



AIRPORT COMMISSION

ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES OF ADJOURNED MEETING

Tuesday, October 8, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Jones called the Airport Commission meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. and asked Commissioner Adams to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. POSTING OF THE AGENDA: Posted on October 3, 2019.

3. ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present: Adams, Breslin, Budilo, Burke, Clarkson, Dada, Feltman, Freymuth, Hedrick, Jones, Pye, Riesen.

Commissioners Absent: Altman, Corcoran, Hoehn, Hughes, Pattison, Schmitz, Suero.

Others Present: City of Palm Springs Councilmember J. R. Roberts, Mr. Joe Jackson, RS&H Vice President – Airports Division.

Staff Present: City Manager Ready, Airport Executive Director Nolan, Assistant Airport Director Aguirre, Airport Administration Manager Jucht, Airport Operations Manager Graff, Executive Administrative Assistant Seery.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:

ACTION: Accept the agenda as presented. **Moved and seconded and unanimously carried noting the absence of Commissioners Altman, Corcoran, Hoehn, Hughes, Pattison, Schmitz, Suero.**

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 11, 2019, were presented for approval.

Moved by Commissioner Dada and seconded by Commissioner Hedrick.

AYES: Adams, Breslin, Budilo, Clarkson, Dada, Feltman, Freymuth, Hedrick, Jones.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Burke, Pye, Riesen.

ABSENT: Altman, Corcoran, Hoehn, Hughes, Pattison, Schmitz, Suero.

7. CHAIRMAN REPORT:

Chairman Jones introduced Councilmember J. R. Roberts in attendance and thanked him for serving as the airport liaison during his tenure on the Palm Springs City Council.

Commissioners Dada and Feltman gave a brief presentation of their backgrounds.

8. INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Airport Executive Director Nolan presented a PowerPoint photo of newly installed drinking water bottle refill stations.

9. CITY MANAGER REPORT:

City Manager Ready announced that, at the October 23rd meeting, City Council will be asked to offer general guidance and / or give consent to proceed with the Airport Concessions RFPs.

Mr. Ready then addressed the ticket wing project and introduced Mr. Joe Jackson RS&H Vice President - Airports Division, whose company was awarded the ticket wing construction management contract.

Mr. Jackson presented their company background and project experience both at PSP and other facilities nationwide.

Mr. Ready then explained how Swinerton, the general contractor, will postpone the construction of the ticket wing until next spring so as not to interfere with passenger traffic. How, this is resulting in a change order of up to \$800,000 which was presented to the City this week. How negotiations still continue with Swinerton, however, since the next lowest competitive bid was \$1.4M higher, remaining with Swinerton, a well-known and respected company, made sense. How City Council had already approved change orders for up to \$1.5M and delaying this would not be beneficial.

Commissioner Dada proposed that the Commission recommend this option.

Dr. Ready indicated that for a recommendation to take place the item would need to be agendaized and a vote was taken.

ACTION: Agendize this item. **Moved by Commissioner Hedrick, seconded by Commissioner Freymuth and unanimously carried, noting the absence of Commissioners Altman, Corcoran, Hoehn, Hughes, Pattison, Schmitz, Suero.**

ACTION: Approve an expenditure of up to \$800,000 for Swinerton and postpone the ticket wing construction start date until late March 2020. **Moved by Commissioner Dada, seconded by Commissioner Hedrick and unanimously carried, noting the absence of Commissioners Altman, Corcoran, Hoehn, Hughes, Pattison, Schmitz, Suero.**

10. BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT:

Airport Administration Manager Jucht explained how the airport has the necessary funding for the additional \$800,000 and it will not create undue changes in the budget.

Mr. Jucht commented how the CFC fund reflects an increase of 7% and reserves stand at a healthy \$22.4M. How PFCs are just revenues at this point and total \$2.2M, an increase of 5% over last year. How General Revenues are up over 21%. How there are no current expenses out of the CFC fund but how they will soon begin to trickle in. How Fund 415 – Airport Unrestricted stands at \$9.6M.

11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

11.A Ordinance for Noise Committee Update

Commissioner Clarkson, Chairman of the Noise Committee, explained how City Ordinance No. 1520 which amended Chapter 2.16 of the Palm Springs Municipal Code by establishing a Standing Noise Subcommittee at the onset of the runway extension project in 1995 is out of date. How the Noise Committee, at their June 12, 2019, meeting had agreed unanimously to recommend proposed changes.

Commissioner Clarkson summarized that his intent was to keep the ordinance as close to the original as possible, and the Commission reviewed the six changes he had proposed and which were approved by the Noise Committee: 1) Call the Subcommittee a Committee; 2) Remove references to ROARE; 3) Change the requirements for the member's cities of residence; 4) Change the method of appointment of members; 5) Redefine the proximity of members to Airport; 6) Confirm the number of yearly meetings.

Commissioner Clarkson explained how the Noise Committee had agreed on a regular quarterly meeting schedule in March, June, September and December following the Airport Commission meeting, although this schedule would not be part of the ordinance.

ACTION: Recommend adopting proposed changes to Ordinance No. 1520. **Moved by Commissioner Hedrick, seconded by Commissioner Riesen and unanimously approved noting the absence of Commissioners Altman, Corcoran, Hoehn, Hughes, Pattison, Schmitz, Suero.**

11.B Update on New Art Placement at the Airport

Executive Director Nolan reported that City Council had approved the placement of the art pieces titled "A Tale of Survival in the Face of Crushing Inertia" in the Regional Concourse. How the artists were presented location choices and elected to suspend four pieces of the art on either side of the central area. How they were extremely pleased with this option as it offers better visibility for the art, keeps it safe, and reduces the cost of materials and upkeep.

11.C Terminal Modifications

Executive Director Nolan provided an update of the terminal modifications project which consists of the relocation of the Airport Operations office to allow for the widening of the TSA queueing area and the addition of a sixth screening device, relocating the police office to behind the Celebrity Bistro restaurant next to the security checkpoint, widening the hallway to baggage claim by removing offices and walls, and adding six car rental ticket counter positions by relocating a sliding glass door. Mr. Nolan explained how the bid came in at \$1.4M, over the Cioffi Architects original \$800,000 estimate.

Mr. Jackson of RS&H explained how this bid overage is a nationwide trend caused by a red-hot economy and great inflation; how companies bid high as they anticipate to pay premium labor salaries.

Mr. Nolan explained how the construction contract has been awarded to CALTEC, that demolition should begin soon, and the project should be completed by December.

Airport Administration Manager Jucht explained how construction cost and administration fees will total \$1.7M. How \$800,000 had been budgeted, \$170,000 will come from Capital Unrestricted Fund for unidentified projects, \$85,000 from the CFC Fund will be used for the rental cars ticket counter expansion portion of the project, and the remaining \$650,000 will come from capital reserves.

12. EXECUTIVE AND STAFF REPORTS:

Airport Executive Director Nolan commented on the following topics:

The design of the ARFF trucks is being finalized. How replacing these vehicles because of their age had been approved in the ACIP supported by an FAA grant.

The Pavement Condition Inventory project already awarded will be conducted shortly with non-destructive testing of all twelve million square feet of airfield pavements to provide a baseline.

The Bono concourse Passenger Boarding Bridges rehabilitation specifications are being developed with a bid alternate for new bridges.

The Airport Concessions RFP will be addressed at the City Council meeting of October 23, 2019.

The Parking Concession contract is up for bid and a nationwide RFP solicitation will be conducted.

The Airport Use and Lease Agreement negotiations with all airlines have begun. How the language of the current AULA is twenty years old and the consultant and staff are examining different methodologies.

Gensler architects is assembling their team for the car rental project. How the first step is to collaborate with the stakeholders. How the Master Plan was approved five years ago and dynamics have changed since then, the plan will be re-evaluated for adequacy and facilities will be sized either up or down. How the size of the facilities will dictate the cost. How the airport has an available balance of \$23M in CFCs and the State authorizes airports to levy even higher fees per car rental transaction if necessary to support the cost.

United Airlines has announced the discontinuation of the Newark service in January.

Commissioner Freymuth brought up the huge impact of the Boeing Max8 grounding.

13. COMMISSIONERS REQUESTS AND REPORTS:

Commissioner Pye asked if the Commission would be required to provide another motion if the change order exceeded \$800,000 for the terminal modification project.

Councilmember Roberts explained that City Council had already approved \$1.5M in change orders, therefore the motion was not necessary today, and won't be in the future as long as the overage remains under \$1.5M. How the intent today was to keep the Commission informed.

Commissioner Clarkson inquired about the status of the Ad Hoc Landscape / Sustainability Committee.

Mr. Nolan explained how the Sustainability Manager for the City has reported that there may be a grant from the Desert Water Agency for the conversion of grass. How

funds were appropriated by the airport to obtain a local architect and assemble a team, and when achieved it would be brought to the Ad Hoc Landscape / Sustainability Committee. How the terminal and ticket wing projects take priority at this time.

Commissioner Freymuth asked about the hiring of the Marketing Manager.

Mr. Nolan explained how HR is now in the “meet and confer” stage with the union since there have been changes to the job description.

Commissioner Dada inquired about retaining a search firm.

City Manager Ready agreed to look into having an agency on retainer in the next month or so, and since the fee would not exceed \$20,000, a sum he can approve, it would not require approval by City Council.

Commissioner Freymuth inquired about the Civil Engineer position.

Executive Director Nolan replied that the Assistant City Manager is working on that and the definition for this position exists.

City Manager Ready also asked to move the Ordinance No. 1520 item to the City Council meeting of November 6 due to the already heavy agenda expected on October 23rd as this particular topic may generate interest and speakers.

14. REPORT OF CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS: Included in the packet.

15. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

16. RECEIVE AND FILE:

ACTION: Receive and file: 16.B. November 2019 Airlines Schedules.

ADJOURNMENT:

ACTION: Motion to adjourn. **Moved by Commissioner Freymuth, seconded by Commissioner Adams and unanimously carried noting the absence of Commissioners Altman, Corcoran, Hoehn, Hughes, Pattison, Schmitz, Suero.**

The Airport Commission adjourned at 9:18 A.M. to Wednesday, November 13, 2019, at 8:00 A.M., in the airport conference room, 3400 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs.

Nadia P. Seery
Executive Administrative Assistant