in work has begun, as well as the framing in the ceiling of the RAC Customer Service Center where the clouds (artwork) will develop. Sheetrock is covering the large wall that sits behind the RAC counters. Conduits are now visible in this area as well, and will support the counters and outlets.

Pictures were shown of the new IT room, which has one hundred and forty-four (144) electrical conduits. The room is covered in sheetrock and is almost ready for the system integrator to move in and do additional work.

On Friday November 7<sup>th</sup>, CCC unfortunately received at least one (1) bad load of concrete. This concrete was placed in Pour 34 on the top deck of the parking garage. CCC was within one (1) pour of being done when this bad batch was poured. As the concrete started to set, the contractor noticed abnormal changes occurring. Problems were quickly discovered and now the contractor is faced with having to remove all of Pour 34, due to the fact that they could not quantify where the good concrete ended and the bad began. Removal began a few days after November 7<sup>th</sup> and is anticipated to go at least into mid to late December. Pictures of the removal process were shown, as well as video of cutting the beam with a special kind of cord. The beams have to be removed two (2) feet at a time because each section weights three thousand pounds (3,000). The section must be carried off with a crane and then parts of the slab are removed with a jack hammer. While repairs are being made, access is not available to most or all of the other decks due to safety

concerns. The process is very tedious work and is a significant set-back. It is not known yet as to what impact this will have on opening.

Mr. Ward asked how connected the two buildings were (regarding communication services). Mr. Oswald replied that the two buildings (garage and new terminal) will be connected through conduits through the basement of the existing terminal (which is staying intact) instead of the new terminal.

### **ACT 3 Project Update – Pat McCollom, ACT 3 Project Manager**

The estimated substantial construction completion date of March 31, 2015 is about 120 days out. However, the first flight will not occur until sometime after that date in order to allow punch list items to be completed, and tenant improvement construction and equipment installation to be finished. The contractor is allowed 60 days for final completion after the substantial completion date.

The design work for MSE (food and beverage concessionaire) and Paradies (retail concessionaire) is progressing. The 90% completion plans for MSE have been submitted and the project is expected to go out for construction bids next month. The 30% design completion plans from Paradies was submitted last week.

Another meeting was held with the airlines to discuss technical matters, which will help them implement their changes and make for a smooth transition into the new building.

The advertising vendor, Clear Channel Airports (CCA), has kicked-off their *Sales Blitz* and have begun meeting with and giving tours to potential advertisers. CCA's strategy has been to meet with the companies that are currently advertising in the existing terminal, and will then do more outreach to new clients if there is space for additional advertising left.

Other items taking place include the cut-over to the new security system, as well as selecting signage and furniture. Security devices are being installed in the new terminal. This task is expected to be completed after the first of the year. Over thirty (30) different signs have been tested in the new terminal to determine what colors, sizes, etc. are best to serve the customers. Also, in the last two weeks gate seating and other furniture has been selected. It will be procured through an allowance already established with Key Walbridge (KW).

More tours have been given over the last month, including groups such as the Wichita Area Outlook Team and the Wichita Project Management Institute. The City 7 filming crew was also on site to shoot a video document for historical purposes that is now available on YouTube on the City7 channel

The next major steps for ACT 3 are interior finishes. Currently about 85% of the terrazzo tile is down in some stage or another. The great wall is 95% complete with the stainless steel covering, with the remaining unfinished area being the lower portions of the wall. The inbound carousels of

the baggage handling system have been installed, and now work is being performed to install the belts. Testing of the baggage handling system is in the beginning stages.

Operational and security transitions will begin to take place after the first of the year, when the new security system is completed. Staff is working through the process now to determine where to move security fences in order to begin establishing the actual security lines throughout the building. The final security lines will not be in place until about one (1) week from opening.

Mr. McCollom, along with a few other members of the project team and airport staff, will be traveling to Utah next week to inspect the new passenger boarding bridges at the Jetway factory. A Jet Bridge America representative will accompany them.

Photos were shown of the progress taking place inside of the terminal. Photos included the following highlights:

- Grand staircase – Terrazzo tile is being laid at the base of the stairs.
- Columns – The contractor has started wrapping the 12 columns with a stainless steel covering.
- Baggage handling system – All three (3) inbound carousels are installed and will soon be clad in stainless steel.
- Baggage handling system in TSA room – TSA has purchased two (2) explosive detection systems. Testing of the machines with the airport's system began last week.
- Blue glass walls – There are two (2) different blue glass walls on the second floor, one between the bar and Gate 5, the other between exiting and security.
- TSA screening area – The installation of the ceiling area has begun, including the “waffle shape” pieces. The terrazzo tile is also finished in this area.
- Restroom – Tile is now being installed in the restroom on the west side of the building near Gate 2.

Several renderings were also shared of the concession areas. They included the following highlights:

- Air Capital Bar – Located on the second floor next to the blue glass wall shown earlier (by Gate 5).
- Aviators Café – Located on the first floor in the center of the terminal. This concession area includes an enclosed space with a bar, as well as an area that serves to-go style food and beverages. It was noted that Paradies did not choose to do retail pre-security, so Mr. White approached MSE to see if they were interested in a small retail (including to-go food items) pre-security, in which they agreed.

- Grab n Fly – Located by Gate 3. Dunkin Donuts and Chick-fil-A products will be sold at each of the to-go concession areas.
- River City Brewing Company – This is a very unique area, as the inside captures the look of Wichita's Old Town district and the outside retains the sleek, modern look of the rest of the terminal. The owners of River City also went on a tour this past month.
- Food Court – A layout was shown for the two brands currently in this area, Dunkin Donuts and Chick-fil-A.

Mr. Hennessy asked if Chick-fil-A would be open on Sunday. Mr. McCollom responded that no, they would not. Mr. White commented that they are not open anywhere in the country on Sunday. Mr. Hennessy expressed concern about not having them operational on Sunday and how that would impact airport revenues. Mr. White explained that Chick-fil-A sells more in operating six (6) days per week than most any other concessionaire does in seven (7) days. He added that this particular concession was a very highly requested concession to have in the terminal. Mr. Greenlee asked if RCB was open on Sunday. Mr. White responded that all other five (5) concessions would be open on Sunday. Mr. White also added that all food and beverage concession revenue is collected into a single account from MSE. Any revenue lost from Chick-fil-A on Sunday will likely be made by overselling in one of the other venues. Revenues are tracked by concession location, so the airport will easily be able to monitor this situation.

- Air Capital Market – Although the name has not been finalized, this will be the the largest retail location that Paradies will have in the new terminal. It will be located roughly in the center of the terminal. Additional renderings were shown of the two (2) CNBC stores, which will be located at opposite ends of the terminal. All Paradies' stores are located post-security.

The video produced by City 7 staff was shown.

### **Other Business**

Referring back to earlier discussion of the parking garage project, Mr. Ryan asked that if while part of the garage was being torn out (due to the bad concrete poured), can the contractor still move forward on RAC Customer Service Center? Mr. White replied that the Customer Service Center is still accessible for continued construction activities. Mr. Ryan followed up with a second question regarding the possibility of opening part of the garage (if the rest of the garage was not complete) so as not to delay the terminal opening. Mr. Oswald stated that he has met with the Office of Central Inspection to discuss possibilities of this option or other alternate options. Mr. Greenlee asked if the RAC companies would be able to use their designated parking stalls. Mr. Oswald responded that they would be able to use most of the first floor (where RAC's will be located), but not all of the spaces would be available. Mr. White added that staff is looking at a number of options for opening the terminal given the garage and RAC delays. Mr. Kerschen noted that opening only a portion of the parking garage may be a challenge, mainly due to safety concerns.

### **Executive Session**

*Motion by Mr. Wooten, second by Mr. Greenlee, that the Wichita Airport Advisory Board recess into executive session for consultation with legal counsel on matters privileged in the attorney-client relationship relating to legal advice, and that the Board return from executive session no earlier than 4:00 p.m., and reconvene in the same Airport Administration Board Room, first floor of the Administration Building, 2173 Air Cargo Road, Wichita, Kansas. Motion carried unanimously.*

The Airport Advisory Board (WAAB) recessed for executive session at 3:42 p.m.

Mr. Ryan left at 3:47 p.m.

The Airport Advisory Board reconvened at 4:10 p.m.

*Motion by Mr. Wooten, second by Mr. Greenlee, to close the executive session. There was no action taken, and no action needed as a result of the executive session. Motion carried unanimously.*

The next WAAB meeting will be Monday, January 5, 2015 at 2:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

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Susan Hale, Properties & Contracts Analyst