

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF WICHITA
WICHITA AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, September 14, 2020

Present: ShaQiyla Banks, Tim Bonnell, Paul Davis, Charlie Fletcher (Vice Chairman), Dwight Greenlee, John Hennessy, Kelly McElroy, Jonathan McRoy, Ron Ryan (Chairman)

Airport Staff: Victor White, Director; Brad Christopher, Assistant Director; Valerie Wise, Air Service and Marketing Manager; Jean Zoglman, Finance Manager; John Oswald, Engineering and Planning Manager; Traci Nichols, Properties & Contracts Manager; Elizabeth Anderson, Secretary; Leah Gisick, Airport Clerk

City Staff: Jay Hinkel, Deputy City Attorney

Guests: Brian Strunk, Midwest Corporate Aviation

Mr. Ryan called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. and a role call was conducted. There was no call for public agenda due to the meeting being conducted virtually using Microsoft Teams.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Dwight Greenlee and second by Tim Bonnell to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2020 Wichita Airport Advisory Board meeting (WAAB). Motion carried unanimously.

Director's Report – Victor White:

Victor White welcomed three new members to the WAAB: ShaQiyla Banks, Kelly McElroy, and Jonathan McRoy. Ms. Banks currently works for the Sedgwick County Department of Corrections after having received her Masters from WSU. Ms. McElroy is the City Manager of Newton and also the Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) representative on the WAAB. Mr. McRoy is a 19 year veteran of the Air Force working as a Director of Programs.

The Airports Air Service and Marketing Manager, Valerie Wise, is currently in Louisville, Kentucky attending the 2020 Airport Round Table Conference. She is meeting with over seven different Airlines regarding our air service development needs.

On September 17th the Airport will be conducting an FAA mandated full-scale disaster exercise. The Airport will simulate an on-Airport emergency with a crash. Responders from 18 various agencies, departments, and organizations will be involved. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic however, the Airport will not utilize volunteers as the victims this year and will instead use training mannequins.

The Airport is currently making a list of equipment and supplies that may be eligible for reimbursement through the CARES grant being provided by the county to the city. The list is of items that are related to and/or necessary due to COVID-19.

Southwest Airlines began non-stop service to Denver on September 6th. The first flight held 92 passengers which, with social distancing rules was only two short of capacity. Labor Day weekend had the highest number of enplanements since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in March.

Jabara will have a new flight training school named Planes Over Plains. Chris Boettcher is the owner and he will be subleasing space from Midwest Corporate Aviation.

The renovation of the U.S. Customs facility has been paused due to funding issues related to COVID-19.

The Bleckley Memorial Foundation Board has decided to restore their aircraft to flyable condition. Originally they were hoping to hang the plane near the terminal baggage claim area, however the City Design Council did not approve the project, and thus the City Council didn't approve their plans. They now would like to house the plane in a hangar at Eisenhower Airport. The Foundation is still interested in putting a life-size statue of Bleckley in the terminal along with other memorabilia of his life, but have yet to submit any drawings, or other designs of what they would like to display. Before any of that could be approved, those plans should be presented to the WAAB and the City's Design Council, and ultimately the City Council/WAA for final approval. The website www.BAMFoundation.org has more information regarding the project and fundraising efforts.

Mr. Elroy asked if any Airport staff had been furloughed and also if the FAA will be present for the disaster exercise. Mr. White explained that due to the Cares Grant we received, no more than 10% of employees were allowed to be furloughed or laid off, meaning that we are required under federal law to retain at least 90% of our March headcount through the end of 2020. The Courtesy Crew, (aka Red Coats) that work in the Terminal were laid off due to the number of enplanements lowering and little need for customer assistance. However, now that the passenger numbers are beginning to increase the goal is to start bringing them back when we can afford to do so. Regarding the disaster exercise, Mr. White said that the FAA will not be present.

COVID-19 Impact on Air Service – Valerie Wise:

Ms. Wise shared a PowerPoint presentation showing the comparison between COVID-19 impact on Air Service locally and for the country.

Project Updates – John Oswald

Mr. Oswald shared a PowerPoint presentation and two short videos regarding current and future projects happening at the Airport.

Executive Session:

Motion by Dwight Greenlee, second by Kelly McElroy, that the Wichita Airport Advisory Board recess into executive session conducted through telephone conference call for consultation with legal counsel on matters privileged in the attorney-client relationship relating to legal advice regarding contractual dispute and tenant relations, and that the board return from executive session no earlier than 4:18 p.m. and reconvene in the current video-accessible internet conference. Motion carried unanimously.

The Airport Advisory Board recessed for Executive Session at 3:52 p.m.

The Airport Advisory Board reconvened at 4:38 p.m. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Election of Board Officers:

Motion by Ron Ryan and second by Dwight Greenlee to nominate Charles Fletcher as Chairman of the Wichita Airport Advisory Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Dwight Greenlee and second by Ron Ryan to nominate Tim Bonnell as Vice Chairman of the Wichita Airport Advisory Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business:

The next WAAB meeting will be Monday, October 5, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 4:44 p.m. by Charles Fletcher, second by Tim Bonnell. Motion carried unanimously.

Leah Gisick, Airport Clerk

Appointee	Representing	Appointment Expiration
Jonathan McRoy	Mayor	3/31/2022
Karyn Page	City Council – District I	3/31/2022
Charles Fletcher	City Council – District II	3/31/2022
Paul Davis	City Council – District III	3/31/2022
Dr. Thom Rosenberg	City Council – District IV	3/31/2022
Joey Ellzey	City Council – District V	3/31/2022
Dwight Greenlee	City Council – District VI	3/31/2022
Ron Ryan	Sedgwick County – 1 st District	3/31/2021
John Hennessy, Jr.	Sedgwick County – 2 nd District	3/31/2021
Tim Bonnell	Sedgwick County – 3 rd District	6/30/2021
Shaqiyla Banks	Sedgwick County – 4 th District	3/31/2022
David Eslinger	Sedgwick County – 5 th District	3/31/2021
Kelly McElroy	REAP Representative	3/31/2022