

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

**Monday, November 2, 2015**

Present: Charles Fletcher, Dwight Greenlee, Rich Kerschen, John Hennessy, Carl Koster, Tom Pryor, Thom Rosenberg, Bill Ward, Brent Wooten, David Eslinger

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

City Staff: Jay Hinkel, Deputy City Attorney

Guests: Jim Armour, AECOM  
Dion Lefler, 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 Dr. Rosenberg and second by Mr. Koster, to approve the minutes of the October 5th, 2015 Wichita Airport Advisory Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Director's Report – Victor White**

Mr. White introduced the new Board Member, Mr. David Eslinger and asked that he tell a little about himself. Mr. Eslinger worked in the Engineering Department at Boeing for around 40 years. Since 2004 he has been working on the historic Doc B-29 restoration. In 2000 he joined WSU's Best Robotics.

All Board Members were given the brochures and pamphlets that will be handed out at the National Business Aviation Association's (NBAA) Business Aviation Convention and Exhibition on November 17-19, in Las Vegas. Airport Staff Traci Nichols and her assistant Belinda Witt will be attending, as well as Mr. Scott Rigby (Assistant City Manager/Director of Development), Councilman Jeff Blubaugh, and Councilman Pete Meitzner. They will be working a booth and the tradeshow floor to recruit new aviation businesses for Wichita.

All of the shuttle buses for the Park and Ride Lot have been rebranded with the new Eisenhower Airport logo.

In response to questions about liability raised at last month's meeting, Jean Zoglman contacted the Airport's insurance carrier regarding the Kids Play Area that is going to be installed across from gate one in the new terminal. The insurance carrier confirmed that the Airport has no need to purchase a rider or change any of its insurance policies.

There will be a meeting later this week with Les Eck to restart the project of building a commercial hangar at the North end of the airport. LeaseCorp Aviation has begun construction on two new hangars on the east side of Taxiway Hotel along Pueblo Court. The runway paving and repair construction project at Jabara is now complete. However, later this month there will be some nighttime closures on the Jabara runway for grooving of the new pavement.

The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) is going to lease the old, abandoned Airport Administration building at Jabara. This building has been slated for demolition for more than 10 years due to its seriously dilapidated condition, but the EAA has agreed to make all necessary improvements and updates in exchange for a nominal lease rate. This will hopefully improve general activity and aircraft operations at Jabara due to their fly-ins and special events.

The last Honor Flight of the year will be leaving on Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> and returning Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Air Service Presentation – Valerie Wise**

Mrs. Wise presented a Power Point entitled Southwest Airlines Schedule Redesign. Southwest has had a positive impact on fares and adding St. Louis and Phoenix routes will help continue this trend. Southwest's new routes emphasize operations in St. Louis and Chicago Midway, two of Southwest's focus cities. The schedule is designed to feed focus cities and facilitate more convenient connections. The St. Louis nonstop is twice daily with connections to many top destinations, and offers nonstop service to 39 cities. The Phoenix nonstop is once daily with connections to the west, and offers nonstop service to 49 cities. Starting in April 2016 Wichita will have nonstop service to 9 cities from our five carriers. These changes, along with Southwest signing a five year lease with the Airport earlier this year, show Southwest's commitment to staying in Wichita and maturing the market.

### **Complimentary Parking Policy – Victor White**

At 3:07 a motion was made by Dr. Rosenburg to discontinue the issuance of Courtesy Parking Passes for the Airport Advisory Board effective the end of the year. There was no second.

Mr. White referenced an article in the Wichita Eagle regarding Courtesy Parking Passes. The article in the Eagle was prompted by a previous public outcry in St. Louis and Kansas City related to VIP parking at their respective airports. In Wichita, VIP parking has been in existence at least since the early 1990's. However, now that there is a new electronic parking system in place, there has been discussion with the City Manager since back in September about who should receive the VIP parking passes in the future. It had been originally been proposed by staff following discussions with the Board that the Airport scale back the number who receive the passes. The draft proposal would have included issuing VIP access cards to the City Council, Airport Advisory Board, City Managers' office and key staff, a couple of cards for each City Department, Law Enforcement, Fire and Emergency Service Agencies, local non-profit tourism and economic development-related organizations (Chamber of Commerce, Visit Wichita, Sports Commission, Economic Development Coalition..Etc.), Federal Elected officials, and members of the Sedgwick

County Commission. This would eliminate individuals who are no longer directly associated with the Airport Operations. However, after discussions with the City Manager, it is now believed that eliminating all VIP passes might be a better option. Therefore, Mr. White recommends eliminating the VIP Complimentary parking card process. Assuming that the Airport Board agrees today, Mr. White will place this recommendation on the agenda for an official vote by the Airport Authority on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. White passed out a draft of the agenda report. The one exception for free parking will be in compliance with a new state law, which requires the privilege for disabled Veterans who have a special State-issued license plate and personal identification card that can be presented to parking lot cashiers for a free exit. The privilege does not work in the automated parking lots, such as the Park & Ride and Close-in lot.

At 3:18 a motion was made by Mr. Fletcher to discontinue the reissuance of Courtesy Parking Passes, to anyone, as of January 1, 2016. Second by Dr. Rosenburg. Motion passed 6 to 4.

### **Project Updates – John Oswald**

Mr. Armour stated that there's less than 25 punch list items remaining in the terminal project, ten of those items are related to outside items such as landscaping or irrigation. Most of these items will be finished around Thanksgiving. Four old dedication plaques were moved from the old terminal and they will go up this week and next. They will go on the north wall under the mezzanine next to the up-escalator right in front of the main terminal entrance. The new terminal dedication plaque is being constructed and will go on the front wall to the left side of the old terminal plaques.

Mr. Oswald stated that all the fixes have been implemented at the Jabara runway. The week of November 16<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting, there will be runway closures at Jabara from 9PM to 7AM for four days to perform the concrete grooving.

Phase 4B project, the contractor is waiting on the demolition permit from the city, it should be here any day. Meanwhile, the building is in the process of being gutted. West Concourse asbestos will be abated by November 14<sup>th</sup> and then they will move to the East Concourse.

### **Other Business**

At 3:31 a motion was made to go into executive session, to come out no earlier than 3:40 p.m. by Dr. Rosenburg, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Greenlee. No action was taken.

The next WAAB meeting will be Monday, December 7th, 2015 at 2:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 3:58p.m. by Mr. Ward, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Greenlee

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Leah Gisick, Clerk