

**A BRIEF HISTORY
AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD
GILLESPIE COUNTY AIRPORT**

The Gillespie County Airport Advisory Board was created by act of the Commissioners Court in Special Session on November 1, 1993. It is important to note that this Board is accurately named “Advisory” because it has no decision making capacity. The Board advises the Commissioners Court and Airport Manager in matters related to the safety, efficiency, and development of the Airport, taking into account the viewpoints of airport users and other County residents. In practice, the typical role of the Board is balancing of viewpoints for the long-term benefit of our community.

Our Airport Advisory Board was formed at the initiative of Keith Keller, with cooperation and support of Commissioners William A. Roeder and Eldon Ray Feller. Keith Keller served as Chairman from January, 1994, to December, 2010, when he requested to step down. Keith continued to lead informally as a Board member until he retired in July, 2017. We acknowledge with gratitude the 23 years that Keith Keller invested in guiding the development of our Airport.

The Board consists of seven (7) members, appointed by the Commissioners Court. The Airport Manager acts as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Board. Board members serve three (3) year terms. Board members elect a Chairman and a Vice Chairman from among the members of the Board, and the Chairman presides over all Board meetings. The Vice Chairman presides if the Chairman is absent. Quorum is defined as four (4) members of the Board. Board meetings are open to the public in compliance with the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Law.

In matters of investment policy, the Board has consistently recommended that public funds (Federal, State and County) be directed toward infrastructure of the airport, e.g. runway, taxiway, aircraft parking ramps, access roads, while private investors should be attracted to support facilities and services for visitors and their aircraft. This partnership of public and private investment has resulted in more and better infrastructure, facilities and services, than either public or private investment alone could have provided.

In matters of Operating Revenues and Expenses, the Board has worked diligently to balance these accounts (since Fiscal Year 2004), so that our Airport is not a drain on community taxpayers.

Jan. 08, 2018