

MINUTES
Airport Advisory Board
March 2007

The meeting was called to order by Chairman B.J. Hunter at 12:30 p.m. in the North Terminal Conference Room on Wednesday, March 7, 2007.

Present: Jim Elliott, Don Miles, B.J. Hunter, Bob Taylor, Larry Foster, Ron Craft, Nicholas Shapiro, Rick Shanker
Kathy Frerking, Tammy Puett – Airport Administration
Skip Elkin – Boone County Commission
Kevin Coleman – Tribune
Terry Rackers, Randy Clark – Central Missouri Aviation
Janet Ford – Manager, AFSS – Lockheed Martin
Mike Naughton – City of Columbia Visioning Committee
Cliff Faulkner – Station Manager Air Midwest
Gary Wilson – Air Midwest
Darwin Hindman – Mayor, City of Columbia
Sid Silvey – DHL

Excused: Greg Cecil, Randy Eckley

Absent: No one

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jim Elliott made the motion to approve the February minutes, Bob Taylor seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Guest Speaker - Columbia Mayor Darwin Hindman.

Mayor Hindman reported that the Airport is very important to Columbia. The Mayor stated that passenger service is a matter of concern to the City Council and that city administration is taking steps to see what can be done. The Mayor reported that city administration is actively working on several airport issues, one of which is doing research regarding other airlines to service Columbia Regional but that the prospects are not good. There are improvements that would need to be done so that other air oriented business could come into the airport. Mayor Hindman reported that the airport is being subsidized by the transportation sales tax and that approximately one quarter of the tax goes to the airport, one quarter goes to transit and the other half goes to streets. The question was raised regarding changing the name of the airport. Mayor Hindman reported that changing the name of the airport would probably not have a major impact on the use of the airport. The Mayor did state that if other counties were to financially assist, then a name change could be considered. The question was raised concerning the possibility of forming a regional airport authority instead of being owned by the City. Mayor Hindman reported that could be a possibility, and stated that the City Council is interested in what the Advisory Board thinks regarding airport issues.

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OLD BUSINESS: Recommendations for FY08 Airport Budget.

Still waiting on estimates for replacing the terminal chairs. When those numbers are received they will be added to the budget item list. The Board had no additional changes.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business to discuss.

REPORTS:

Central Missouri Aviation - Terry Rackers reported that on February 23 the airport crew did an excellent job during the snow event. The ramps and taxiways were in good shape and there were no problems. Rick Shanker asked CMA what their fees would be if there were T-hangars built at the airport. CMA reported that they could check on cost and that they could provide fuel, but did not know if they would be willing to pull aircraft in and out of the hangars.

Air Midwest - It was reported that service has not been doing well. Cliff Faulkner, the airline station manager, and Air Midwest employee Gary Wilson apologized for the problems and stated they are doing everything they can here at the airport to help passengers. The airline staff is very frustrated with the situation. There is a lack of aircraft in the fleet which causes problems with the business. Cliff suggested that the city try to get someone higher up in the organization to explain the situation. Gary reported that they would like to see things get better.

Lockheed Martin - Janet Ford reported that during the airshow the local facility would be closed and that no one would be available to do weather briefings or assist with NOTAMs. There will be an 800 number available so that NOTAMs can be called in. The facility will be closed for renovations on April 30 and will re-open June 11, 2007. During the time of closure local employees will be working in the Fort Worth facility.

Airport Manager - Kathy Frerking distributed copies of the FY2008 Airport Improvement Program that was recently submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration for Board review, and reported that the next visioning meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 14, at West Junior High School.

Rick Shanker reported that he is still trying to get a hold of someone at DHL to see what their long range plans are. Sid Silvey reported that the length of the runway is the biggest problem DHL has.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman B.J. Hunter at 1:40 p.m.

