

**M I N U T E S**  
**AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**January 10, 2023**

The Airport Advisory Commission of the City of Farmington met on Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 4:00 p.m., in the Executive Conference Room at 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, NM.

<b>Members Present:</b>	Mark Gordon Richard Roderick, Chairman Jonathan Rudolf
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Wayne Mangum, Pro Tem
<b>Staff Present:</b>	Julie Baird, Deputy City Manager Jody Carman, Airport Administrative Aide Russel Frost, Deputy City Attorney Mike Lewis, Airport Manager
<b>Others Present:</b>	Felicia Bekis, Atlantic Aviation

**Call to Order**

The Airport Advisory Commission (AAC) regular meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Richard Roderick, there being a quorum present, the following proceedings were duly had and taken.

**Approval of the January 10, 2023 Agenda**

Chairman Richard Roderick asked for a motion to approve the agenda for January 10, 2023. A motion was made by Commissioner Mark Gordon, and seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf to approve the agenda for January 10, 2023 and passed by a vote of 3-0.

**Approval of the Minutes from the December 13, 2022 Regular Meeting of the AAC**

Chairman Richard Roderick asked for a motion to approve the minutes from December 13, 2022. A motion was made by Commissioner Mark Gordon, and seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2022 regular meeting of the AAC, and passed by a vote of 3-0.

**Operations Report**

Airport Manager Mike Lewis presented the statistics as they appear in the agenda. Manager Lewis noted yearly comparisons for operations, fuel, No Worries statistics not being current, and the status of car rentals.

Airport Manager Mike Lewis asked if there were any questions, there were none.

**Additional Operations Information**

Airport Manager Mike Lewis reported on additional operational items not listed in the agenda.

- 1) Four Corners Regional Airport (FCRA) was granted an extension of the Small Community Air Service Development Program (SCASDP) Grant for an additional year, as it was set to expire on January 6, 2023.
- 2) Roadrunner Flight School owner/operator Michael Meade has indicated he is in the process of trying to sell his flight school. He is negotiating and working through the process to, hopefully, complete a sale. Mr. Mead has indicated there are a number of interested parties. Chairman Richard Roderick added Roadrunner Flight School is scheduled to shut down in March of 2023.
- 3) Airport Manager Mike Lewis reported there were two (2) laser flash incidents reported on Saturday, January 7, 2023. Incidents were reported by Gary Risley in his Piper Lance 3 who was about three (3) minutes ahead of a King Air, around 6:00 p.m., one (1) mile off the approach end of Runway 25. Manager Lewis noted the pilots reported the laser could have originated in the area of Ricketts Park. The tower filed a police report and the appropriate FAA reports. Airport Manager Mike Lewis handed out a data sheet containing laser flash incident statistics across the nation. There were 9,723 incidents reported to the FAA in 1021, while there were 6,852 incidents reported in 2020. There was a short discussion which included laser incidents in other countries, laser modification, plan to promote a story for the local paper, and how 98% of the offenders get away with it.
- 4) Airport Manager Mike Lewis reported while there was a lot of rain in December, there was no plowable snow.
- 5) Manager Lewis reported he needed to set up a meeting with City Economic Development Director Warren Unsicker to discuss the development of property on the north side of the airport. He noted a road is needed to be built in order to go somewhere there is a planned destination.
- 6) The planned visit to SkyWest in St. George, Utah for Airport Manager Mike Lewis, City Manager Rob Mayes, and Mayor Nate Duckett is still scheduled for January 25 to 26, 2023. Manager Lewis noted, due to infrequent flight schedules, it is quicker and easier to drive to St. George than to fly.

Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf noted he saw Advantage Air just announced a route between Albuquerque and Las Cruces. He asked if that airline had been approached as potential air service for FCRA. Manager Lewis explained Advantage Air has no joint ticketing or interline baggage service agreements with connecting airlines, and they enplane in a general aviation area. So, baggage and passengers would need to be rechecked in for any connecting flights. Airport Manager Mike Lewis added Mayor Nate Duckett, City Manager Rob Mayes, and Airline Consultant firm Arkstar had a meeting with them last spring. There was a short discussion about additional possibilities for air service at FCRA. Airport Manager Mike Lewis explained there has been in close contact with consultants at Arkstar and SkyWest. It has been determined SkyWest would be the best choice given dependability and their 30 seat planes will accommodate pilots with less than 1500 hours. Their planes are a good fit for the shorter runways at FCRA.

Airport Manager Mike Lewis explained the January 26<sup>th</sup> meeting was promising as there is different, but just as receptive management, than in the past. FCRA is seen as an opportunity to take some of that Albuquerque Airport business. There was a short discussion about Frontier Airlines service history and Farmington to Albuquerque air service and why it doesn't work.

Manager Mike Lewis told the commission, one of our tenants Russell Gervase had gifted him a framed copy of a valuable, original stamp, the "Inverted Jenny". He explained when the original stamp of the Wright Brothers plane was printed, no one had seen an airplane before, hence the image of the Jenny was printed upside down.

Airport Manager Mike Lewis asked if there were any questions.

**Business from the Chairman:**

Chairman Richard Roderick has still been researching to gather more information regarding self-service fuel at FCRA. He turned the floor over to Commissioner Mark Gordon who had information from Aztec Airport Manager Wallace Begay. Chairman Roderick noted the next step would be to do an electronic survey to all the users on airport email list. This would be in hopes to have a better idea of feasibility for self-service fuel at FCRA and serve to direct how to move forward.

Commissioner Gordon explained Aztec has liability insurance costs around \$2000 per year. He added Airport Manager Wallace Begay is ABC Certified and performs his own annual tank inspections according to EPA guidelines. The 12,000 gallon tank at Aztec is installed above ground and allows for an 8,000 gallon truck load.

Commissioner Rudolf brought up the need for supporting services, such as restroom facilities. There was a discussion regarding the possibility for Atlantic to provide or maintain those facilities. Atlantic Aviation Manager Felicia Bekis responded she would need to discuss that issue with her managers. The need or not, for restroom facility access should be included in the survey. It was also noted many small airport self-service stations do not have bathroom facilities.

Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf explained there could be a code accessible room that is unlocked and available with services just like in Aztec. There was a short discussion regarding options available.

Chairman Richard Roderick said he had no more business, questions, or comments at this time.

**Business from the Members:**

Chairman Richard Roderick asked if there were any questions from commission members. There were no more questions or comments.

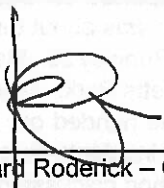
**Business from the Staff:**

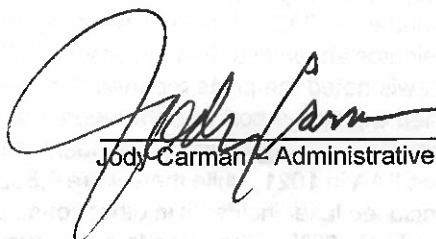
Chairman Richard Roderick asked if there were any questions from staff. There were no questions or comments.

**Business from the Floor:**

Chairman Richard Roderick asked if anyone from the floor. There were no questions or comments.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the January 10, 2023 meeting was adjourned by Chairman Richard Roderick, the motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf and seconded by Commissioner Mark Gordon at 4:35 p.m.

  
Richard Roderick – Chairman

  
Jody Carman – Administrative Aide