

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF WICHITA
WICHITA AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, January 4, 2016

Present: David Eslinger, Joseph Ellzey, Charles Fletcher, Dwight Greenlee, Rich Kerschen, John Hennessy, Carl Koster, Karyn Page, Tom Pryor, Dr. Thom Rosenberg, Ron Ryan, Bill Ward, Brent Wooten

Airport Staff: Brad Christopher, Leah Gisick, Traci Nichols, John Oswald, Ty Richardson, Valerie Wise, Jean Zoglman

City Staff: Jay Hinkel, Deputy City Attorney

Guests: Jerry Siebenmark, Wichita Eagle

Chairman Wooten called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. and asked if anyone was present to speak on the public agenda. No one came forward to speak.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Koster and second by Mr. Fletcher, to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2015 Wichita Airport Advisory Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Director's Report – Brad Christopher

The airport has a new 25,000 square foot Airfield Snow Equipment Storage Facility finished in late November. It was built primarily to store all airfield snow and ice control equipment and systems, and also contains large-capacity airfield de-icing fluid storage tanks. This was a fast-track project finished on time and within budget by Smith Construction. The next project, also awarded to Smith Construction, is to refurbish Buildings 1 and 2, built in the 1970's. This \$180,000 project will include refurbishing metal, installation, windows, doors, and the heating system.

Wichita Airport Authority (WAA) has a new 20 year agreement with Midwest Corporate Aviation, approved December 22nd.

At 2:34 Karen Page arrived, and at 2:35 Bill Ward arrived.

An Allegiant MD80 had a minor excursion off a paved surface the night of Sunday, December 27th. Airfield crews were sweeping the pavement since 11am that day to keep the runways dry. In the evening the pavement temperatures began to drop and chemicals were applied. Around 11:30pm freezing drizzle began at the same time an Allegiant MD80 began to taxi out. Within minutes after the freezing drizzle event began, Airport Operations shut the runway down and Allegiant was notified. The Allegiant crew then initiated a return taxi back to the terminal gate. As they taxied off the runway onto Taxiway B, 40-50 MPH direct crosswinds caused the aircraft

to “weathervane” into the wind, therefore causing the right main landing gear to exit the taxiway pavement. There were 160 passengers on board, no injuries. Airport Police & Fire, Operations and Grounds and Fleet crews were immediately mobilized while waiting on Allegiant to decide how they wanted to react. A little over an hour later WAA made the decision to evacuate the passengers by bus and take them to the terminal. Anti-icing chemicals and brooming continued all night. By 8AM the first commercial flights were able to go out. United and Delta continued to fly all day, however American and Southwest canceled flights. All pilot breaking reports (PIREPS) were reported as “GOOD” the remainder of the day.

Christopher reported that the Agenda Item, “VIP and Disabled Veterans Complimentary Parking Policy for Customer Lots,” considered by the Wichita Airport Advisory Board (WAAB) at the November 2, 2015 meeting, had been scheduled for the November 12, 2015 City Council/ Airport Authority Board, but was tabled and rescheduled for January 12, 2016. Christopher called to the WAAB’s attention that the “Recommendation/Action” of staff for the January 12, 2016 Council/Airport Authority Board agenda summary had not changed from the November 12, 2015 agenda summary document.

2:52 PM: Motion by Mr. Hennessy and second by Mr. Pryor, to reconsider the recommendation made by the WAAB back on November 2, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

Upon the WAAB’s request, Mr. Christopher clarified the original WAAB recommendation from the November 2, 2015 meeting by reading aloud sections of the November 2, 2015 minutes, which stated that the WAAB voted, 6 to 4, to discontinue VIP courtesy parking passes. Mr. Kerschen expressed some concern that a change of policy recommendation by the WAAB may place Mr. White in a difficult or contrary position with that of his supervisor. Mr. Christopher stated that Airport Staff is not advocating or promoting a change to the original WAAB recommendation, but rather presenting the board with information for its discussion in case the Board wishes to modify its recommendation to the Airport Authority. Airport and Law Department staff further pointed out that a new policy recommendation by the WAAB, if forthcoming, may not necessarily result in a change in staff’s “Recommendation/Action.”

3:09 PM: Motion by Mr. Hennessy, second by Dr. Rosenburg, to recommend, beginning January 1, 2016, VIP courtesy parking passes be circulated to a limited number of individuals including: A) Volunteers, persons or parties invited by the WAA to attend or participate in meetings, conferences, tours, appointments or events and which have been provided a temporary parking pass/voucher authorized by the Director of Airports; B) Authorized and approved service providers or vendors providing products and/or services for and at the invitation of the WAA; C) City of Wichita (suggest two parking access proximity cards for each City department); D) Law enforcement/emergency service agencies; local post-secondary public educational institutions; local non-profit tourism or community development related agencies; and E) Elected or appointed governmental or advisory boards of the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County whose purpose relates directly to the operation, promotion or improvement of the airport system (e.g., Wichita City Council, Wichita Airport Advisory Board, and Sedgwick County Commission). Motion passed 11 to 1 with one abstention.

Project Updates – John Oswald

Mr. Oswald shared a Power Point Presentation regarding the existing Terminal demolition and reconstruction of Terminal Apron – Phase 4B. Discussion revolved around the new Receiving Station building, different kinds of deicing fluid used and stored at the airport, and the reuse of the west end of the old terminal building for operational functions.

Finance Updates – Jean Zoglman

Ms. Zoglman shared a Power Point Presentation regarding 2016 budget rates and charges for the Airlines. The FY 2016 Operating Expense Budget assumes a 3.0% increase over the prior year. There is a slight increase in Terminal Area Rental Rate due to additional debt service and amortization, but the Landing Fee Rate remains stable due to additional debt service in FY 2016 and lower airline landed weight projections being offset by additional Net Revenue Sharing.

Air Service Development Updates – Valerie Wise

November enplanements are up 5% and total passengers up around 6%, meaning full flights. Some of the airlines will be upgrading aircraft and adding capacity. The United Chicago route will be upgrading to an Airbus 320 going from 50 seating capacity to 150, American is upgrading one of its Dallas flights to an MD80 with 140 seats. Delta is upgrading its aircraft to Minneapolis from 50 seat capacity to 76 seat capacity. Allegiant will resume LAX nonstop service twice a week beginning June 8th.

Other Business

The next WAAB meeting will be Monday, February 1, 2016 at 2:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 4:21 p.m. by Mr. Fletcher, 2nd by Mr. Greenlee

Leah Gisick, Clerk