



## **AIRPORT COMMISSION**

### **ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES OF ADJOURNED MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2017**

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#### **1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Wachs called the Airport Commission Meeting to order at 08:00 A.M.

#### **2. POSTING OF THE AGENDA:** Posted on July 13, 2017.

#### **3. ROLL CALL:**

**Commissioners Present:** Berriman, Betts, Breslin, Bushore, Call, Clarkson, Freymuth, Hampton, Hedrick, Hughes, Johnson, Jones, King, Riesen, Schmitz.

**Commissioners Absent:** Hoehn, Pattison, Spike.

**Staff Present:** City Manager Ready, Director of Finance and Treasury Kiehl, Airport Executive Director Nolan, Assistant Airport Director Aguirre, Deputy Director of Aviation - Operations and Maintenance Bowser, Airport Administration Manager Jucht, Airport Operations Manager Graff, Airport Security Coordinator Daugherty, Executive Administrative Assistant Seery.

#### **4. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:**

**ACTION:** Accepted the Agenda as presented

#### **5. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

#### **6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 21, 2017, were presented for approval. **Moved and seconded.**

**AYES:** Berriman, Betts, Bushore, Call, Freymuth, Hampton, Johnson, Jones, King, Riesen, Schmitz.

**ABSTAIN:** Breslin, Clarkson, Hedrick, Hughes.

**ABSENT:** Hoehn, Pattison, Spike

## **7. INTRODUCTIONS:**

Chairman Wachs welcomed new Commissioners Patricia Breslin, Jeffrey Clarkson and Ken Hedrick representing Palm Springs, and Commissioner Kathleen Hughes representing La Quinta.

Each of the Commissioners gave a brief introduction about their backgrounds.

Airport Director Nolan introduced Ms. Sandy Clark, of Lamar Advertising Company, who is now managing the advertising at PSP airport. He reminded the Commission that Corey Airport Services sold their firm to Lamar and the lease assignment to Lamar was approved.

Ms. Clark explained how Lamar, which is a long-standing billboard company, launched into airport advertising a few years ago with Las Vegas, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, Ontario, and Burbank airports, and now many others, and how she is happy to be the local manager, while still based in Boise, Idaho.

## **7.A ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

The election of Airport Commission officers was conducted by City Manager Ready.

Mr. Ready solicited nominations for the Chairman position.

Commissioner Johnson nominated Commissioner Wachs, and this nomination was seconded by Commissioner Freymuth.

No other nominations were received.

**ACTION:** Nominate Commissioner Wachs as Chairman of the Airport Commission for FY 2107-18. **Moved and seconded and unanimously approved noting the absence of Commissioners Hoehn, Pattison, Spike.**

City Manager Ready solicited nominations for the Vice-Chairman position.

Commissioner Freymuth nominated Commissioner Hoehn, and this nomination was seconded by Commissioner Bushore.

No other nominations were received.

**ACTION:** Nominate Commissioner Hoehn as Vice-Chairman of the Airport Commission for FY 2107-18. **Moved and seconded and unanimously approved noting the absence of Commissioners Hoehn, Pattison, Spike.**

Chairman Wachs thanked the Commissioners for their vote of confidence again this year, which will be his last year as a Commissioner.

**8. PRESENTATIONS:** None

**9. CITY MANAGER REPORT:**

City Manager Ready congratulated the Commission on the return of Frontier Airlines.

**10. BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT:**

Director of Finance and Treasurer Kiehl presented the June 2017 Financial Summary and explained how this report still lacked one more two-week payroll period.

Mr. Kiehl pointed out that the rental car revenues reflect a decrease presently compared to last year but expect to be trued-up by year end as is the case each year.

Mr. Kiehl explained how the projections for Fund 415 Airport Operations & Maintenance point to a fiscal-year-end surplus of about \$2.4 million.

How today, the unrestricted cash Fund 415 balance stands at \$5.5 million and how the airport should end the year around \$5.2 or \$5.3 million.

Commissioner King asked Mr. Kiehl if he could explain this in greater detail for the benefit of the new Commissioners at the September meeting, to which Mr. Kiehl agreed.

Chairman Wachs asked why Fund 405 CFC revenue of \$2.1 million is the same as the projection.

Director of Finance and Treasurer Kiehl explained that this is because we are done for this fiscal year.

**ACTION:** Recommend that the commission accept the Financial Summary Report for June 2017. **Moved and seconded and unanimously approved noting the absence of Commissioners Hoehn, Pattison, Spike.**

**11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:**

**11.A Discussion on Change of Commission Meeting Date from Current 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday to Either the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday to Better Align with City Council Meeting Schedule.**

Discussion took place and Commissioners expressed their preference for the Airport Commission meeting to be held on the second Wednesday of each month starting with the October meeting.

Director of Finance and Treasurer Kiehl indicated his preference for the fourth Wednesday as the financial summary may not be ready for a meeting held on the second Wednesday of the month.

**ACTION:** Recommend that Airport Commission Meetings be held on the second Wednesday of each month, beginning in October 2017. **Moved and seconded and unanimously approved noting the absence of Commissioners Hoehn, Pattison, Spike.**

### **11.B Discussion of Federal Airport Traffic Control Reform Initiatives**

Commissioner King made available his typed briefing detailing how the US Congress may soon be considering a proposal by Congressman Bill Shuster to reform the country's air traffic control system which will be a key part of the upcoming FAA reauthorization bill. The briefing included the history of the proposal, what is being proposed, reasons why the reform is needed, and the related issue of increasing or eliminating the cap on the PFC.

Commissioner King explained how the bill would convert the air traffic control system, currently ran by the FAA and funded by taxpayers, into a self-funded non-profit corporation where all aviation stakeholders: passengers, airlines, airports, controllers and pilots would be represented on a board of directors of 13 members.

Commissioner King explained how Canada had implemented this system 15 years ago and New Zealand started in 1987. How this could improve on-time performance and reduce emissions.

Commissioner Jones asked how does the user fee not get passed on.

Commissioner King replied that the fee is 30% less in Canada and has gone down in most nations whereas ours is increasing.

Commissioner Riesen commented that this did not include input from the General Aviation, how the Pilots Association has been against user fees for years. How AOPA will be opposed and will do something to alleviate any fees, and how in his opinion, the bill may be hard to pass. He added that General Aviation uses ATC many more times than commercial airlines and is an important component of our system.

Commissioner Hedrick pointed out that smaller airports may be at a disadvantage.

Commissioner Clarkson commented that the user fee would have to be the same for all because major airlines did not want to subsidize General Aviation.

Commissioner Schmitz asked where the major groups stood such as AAAP, ACI.

Executive Director Nolan replied that at this point they remained relatively neutral.

Commissioner Johnson asked when would be a good time to take position.

Commissioner King indicated that this Fall would be appropriate.

Commissioner Betts asked from a procedural standpoint how we would make our recommendations.

City Manager Ready indicated that Council could pass a resolution and forward it on to the legislature.

## **12. EXECUTIVE AND STAFF REPORTS:**

Airport Executive Director Nolan announced that Frontier Airlines will be returning to PSP with service from Denver on November 10, 2017. He explained how we have met with the airlines advance team and everything has been satisfactory to them.

In a PowerPoint Mr. Nolan presented an Architectural Advisory Committee Staff Report dated July 17, 2017 and titled: "City of Palm Springs, for a minor architectural application for revisions to the secure baggage processing and screening area at the Palm Springs International Airport located at 3400 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Zone A. (Case 3.2594 MAA)".

This staff report addressed the baggage processing elements which are visible from the main Airport roadway. Plans and photographs depicted the three projected outdoors covered bag carousels in the rear of the ticket counter building.

Mr. Nolan presented further slides depicting the additional space to be constructed under the Bono to house airlines offices, a modular building behind the baggage make-up area and the new TSA baggage screening facility. He explained how the project will be constructed in two phases with the enabling projects constructed in Fall and Winter of 2017, and the Ticketing Hall remodel planned for Spring and Summer of 2018.

Mr. Nolan gave an overview of the purpose and justification for the project so that the new Commission members had some background.

Mr. Nolan then presented a slide depicting the airfield electrical project and explained the necessity to replace key components, switch signage, PAPIS, REILS to LED lighting, and update the emergency airfield electrical systems.

Mr. Nolan addressed the required repairs on Taxiway J which shows some signs of shoving and indicated that the resurfacing will be done this summer and will take approximately 150 days to complete.

The Airline Activity Report for June reflects a 9.8% increase in total passengers with overall year-to-date increase of 4.4%.

**13. COMMISSIONERS REQUESTS AND REPORTS:** None

**14. REPORT OF CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS:**

**06-21-17 1.I.** Ratify and Appoint the nomination of the City of La Quinta to the Palm Springs International Airport Commission for the term ending June 30, 2020. (Commissioner Hughes).

**1.K.** Amendment No.3 in the amount of \$1,886,808.78 to the agreement No. A6860 with Mariposa Landscapes, Inc. for Landscape and ground maintenance Services.

**1.L.** Award bid and approve purchase of commercial air conditioning compressors from Allied Refrigeration, Inc. in the amount of \$48,556.88.

**5.C.** Approval of amendments to existing airport car rental concession agreements increasing rental rates and extending the term up to three (3) years.

**5.E.** Appointment of various Commissioners and Board Members as part of the 2017 Annual Recruitment process. (Part 5) (Commissioners Breslin, Clarkson, Hedrick).

**15. CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**16. RECEIVE AND FILE:**

**ACTION:** Receive and file: 16.A June 2017 Activity Report; 16.B August 2017 Airlines Schedules. **Moved and seconded, and unanimously carried noting the absence of Commissioners Hoehn, Pattison, Spike.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn. **Moved and seconded, and unanimously carried noting the absence of Commissioners Hoehn, Pattison, Spike.**

The Airport Commission adjourned at 9:05 to Wednesday, September 20, 2017, at 08:00 A.M., in the airport conference room, 3400 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs.

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Nadia P. Seery  
Executive Administrative Assistant