



AIRPORT COMMISSION

ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES OF ADJOURNED MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2016

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Elsner called the Airport Commission Meeting to order at 08:00 A.M.

2. **POSTING OF THE AGENDA:** Posted on February 11, 2016.

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Commissioners Present: Call, Fabricant, Freymuth, Haag, Hampton, Hoehn (Vice Chairman,) Horner, Jones, King, Parks, Riesen, Stelk, Suero, Teal, Wachs.

Commissioners Absent: Berriman, Bushore, Garcia.

Staff Present: Airport Executive Director Nolan, Director of Finance and Treasury Kiehl, Deputy Director of Aviation - Operations and Maintenance Bowser, Airport Administration Manager Jucht, Airport Operations Manager Graff, Executive Administrative Assistant Seery.

4. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:** Accept the Agenda as presented. **Moved and seconded, and unanimously carried noting the absence of Commissioners Berriman, Bushore, Garcia.**

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mr. Steve Rosenberg commented on the large number of foreign aircraft at Palm Springs airport over the past weekend on the occasion of the U.S. ASEAN summit and commended staff for accommodating the event successfully.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 20, 2016. **Moved and seconded.**

AYES: Call, Fabricant, Freymuth, Hampton, Hoehn, Horner, Jones, King, Riesen, Stelk, Suero, Teal, Wachs.

ABSTAIN: Haag, Parks

ABSENT: Berriman, Bushore, Garcia.

7. **INTRODUCTIONS:**

Chairman Elsner introduced the newly appointed Desert Hot Springs Commissioner, Ms. Yvonne Parks, replacing retiring Commissioner Pye.

Commissioner Parks expressed her pleasure at the prospect of serving again on the Airport Commission for the next couple of years. Ms. Parks was warmly welcomed by the Commission members.

8. PRESENTATIONS:

Commissioner Stelk addressed the Commission about the visit to the Twentynine Palms Marine Base on March 23rd, 2016, and explained how the security clearance is expected to take three weeks, therefore all who wish to attend must furnish security information this week.

9. BUDGET REPORT:

Director of Finance and Treasury Kiehl reported on the January summary report and explained how Fund 415 Airport Revenues are up by 8.3%. How the Cogen facility is not yet operational and how the airport is still on the grid for the next couple of months causing increased expenses. Mr. Kiehl explained how the yearly finance audit had no findings, and how next year's budget would be presented to the Airport Commission in April and to the City Council in May.

ACTION: Accept the financial report. **Moved and seconded, and unanimously carried noting the absence of Commissioners Berriman, Bushore, Garcia.**

Deputy Director of Finance & Treasurer Kiehl excused himself from the meeting at 08:15 A.M.

8. PRESENTATIONS:

Executive Director Nolan resumed the presentation portion of this meeting and announced the passing of Mr. James Scott, Skycap Supervisor for Sierra Aviation Group, employed at Palm Springs Airport for thirty years.

In a PowerPoint presentation, Executive Director Nolan then presented a document produced by the U.S. House Transportation Infrastructure Committee: The Aviation Innovation Reform and Reauthorization Act (AIRR Act.)

The topics covered in this document and commented upon were:

“The Transformational reform: ensuring the future of American Aviation by providing a safe, efficient, modern aviation system, benefiting passengers with fewer delays and greater reliability, fostering innovation, keeping America competitive in this vital economic sector;”

“The case for Air Traffic control reform: Ending decades of delay, waste and instability,” and how the most recent modernization effort, NextGen, could be

obsolete by the time it is implemented. How after three decades of modernization attempts the Nation's aviation system is not positioned to meet projected growth;

"A safe, efficient, modern system: establishing an independent, not-for-profit ATC Corporation, with the FAA retaining its safety oversight. How in the last 28 years, over 50 countries have separated AT services from the safety regulator, improving safety, modernizing and improving AT services, and reducing costs."

"Improving America's competitiveness, streamlining and reforming the FAA certification process, enhancing U.S. companies' ability to compete and get products to market faster"

"Enhancing Aviation Safety by allowing the FAA to strengthen its focus on regulating safety, including the completion of a database of airline pilot records, working with ICAO and other countries to develop standards to improve tracking of aircraft, conducting risk assessment on cockpit safety."

"Improving Air Service for consumers by modernizing the system and increasing its efficiency. Evaluating and implementing aviation consumer protection programs."

"Modernizing U.S. Airport Infrastructure, by providing robust funding for the FAA's Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and removing unnecessary restrictions on the Passenger Facility Charge."

"Safely & efficiently integrating unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)"

Executive Director Nolan then presented photographs of airport operations surrounding the U.S. ASEAN summit which took place this past week-end including pictures of Air Force One, and several foreign aircraft which transported top dignitaries from South East Asia, including Brunei, the Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia and Malaysia, while other dignitaries arrived on commercial flights. Mr. Nolan explained how the airport had successfully handled all phases of aircraft operations as well as other requirements from the State Department and how this event presents an immense benefit to the entire Valley.

10. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS: None

11. EXECUTIVE AND STAFF REPORTS:

Airport Executive Director Nolan reported on the following topics:

Within the context of the Master Plan, the car rental facility expansion is currently being examined from a feasibility standpoint.

An operating permit item pertaining to Rideshare companies may be brought to the Commission and City Council in the near future. Mr. Nolan explained how Rideshare companies can currently drop off at Palm Springs airport, and how six California airports had already elaborated agreements with these companies, which will provide a valuable base for an agreement development at PSP.

Local advertising about Palm Springs International Airport has been implemented on static billboards along I-10 eastbound and westbound and two other locations in the Valley.

The main runway reconstruction project closeout is in its final stages.

Virgin America Airlines announced year-round service from San Francisco to Palm Springs, with four flights a week during the summer months.

12. COMMISSIONERS REQUESTS AND REPORTS:

Commissioner Call thanked the Airport for creating and displaying a way-finding map which is helping travelers find facilities available beyond the security checkpoint, a question frequently asked of the volunteer navigators.

Commissioner King explained how he flew with JetBlue and had a positive experience including being able to find a taxi upon his arrival at Palm Springs Airport late into the night, by using the telephone on the starter booth to summon a taxi from the airport staging area.

Commissioner Parks explained how she was able to book airfare, hotel reservations and a show in New York through JetBlue's website at a very advantageous price.

- 13. REPORT OF CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS:** Wednesday, January 13, 2016 – 2.E. Ratify and appoint the nomination of the City of Desert Hot Springs representative Yvonne Parks to the Palm Springs International Airport Commission for the term ending December 31, 2017.
Wednesday, February 3, 2016 – 5.D. Award of contract for parking lot management services at Palm Springs International Airport to Ace Parking Management for the period ending January 21, 2021.

14. CORRESPONDENCE: None

15. RECEIVE AND FILE:

ACTION: Receive and file: 15.A January 2016 Activity Report; 15.B March 2016 Airline Schedule.

Commissioner Elsner explained how this month of January is tracking only one percent lower than last January, and is our second best January ever.

Moved and seconded, and unanimously carried noting the absence of Commissioners Berriman, Bushore, Garcia.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn to March 16, 2016. **Moved and seconded, and unanimously carried noting the absence of Commissioners Berriman, Bushore, Garcia.**

The Airport Commission adjourned at 09:03 A.M. to Wednesday, March 16, 2016, at 08:00 A.M. in the airport conference room, 3400 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs.

Nadia P. Seery
Executive Administrative Assistant