

M I N U T E S
AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
October 8, 2019

The Airport Advisory Commission of the City of Farmington met on Tuesday, October 8, 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
 Johnny Arrington, Pro-Tem
 Theresa Pacheco
 Richard Roderick
 Jon Rudolf, Alternate

Members Absent:

Mark Gordon

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
 George Riley, Airport Tenant

Call to Order

The AAC meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Richard Neely, there being a quorum present the following proceedings were duly had and taken.

Approval of the October 8, 2019 Agenda

Chairman Richard Neely asked for a motion to approve the agenda for October 8, 2019. He asked if anyone had changes or wanted a discussion. A motion was made by John Rudolph and seconded by Theresa Pacheco to approve the agenda for October 8, 2019 and passed unanimously by a vote of 5-0.

Approval of the Minutes from the September 10, 2019, Regular Meeting of the AAC

Chairman Richard Neely asked for a motion to approve the minutes from September 10, 2019. He asked if anyone had any changes or wanted a discussion. A motion was made by Johnny Arrington and seconded by Richard Roderick to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2019 regular meeting of the Airport Advisory Commission and passed unanimously by a vote of 5-0.

Operations Report

Mike Lewis presented the statistics as they appear in the agenda. There had been no August and September numbers collected for No Worries gross revenues.

Additional Operations Information

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

1. The annual FAA Part 139 Inspection was completed with only two write-ups that were corrected immediately while the inspector was on site.
2. Fly-In Drive-In and Dine-In event held on Saturday, September 28 from 8:00 a.m. to noon, was extremely successful. There was a short discussion regarding seats sold on the B-17, with specific emphasis on the ball turret gunner position. Mike told the commission a warbird was already requested by staff, from the AZ Commemorative Airforce Museum, for another tour in Farmington for 2020.
3. A meeting has been set up with SkyWest and Mayor Duckett, City Manager Rob Mayes, with Airport Manager Mike Lewis in St. George, Utah for Thursday, October 24. The 90 minute meeting will be a presentation to SkyWest which includes a detailed "Deep Dive" study concerning our local community, created by Airline Service Consultant, Arkstar.
4. Construction on runway 5-23 has begun.

Business from the Chairman:

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

Business from the Members:

Chairman Richard Neely asked if there were any more questions from the members. An inquiry was made regarding runways closed during construction. It was explained by Mike Lewis runway 7-25 will still be open at Four Corners Regional Airport and approaches will be possible at all times. Another commission member reported ILS system was out this morning. Mike Lewis indicated it was probably not related to the construction project.

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 recognized George Riley on the floor and asked if he might want to talk to the commission. He was warmly welcomed by everyone. Pleasantries were exchanged and George Riley inquired about the commercial development space the City was negotiating to purchase property for access to the City owned land outside the airspace. Mike Lewis explained a little about the progress of that project. There was discussion regarding George's interest in Hangar 9 in the past, and he expressed his current interest in the larger side of Hangar 9 that has not yet been leased. Mike agreed to send him a contract that does not include a 90 day exit term, and would be in place for as much as five (5) years, if desired. It was agreed that George would determine if said lease would work into his business plan. A commission member asked how Vernon Aviation was doing and George explained he has two (2) new employees in Scottsdale, Arizona, and that one of his past pilots was still doing some contract work for Vernon. He stated he was booked solid until early November. There was discussion regarding his plans for several new planes, more pilots, and possible routes under consideration.

Mike Lewis suggested he might provide data to George, from the "Deep Dive" study, ArkStar was doing for the presentation to SkyWest. This information might give George a better idea of aviation business our community could support. There was a short discussion regarding pilot policies and growth of new aviation companies. Johnny Arrington and other commission members distinctly expressed their pleasure George Riley is still interested in setting up a larger scale aviation business at Four Corners Regional Airport.

Everyone expressed thanks to George Riley for attending the Airport Advisory Commission.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the October 8, 2019 meeting was adjourned by Chairman Richard Neely, the motion was made by Theresa Pacheco and seconded by Richard Roderick at 5:40 p.m.



Richard Neely – Chairman



Jody Carman – Administrative Aide