

M I N U T E S
AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
September 10, 2019

The Airport Advisory Commission of the City of Farmington met on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 4:00 p.m., in the City of Farmington Executive Conference Room, 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, New Mexico.

Members Present: Richard Neely, Chairman
Mark Gordon
Richard Roderick
Jon Rudolf, Alternate

Members Absent: Johnny Arrington, Pro-Tem
Theresa Pacheco

Staff Present: Mike Lewis, Airport Manager
Jody Carman, Administrative Aide
Ellen Wayne, Deputy City Attorney

Others Present: Felicia Bekis, Atlantic Aviation
Marieanna Yazzie, Atlantic Aviation
Bruce Henry, Tenant

Call to Order

The AAC meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Chairman Richard Neely, there being a quorum present the following proceedings were duly had and taken.

Approval of the September 10, 2019 Agenda

Chairman Richard Neely asked for a motion to approve the agenda for September 10, 2019. He asked if anyone had changes or wanted a discussion. A motion was made by Mark Gordon and seconded by Richard Roderick to approve the agenda for September 10, 2019 and passed unanimously by a vote of 4-0.

Approval of the Minutes from the August 13, 2019, Regular Meeting of the AAC

Chairman Richard Neely asked for a motion to approve the minutes from August 13, 2019. He asked if anyone had any changes or wanted a discussion. A motion was made by Richard Roderick and seconded by Mark Gordon to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2019 regular meeting of the Airport Advisory Commission and passed unanimously by a vote of 4-0.

Operations Report

Mike Lewis presented the statistics as they appear in the agenda. There was a short discussion regarding the currently fluctuating fuel prices.

Additional Operations Information

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

- 1) Airport management is continuing to tie up loose ends to get construction process moving forward. The start date is currently projected to be September 30, 2019 with completion scheduled for early January, 2020. There may be a construction restart mid- April through end of May. Mike explained briefly, what might be involved and expected in the runway 5-23 reconstruction process. Mike noted the grant offer was officially received and signed by Mayor Duckett last week.
- 2) The annual FAA Part 139 Inspection was completed for Four Corners Regional Airport (FCRA) with no write-ups. There were a few little things that were corrected and documented during the inspection window of time.
- 3) Fly-In, Drive-In, Dine-In event will be happening on September 28th from 0800 till 1200. It is being presented in conjunction with B-17 visit, and San Juan Rotary as a fundraiser and Four Corners Regional Airport as the venue. Advertising efforts are underway and we are hoping for successful attendance at both endeavors.
- 4) The lease for the small side of Hangar 9 has been signed and executed with Guardian Air Ambulance company. Ten (10) to twelve (12) people will move in within 60 days. The goal is for Guardian to grow enough to eventually occupy both sides of Hangar 9. They will be bringing a King Air plane, not a Pilatus as originally thought.
- 5) On October 25, 2019, Mayor Nate Duckett, City Manager Rob Mayes and Airport Manager Mike Lewis will drive to St. George, Utah to meet with SkyWest. A forty-five (45) presentation will be given by ArkStar, our airline service consultant, which will include a deep dive market study. The goal is to give SkyWest a relative understanding of the market in our community.
- 6) Mike Lewis suggested the Airport Advisory Commission (AAC) meeting in October might include a tour of the airside portions of FCRA. We will announce the location change, via Open Meetings Act requirements, meet at the Airport Conference Room at 1296 W. Navajo for the regular meeting of the AAC, and take a short tour via small city bus after that.

Mike asked if there were any questions. Richard Roderick inquired about the payment/reimbursement process for airport upgrade grants. Mike Lewis briefly explained how that process worked. If funds are requested from the airport, FAA will reimburse after the work is complete. There may be some negotiation involved. If the project is a safety issue and required by the FAA to be completed, payment for that is usually made up front.

Mark Gordon noted if the Fly-In continues as an annual event at FCRA, the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) might be able to get Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) involved for next year. There was a short discussion regarding other opportunities we might host for future events. It was mentioned that quite a few Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapters were approached to participate in the upcoming Fly-In event at FCRA, and there was no interest for a variety of reasons. It seems outside chapters can really only manage their own programs in their own respective cities, as pilots pay for their own fuel, time, and miles put on their planes.

Business from the Chairman:

AAC members brought up and agreed what a great job Manager Mike Lewis was doing for the City and the airport. Mike added that he had great support from Administrative Aide Jody Carman. Mike added airport maintenance operations are facilitated by only two staff members, Jon Guinta and Chad Kaiser, who do extraordinary work.

Business from the Members:

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

Business from the Staff:

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

Business from the Floor:

Chairman Richard Neely asked if anyone from the floor had something to say. There were no questions or comments.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the September 10, 2019 meeting was adjourned, the motion was made by Richard Roderick and seconded by Mark Gordon at 4:35 p.m.


Richard Neely – Chairman


Jody Carman – Administrative Aide