

M I N U T E S
AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
March 14, 2023

The Airport Advisory Commission of the City of Farmington met on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 4:00 p.m., in the Executive Conference Room at 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, NM.

Members Present:	Mark Gordon Morey Havens Richard Roderick, Chairman Jonathan Rudolf
Members Absent:	Bill Foutz, Alternate Wayne Mangum
Staff Present:	Jody Carman, Airport Admin Aid Mike Lewis, Airport Manager
Others Present:	Justy Jo-Antonio, Atlantic Aviation

Call to Order

The Airport Advisory Commission (AAC) regular meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Chairman Richard Roderick. There was a little confusion as Administrative Aide needed to try to contact, via conference room phone, new Alternate Bill Foutz. He was unavailable. As there was a quorum present, the following proceedings were duly had and taken. Chairman Roderick introduced and welcomed new commission member Morey Havens.

Approval of the March 14, 2023 Agenda

Chairman Richard Roderick asked for a motion to approve the agenda for March 14, 2023. A motion was made by Commissioner Mark Gordon, and seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf to approve the agenda for March 14, 2023 and passed by a vote of 4-0.

Approval of the Minutes from the February 14, 2023 Regular Meeting of the AAC

Chairman Richard Roderick asked for a motion to approve the minutes from February 14, 2023. A motion was made by Commissioner Morey Havens, and seconded by Commissioner Jon Rudolf to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2023 regular meeting of the AAC, and passed by a vote of 4-0.

Operations Report

Airport Manager Mike Lewis presented the statistics as they appear in the agenda. There was a short discussion regarding current statistics, including the Guardian Pilatus accidents. Airport Manager Mike Lewis asked if there were any more questions, there were none.

Additional Operations Information

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

- 1) Manager Lewis is waiting to get word from SkyWest regarding the start of air service at Four Corners Regional Airport. Manager Lewis explained SkyWest must have new certification to operate 30 seats in the 50 passenger jets. Our airline search consultant, Arkstar, is currently working through some prorate and minimum guarantee agreements with SkyWest. As soon as a letter of intent is received, the TSA federalization process can start.

There was a short discussion regarding revenue guarantees. Airport Manager Mike Lewis explained how Four Corners Regional Airport would assist that goal to at least break even, and other option possibilities from the state and federal government.

There was conversation regarding SkyWest airline seats, size of aircraft, and pilot salaries and comparisons to Mesa Airlines. This discussion segued to Manager Lewis noting Mesa may bring 5 to 15 light sport type airplanes which will be used to help flight students secure flight hours. There was conversations regarding where those Mesa training planes and maintenance operation might be housed at Four Corners Regional Airport. There was further conversation regarding flight training operations, student requirements, mission technical, and Four Corners Regional Airport may be the next location for Mesa Flight Training Program.

The discussion moved back to SkyWest, routes, flights per day, hubs, and EAS service details.

- 2) Manager Lewis announced there will be construction coordination meetings this week regarding completion, which includes the movement of the B & G Taxiway Project with a completion time of 50 days.
- 3) The March calendar item on the schedule for the commission to discuss, is if a new Four Corners Regional Airport fee structure is required. Manager Lewis noted it was determined by the commission at the February meeting not to adjust any airport fees.

- 4) Warren Unsicker, Director of Economic Development has been assisting Airport Manager Mike Lewis and Chairman Richard Roderick in the quest to develop Northside airport properties. Director Unsicker is currently attempting to make contact with the primary landowner. This is proving to be difficult. When Director Unsicker returns from spring break, next step can be determined, which could include getting the city legal department involved.
- 5) Airport Manager announced he had very productive meetings, in Santa Fe at Aviation Day at the Statehouse, with the State Aviation Department regarding a request for proposal (RFP) to get the ball rolling on the air service grant from them. Additionally, a hand delivered package of information to all of the representatives and senators offices, included talking points in favor of 2 bills relating to funding for NM Airports. There was conversation with around 20 members of this group at the evening reception.

Manager Lewis explained to the commission about tax distribution and how some airport projects are funded. Airport Manager Mike Lewis added new hangar builds are not typically funded or subsidized by the federal government. In the future, other funding options for new hangars would be explored.

- 6) Airport Manager Mike Lewis had attended the annual FAA conference in Dallas. He explained there were many seminars and forums where he was engaging with important governmental people and enjoyed networking opportunities. Ignacio Flores, Director of the Airports District Office for the Southwest Region promised he would be on the inaugural flight of our airline service.

Chairman Roderick noted there should be a push to get development at Four Corners Regional Airport started. There was a short discussion regarding land purchase, property rights, and funding. Chairman Roderick added an avionics facility is needed and Manager Lewis responded that indeed the airport has been designated as an opportunity zone. Manager Lewis noted that closer to the runway/taxiway locations require aviation related business, while property further from the runways/taxiways can be used for other business opportunities. There was further discussion regarding where Mesa might be located at Four Corners Regional Airport.

Airport Manager Mike Lewis asked if there were any questions. There was no more discussion.

Self-Serve Survey Question Update

Chairman Richard Roderick explained to the commission the survey for self service was created in the application SurveyMonkey, but had not distributed yet. Airport Administrative Aide Jody Carman was determining if links or direct emails would be better for capturing data.

There was discussion regarding who would be target recipients of the survey. There was discussion regarding how this endeavor might affect Fixed Base Operator Atlantic Aviation. Manager Lewis spoke about the past history to secure a self-serve fuel station with Atlantic. There was discussion about fuel price comparisons, Avgas vs. JetA availability.

There was more conversation regarding how fuel prices will attract customers and a little about Four Corners Regional Airport prices. It was also noted in the past there were 2 fixed base operator business on the airfield, 7Bar, now d.b.a. Atlantic, and Bisti Aviation. That created competition for lower fuel prices. Historically Atlantic Aviation, as the only fixed base operator on the airfield, fuel prices have gone up and down with the economic environment.

There was also a short discussion regarding the history of the past Dugan Hangar 9.5 now belonging to Kevin Coleman and the JetA fuel tank installed there as it relates to the \$.06 per gallon fee.

Business from the Chairman:

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, but he extended his welcome to new commission member, pilot and local businessman Morey Havens. It was noted Commissioner Havens's business sense will be helpful for the commission and Four Corners Regional Airport.

Business from the Staff:

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

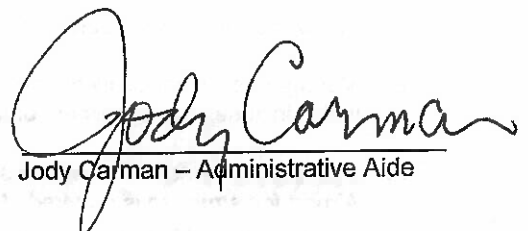
Business from the Floor:

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 March 14, 2023 meeting was adjourned by Chairman Richard Roderick, the motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf and seconded by Commissioner Mark Gordon at 4:50 p.m.



Richard Roderick – Chairman



Jody Carman – Administrative Aide