

MID-WAY REGIONAL AIRPORT JOINT AIRPORT BOARD MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Mid-Way Regional Airport Joint Airport Board was held on Tuesday, April 7, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. at the Mid-Way Regional Airport, 131 Airport Drive.

Members Present: Al Castleman, Chairman
 Dale Stevenson, Vice Chairman Mark Morgan, Secretary
 George Kent
 Aubrey Price
 Glynn Hall
 Paula Baucum

Others Present: Andy Biery, Airport Manager
 Tammy Bowen, Airport Operations
 Ray Brindle, Airport Tenant Liaison
 Chris Dick, Finance Director, City of Midlothian
 Ken Chambers, Councilman, City of Midlothian
 Ken Lantz, FBO Partner
 Dave Wheeler, FBO Partner
 Vernon Mitchell, FBO Partner

Opening: Chairman Al Castleman called the meeting to order and Glynn Hall gave the invocation.

Minutes:

Dale Stevenson moved to approve the Minutes of March 3, 2009 as presented; second by George Kent. All Ayes.

Financial Report: A Financial Report was reviewed by the Board.

Manager's Report: See attached Manager's Report. Andy Biery also reported:

A problem was resolved with the fire detection system in the paint hangar. There was a faulty circuit breaker for the air compressor.

There were a couple of leak issues with Airborne Imaging's hangar that have been resolved. A door upstairs was leaking water to the first floor.

The GCO has been out for repairs. Bill Gunn, TxDOT, has approved the Airport on getting another Ground Communication Outlet since the one we currently have has never worked properly. This would be Ramp eligible.

The Airport will be rekeying the hangars. Letters will be sent out to the tenants this week.

There will be a ground lease opportunity to explore at the next Board meeting.

Debbie Standefer, CEO of the DFW Summer Balloon Classic, updated the Board on the Balloon Festival scheduled for the weekend of June 19 – 21, 2009. Debbie said that there is a small air show planned for Sunday with the Trojan Phylers (T-28s) performing and a B25 offering flights throughout the event. Debbie stated that they are looking to promote the Airport, City of Waxahachie and the City of Midlothian as well as the area nonprofit organizations.

Glider Operations: Al Castleman said that several months ago the Board approved a plan presented by Carol Walker for her glider operations. Al said that come to find out, the way that they are performing their operations may not be the way it can be done. Andy Biery said that in order for the Airport to comply with an advisory, the Airport must maintain a clear area called the object free area. There must be a total safe clear area of 250' on each side of the centerline. The problem that exists is equipment that is being staged in the object free area while other airplanes take off and land. This is a potential for an accident. Andy said that he and Carol Walker will try to draft a plan that will meet the needs of both the Airport and the glider operations. TxDOT has agreed to review the plan and give a non-binding answer on what a formal answer would be if it were submitted to the FAA. Al said that for right now the gliders will continue to operate off of the runway and that there might be times when there is a glider and/or a towing plane sitting on the runway and another airplane that is lined up to land on the runway will need to circle around one or more times until the glider and/or tow plane vacates the runway. Andy was asked by Glynn Hall if he had considered discussing the changes in procedures with the Board first. Andy said that in any issue aside from policy he would wait to discuss it in a Board meeting, but an issue that involves operating within the confines of clear procedural violation that could put the Airport, Board or Cities at risk or the safety of the public, he feels that he should take immediate action. Andy said that this is not a FAR issue, but an operation of the Airport issue. The Board discussed potential problems with the new procedure as well as possible solutions. This item was tabled until the next Board meeting.

Bids to furnish and place concrete paving for new concrete flume on South side of Airport to help with drainage:

Aubrey Price moved to approve up to \$3,900 to furnish and place concrete paving for new concrete flume on South side of Airport to help with drainage, selecting the lowest bid for the most work; second by Paula Baucum. All Ayes.

Bids for wild hog and erosion control: Andy Biery said that there is a big problem with wild hogs on Airport property. The hogs are tearing up the grounds around the Airport digging for root balls and grub worms. One problem is that they are tearing up the soil around the runway lights because of the June bugs and damaging some of the lights. There is the inability to keep the grass growing in these areas which can quickly cause erosion leading to drainage problems. Their presence on or near the runway is a hazard to the safety of flight operations. The most effective solution would be to have someone apply something that will kill the grub worms and broad leaf weeds. Andy stated that this will not get rid of all of the hogs, but it will keep them from tearing up the property. Andy said that it would also cut down on the mowing requirements. It would cost approximately \$20,000 the first year and then \$10,000 to \$15,000 annually. Tammy Bowen said that it would be Ramp eligible. In addition to spraying the property there will also be traps set out and the Game Warden, Ellis County Sheriff's department and both the Midlothian and Waxahachie police departments are aware of the problem and have permission to come out at night and hunt the hogs. Andy said that TxDOT is considering a request to pay for game fencing.

George Kent moved to approve spending up to \$20,000 to have someone spray for grub worms and broad leaf weeds; second by Dale Stevenson. All Ayes.

Ramp Projects: Andy Biery passed out a document that he has been working on, which is a five year plan that will help effectively utilize the funds that are available to the airport each year. Andy asked the Board to help identify any projects that might have merit on the airport. Andy said that one project would be a glider operations area at the Northeast end of the field outside of the OSA. The second phase would be to determine where the funding sources are and if there is money available from sources other than the local tax payers. The third phase would be to arrange the projects by priority based on the value of the project, the funding source and the timing of the funds. This would help assure that the \$100,000 Ramp grant is fully utilized. Andy said that he would send the Board the plan in PowerPoint.

Options for getting rid of the abandoned fuel truck: Andy Biery presented the Board with some options in his Manager's Report.

Mark Morgan moved to approve contacting the police department about the abandoned fuel truck and have them tow it away; second by Glynn Hall. All Ayes.

Airport Layout Plan: Andy Biery told the Board that by the next meeting he will be asking for approval to spend the money required to ask KSA Engineers to redo the Airport Layout Plan with the current improvements and identify the new needs. The last one was done in 2003. Andy stressed that this is why it is important to put together a list of every potential project that the Airport might want. Andy said that in order for the Airport to be eligible for grant funding the Layout Plan must be current.

Executive Session: Al Castleman stated that due to recent events, there is no need to go in Executive Session. In order to make sure that everything was being done right, Mr. Stout, City Attorney, was contacted and he said that the motion that was passed in February approving the changes in the FBO contract is binding and is ready to be signed.

Paula Baucum suggested organizing some workshops.

Al Castleman called TxDOT about extending the left hand turn lane to the Airport off of Hwy 287. They said that sometimes money becomes available and he will put it on his list. Ray Brindle suggested that someone from the Airport send a letter to Bill Pierce, TxDOT.

Adjournment: There being no further business,

George Kent moved to adjourn; second by Dale Stevenson. All Ayes.