

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF WICHITA
WICHITA AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD
(Virtual Meeting)

Monday, February 1, 2021

Present: ShaQiyla Banks, Tim Bonnell, Paul Davis, David Eslinger, Charles Fletcher (Chairman), Dwight Greenlee, John Hennesey, Kelly McElroy, Jonathan McRoy, Karen Page, Ron Ryan

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; Lonny Wright

Mr. Fletcher called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. and a role call was conducted. There was no call for public agenda due to the meeting being conducted virtually using Zoom.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Tim Bonnell and second by Paul Davis to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2020 Wichita Airport Advisory Board meeting (WAAB). Motion carried unanimously.

Director's Report – Victor White:

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) issued a Federal Security Directive, effective midnight on February 1, 2021, stating that all persons on Airport property, in an airline aircraft, in an Airport Terminal, and in any other mode of public or surface transportation, must be wearing a mask. The Airport currently has signs and Public Address messages regarding the wearing of masks. These both need to have wording added stating that wearing a mask is a federal law and failure to comply can result in removal or denial of entry into the Airport.

Brad Christopher explained that according to this Directive, the Airport is required to enforce the wearing of masks. If a person is not wearing a mask, an Airport Police Officer would approach them and remind them of the federal law and offer them a mask or ask them to put their mask on. If they continue to refuse, they would be escorted from the Airport. The Airport would also be required to obtain contact information from any individual refusing to comply and provide it to TSA.

Jay Hinkel explained that the opportunity to comply in every way would be given. It would fall to the Airport Police Officers to explain that under the federal Directive wearing a mask is required

and if they refuse they will be escorted out. This would be laying the groundwork for a criminal trespassing charge. The officer would establish the charge, if there is probable cause, and the person would then be escorted out and given a citation for criminal trespassing. Airport Police Officers do not have the authority to enforce federal regulation, but when non-compliant behavior becomes a violation of state law or city ordinance, the officer has a lawful basis to act.

Brad Christopher added that under this scenario, if the Airport fails to follow these steps, then according to the Directive we are at risk for civil penalty by the TSA. The airport industry as a whole is trying to figure out the best way to handle this Directive. There was an industry-wide conference call with many around the country regarding this subject.

Jay Hinkel stated that because there are instances in which this order will be difficult or impossible to enforce, they are putting together a Request for Exceptions list and intend to send it to the TSA.

Questions were asked by different board members regarding how the Directive would apply to people in their personal cars, business vehicles, T-hangars, or in other buildings such as the hotel on the Airport grounds. Jay Hinkel stated that these would be included in the Request for Exceptions list since technically all of those locations are included in the Directive.

Jonathan McRoy left at 3:31

Victor White added that there will be another call tomorrow and we will hopefully get some better clarification.

The Airport was approached by Prestige Medical Care, a local medical lab, requesting to set up a COVID-19 testing facility for passengers, inside the terminal building. They currently have about 10 people per day requesting tests, because they are leaving from this Airport for an International flight in which a test is required. Our plan is to come up with a Letter of Agreement so as to set this up. The Terminal's testing site would be for ticketed passengers only, the general public would not be allowed to use it.

We received two complaints in the last week regarding the water fountains being shut off in the terminal building. They were shut off back in March due to COVID-19. We currently have a bottle filling station installed, which seems to be the common practice across the country. The County Health Department buildings and the City of Wichita buildings have both continued to keep their fountains off due to the pandemic.

The City Economic Development department will be making a presentation tomorrow at the City Council meeting regarding Clemens Aviation. They have asked for an additional amount of money from the Airport Special Facilities Revenue Bond for the third hangar they are starting to build at Jabara Airport.

Information Technology Capital Plan– John Oswald

Mr. Oswald shared a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Airports Information Technology (IT) Capital Plan. We hired Faith Group to develop a master plan for the Airport so as to have a safe

and modern IT system. IT is a large part of the baggage system, temperature controls, fire alarms, flight information displays, surveillance cameras, the parking system, card readers, and more at the Airport. They have developed an Airport IT Capital Plan that includes a 10 year projects list.

Air Service and Marketing Update – Valerie Wise

Ms. Wise shared a PowerPoint presentation with a review of 2020 enplanements and how they compare with the Industry.

Paul Davis left at 4:07pm.

David Eslinger joined the meeting at 4:07pm.

ShaQiyla Banks and John Hennesey left at 4:20pm.

Mr. White stated that the Airline Trade Association, American Association of Airport Executives, Airports Council International and other air industry organizations sent a letter to both the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate protesting the requirement of testing for COVID-19 for departing domestic passengers. They believe it will be disastrous to implement and will have a bad effect on passenger demand, dropping passenger traffic lower than it already has.

Project Updates– John Oswald

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

Other Business:

The next WAAB meeting will be held virtually on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 4:33 p.m. by Ron Ryan, second by Dwight Greenlee. 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