

City of Lawrence Aviation Advisory Board Meeting

May 8, 2019 Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Ackerly, Monte Soukup, Richard Haig, Mike Kelly, Don Kinney, Dan Born

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Chuck Soules

PUBLIC PRESENT: Lloyd Hetrick (Hetrick Air Services), Jeff Long, Larry Kellogg, Karen Kellogg, Rick Bryant

I. Call to order

Noting a quorum, chair Richard Haig called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

II. Minutes of the meeting held 3-14-2019 were reviewed and unanimously approved with no changes.

III. Public Comment

Comments from those in attendance were called for, but there were none.

IV. City/Updates

Chuck Soules presented a draft of a letter to the Lawrence City Commission concerning procedural and structural issues of the Airport Advisory Board including the makeup (membership) of the Board, diversity, standardization and coordination.

Several suggestions were made for this letter involving inclusion of safety functions and promotion of economic development in relation to the airport.

These changes were made to the proposed letter and it was approved for submittal unanimously.

An update on plans for the upcoming Aviation Camp was given by Richard Haig.

V. FBO

Approval by the City and of the FAA has been received for the first part of the FBO expansion, with groundbreaking to begin soon for Hangar #1. A consultant has been retained to help advance the FAA Part 135 process for more complex operations possibly including King Air and Hawker 850 aircraft. Interest seems to be high in the expansion and new services to be offered. It was noted that these changes may potentially double the current FBO business and lead to increased economic development. Architectural renderings of this 22,000 square-foot facility were shown that will include hangar space for

larger aircraft, offices, and rest areas. The current schedule calls for it to be completed by September 2019.

Lloyd Hetrick also showed a site plan for a second structure (Hangar #2) which would be approximately 15,000 square feet and include a sprinkler system so that it could be used for maintenance.

V. Potential Name Change of Airport

It was suggested and discussed that a change from "Lawrence Municipal Airport" to "Lawrence Regional Airport" might be wise given the growth that is occurring. A key consideration would be that new signage would be required, which the City may not want to fund. Richard Haig volunteered to bring updated designs for this to the next meeting. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to City staff to begin the process of changing the airport name.

VI. Other news

Hetrick Air Services, Inc. (FBO) has become a Raytheon-Beech service center, and a dealer for Robinson Helicopters. All told, the investment in new buildings, facilities and aircraft added to the airport is in excess of \$10 million.

VII. Promotion of airport growth

A discussion focused on the increasing business and services being offered at the airport, and how this could best be leveraged for more recognition and generation of new business. It was noted that EuroTec (Helicopter rebuilding business) is now being accommodated through others' buildings, and they are a potential for future additional jobs and investments in the airport.

VIII. Physical condition of airport runways and taxiways

Rick Bryant spoke about the current condition ratings of the runway, the potential to finish the runway extension, and the requirements to obtain funding for a runway rebuilding. Richard Haig and Mike Kelly will set up a time to speak at the upcoming City Commission work session for the CIP budget in May 2019 to explain the importance of these expenditures.

IX. It was suggested that we should invite a member of the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce to the next Airport Board meeting, Richard Haig will speak to Steve Kelly from the Chamber to see when this can be accomplished.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:02 pm.

The next Airport Advisory Board Meeting was tentatively scheduled for 6:30pm, September 5, 2019, in the Richardson Memorial Pilot's Lounge at the Lawrence Municipal Terminal Building.