

M I N U T E S
AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
June 13, 2023

The Airport Advisory Commission of the City of Farmington met on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 4:00 p.m., in the Executive Conference Room at 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, NM.

Members Present: Bill Foutz, Alternate
 Morey Havens
 Richard Roderick, Chairman
 Jonathan Rudolf

Members Absent: Mark Gordon

Staff Present: Jody Carman, Airport Admin Aide
 Russel Frost, Deputy City Attorney
 Mike Lewis, Airport Manager

Others Present: Felicia Bekis, Atlantic Aviation Manager
 Jimmie Curley, Atlantic Aviation
 Sugar Singleton M.D.
 Sherman Singleton
 Larry Stanley

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 June 13, 2023 Agenda

Chairman Richard Roderick asked for a motion to approve the agenda for June 13, 2023. A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf, and seconded by Commissioner Morey Havens to approve the agenda for June 13, 2023 and passed by a vote of 5-0.

Approval of the Minutes from the May 9, 2023 Regular Meeting of the AAC

Chairman Richard Roderick asked for a motion to approve the minutes from May 9, 2023. A motion was made by Commissioner Morey Havens, and seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2023 regular meeting of the AAC, and passed by a vote of 5-0.

Operations Report

Airport Manager Mike Lewis presented the statistics as they appear in the agenda. Mike Lewis gave short comments regarding each report.

Additional Operations Information

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

- 1) We have had a number of conversations with SkyWest and the New Mexico Senators' representatives. Both Senator's offices have decided not to support SkyWest's effort to gain their certification. It appears to have become very political since the pilots' unions have gone directly to all members of Congress, as they feel this is the chink in the armor of the 1500 hour rule.
- 2) There has been a phenomenal amount of airfield painting accomplished in preparation for the FAA Annual Part 139 Inspection. Airport Manager Mike Lewis has been preparing all of the files that need to be inspected. Half way through the painting project, mass scale weed control was needed and completed. There was a short discussion regarding the airport sweeper vehicle.
- 3) Airport Manager Mike Lewis secured permission from the United States Air Force (USAF) to ask local Air Force Bases' (AFB) for air support during our September 23rd, Fly-in, Drive-in event. Manager Lewis made a connection at Kirtland AFB and will be following up with them. There was a short discussion regarding whether or not the military displays would be static or airborne.
- 4) Airport Manager Mike Lewis has been trying to stay on top of the north side land development project. Economic Development Director Warren Unsicker has concluded the next step will be scheduling a meeting with City Manager Rob Mayes, once he returns from vacation.
- 5) A grant has been received from the state to safely and efficiently relocate the three portable hangars.
- 6) Airport Manager Mike Lewis has asked Atlantic Aviation Local Manager Felicia Bekis, to address the concerns brought up in an email from Commissioner Rudolph, about Atlantic Aviation pricing being so much less in other Atlantic locations.

Manager Bekis responded by explaining her process of having to purchase fuel quickly due to depleted fuel supply, or being able to wait for the opportunity to buy lower priced fuel. Manager Bekis agreed the cost of Aviation supplied fuel can be a roller coaster. There was a short discussion

regarding the cost of regional Atlantic prices, as Commissioner Rudolf noting Jet A is much cheaper here but 100LL fuel is notable higher than other Atlantic locations. Timing is the key answer, as she can't hold off fuel purchase as there is nothing in the tank. The question is to purchase now, or wait on lower cost fuel prices.

- 7) Manager Lewis announced Four Corners Regional Airport (FCRA) will be recognized, by Mayor Nate Duckett at tonight's City Council meeting, regarding the award received for New Mexico Airport of the Year. Manager Lewis spoke a little about staff roles at FCRA.

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

Discussion and Vote for an Airport Advisory Commission Pro Tem

Chairman Richard Roderick explained Commission Member and Pro Tem Wayne Mangum had resigned. Consequently a new Pro Tem would need to be elected. Chairman Roderick recommended Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Morey Havens. The motion for new Pro Tem Jonathan Rudolf was passed by a vote of 4 to 0

Approval of the 2023 Open Meeting Resolution Regarding Day, Time and Location

Chairman Richard Roderick made the motion for regular meeting day, time, and place for the Airport Advisory Commission pursuant to City Council Resolution No. 2013-1466 to stay as ratified. The Airport Advisory Commission was in agreement, and the motion was approved by a vote of 4-0.

Business from the Chairman:

Chairman Richard Roderick expressed his disappointment the self-serve fuel survey was not well received. The conversation with the commission came around to aviation maintenance options. It was noted most AAC members were seeing the need for an upswing in activity for aircraft avionics and maintenance. There was a short discussion regarding how to pursue the endeavor to recruit experienced mechanics. There was discussion regarding the lack of candidate availability why that may be. The discussion continued regarding local availability for aircraft support businesses.

Alternate Commissioner Bill Foutz noted he would like to see an aircraft wash bay. Currently, there is only a small faucet. Chairman Roderick asked Alternate Bill Foutz to research the possibilities and dynamics of establishing a wash bay at Four Corners Regional Airport.

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 would like to speak.

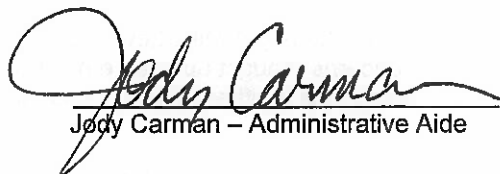
Dr. Sugar Singleton presented letters from herself and fellow airport tenant Larry Stanley. There was brief discussion and confirmation that the City of Farmington was not renewing the leases to the owners of three (3) portable hangars. Dr. Singleton expressed her concern that these leases have been active for up to 30 years and wanted to know why they would be cancelled now. She expressed her disappointment about how the city lawyer, commission members, and airport manager were handling the situation. She requested to be put on the agenda for next month to express her concerns.

Chairman Roderick noted that the hangar leases in question will expire before the Commission meets again. The question was put to the Deputy city Attorney that temporary leases should be prepared to allow the current tenants to occupy their hangars while the questions are being resolved. Russel Frost, Deputy City Attorney responded, that the subject of making a recommendation to issue a new lease or renewing an existing lease could not be decided until it was an action item on the agenda. Deputy City Attorney asked the committee for time to determine if the AAC had authority in the Ordinance to issue recommendations concerning hangar leases. The subject of discussing leases and relocating the hangar was tabled until the issue could be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Chairman Roderick thanked Dr. Singleton for her time and input on the matter.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the June 13, 2023 meeting was adjourned by Chairman Richard Roderick, the motion was made by Commissioner Morey Havens and seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf at 4:30 p.m.


Richard Roderick – Chairman


Jody Carman – Administrative Aide