# Minutes of the GILLESPIE COUNTY AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

### Monday, Jan 18, 2023 @ County AgriLife Building

MEMBERS PRESENT:	STAFF PRESENT:	GUESTS PRESENT:		
David Smith	Tony Lombardi, Manager	Ethan Crane		
Keith Keller	Keith Kramer, County	Ian Waghorn		
Judie Mooney, EAA Rep	Bobby Watson, City	Darren Flores		
Steve Allen		Dawn Duley		
Paul Hannemann		Gwen Fullbrook		
Chad Ellebracht				
Tim Lehmberg				
A	bsent			

#### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM by the Chairman, Steve Allen

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the regular Nov 28, 2022 meeting.

### AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

- Upcoming Events/Court Actions The Manager reviewed the upcoming events for the airport and the recent commissioners court actions.
  - Event Update
    - TXDOT Avn Conference Apr 12-14
    - T-6 Formation Clinic Apr 26-30
    - Airport Day (75th Anniversary) May 20th
  - Ocourt Actions On Dec 12th, the Commissioners approved the Alpha Paving's quote to paint a "no taxi" area on the airport's north parking ramp; the re-appointment of Judie Mooney to the AAB; and the Land Use Agreement (LUA) for the TFS. On Dec 27th, the Commissioners approved the Gray's purchase of Hague's private hanger and approved a new 30-year lease. Finally, on Jan 9th, the Commissioners approved 3 County t-hanger leases (for C-12, C15 and C-18).
- T-hangars occupancy update. The Manager stated that we are 100% full...waiting list is at 26.
- Airport Status the Manager reviewed the current status of the airport.

Lights (PAPIs, Beacon, Rwy Edge, Taxiway, Signs)
Communication (CTAF, GCO, AWOS)

Weather Station
Facilities
Miscellaneous (Construction, Closures, etc)

- Airport Development Update:
  - Active Private Projects

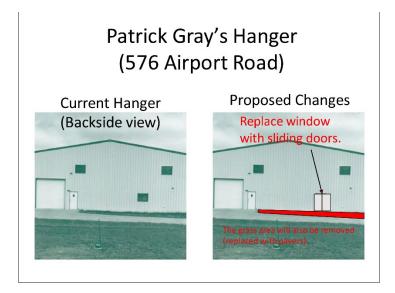
#	Developer	LOI Date Rev'd	Status	Comments
1	Rhett Hawk Expansion	12/28/21	П	Response required by 01/18/23
2	FBO Expansion	02/02/22	IV	
3	Darren Flores (Private Hangar)	02/18/22	IV	
6	224 Bus Crt LLC (2.55 acs south of SSBT)	6/22/22	П	LOI update received

#### **OPEN FLOOR**

- Crosswind Aviation. Gwen Fullbrook discussed several topics with the board. Gwen started off mentioning that we won the Christmas Decoration award for the terminal building. Staying with the Christmas theme, Gwen summarized the successful "Santa Fly-in" event. Following that discussion, Gwen touched on the Airport's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event, the Hill County 99 meeting, updates on the AOPA High School Curriculum Initiative, and the Jacob Brodbeck statue. Finally, she mentioned that they are prepping for another ground school class.
- Tac Aero Ian Waghorn mentioned that the tailwheel academy is very busy. They currently have 4 instructors with a plan to hire another. As for the maintenance branch, Ian mentioned that they recently hired Dawn Dooley to help run the shop.
- FBO David mentioned that he and Beverly closed on the sale of the FBO to Ethan and Ashly Crane. David mentioned that he will remain on the FBO board of trustees to help Ethan.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

• Patrick Gray's hanger modification request. The Manager reviewed Patrick Gray's request to modify the exterior of his private hanger. Patrick requested to replace a window with a sliding glass door. The board unanimously recommended approval.



- 224 BC LOI extension. The Manager reviewed a letter from Mark Cornett to request an extension of their LOI that was dated Jun 22, 2022. The board unanimously recommended approval of a 6-month extension.
- Airport Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) review and recommendation. The Manager reviewed the history of the ARPA topic. It was initially discussed during the Jan 2022 AAB meeting. At that time, the board took no action the topic because the board could not resolve the Judge's & the Court's concerns. At the Jan 10, 2022 Commissioners Court, the Judge and the Commissioners asked the Airport Advisory Board to review ARPA agreement, specifically the requirement to have a "face mask" policy IAW TSA and the CDC. At the Jan 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, the Board members would not accept a "face mask policy, so they tabled it with the hope that in the "near future" the mask policy would be removed by the feds. Fast forwarding to this meeting, the Manager mentioned that ARPA contract had the same language as the round II COVID relief act that was approved in Sept 2021. Furthermore, the Manager mentioned that the major issue the Judge and the board had in 2022 about having a "mask policy" is a moot point because the CDC has removed that requirement. The final point that the Manager mentioned was that the airport would get \$59K, if approved. The board unanimously recommended approval.
- (Added) Airport Development Process. The Manager reviewed the airport development process with the board. The major change that came out of the discussion was a proposal to add an option/development agreement to phase I. This agreement would be drafted after the approval of the "Letter of Interest" from the developer. Here are the suggested items that will be included in the agreement:
  - o The agreement and the LOI will be presented to and approved by Commissioners Court
  - The developer will be charged 50% of the ground lease rate for that land until the official lease is signed. The payment will be upfront and non-refundable.
  - The contract will be for 6 months, with an auto renewal for an additional 6-month provided they provide an update to the Airport Advisory Board and pay the non-refundable fee for the additional 6-month period. Any additional extension will require a new contract and approval from the sponsor (i.e. Commissioners Court)
  - If the amount of land is not defined in the LOI, the Airport Manager will use the minimum lot size for the proposed hanger, in accordance with the Min operating Standards.

The board unanimously supported the development of the agreement and requested that the Manager develop a template by the next meeting for review.

• (Added) Light pole issue at the northwest corner of the FBO ramp. Steve Allen reviewed a complaint by a local pilot. The pilot is concerned with the light pole near the FBO ramp. The Manager mentioned that the light pole is not the only issue...There is a fence post and a fuel truck in the same area. The Manager requested assistance from the board to help solve this issue. Several board members volunteered to help.

#### **OLD BUSINESS.**

- CIP updates:
  - o Phase II update. The Manager gave a quick update on the construction. The Manager stated that there are a few punch-list items remaining and the final walk-through has not been scheduled, yet.
  - o Planning Study Update. The ALP with narrative has been approved by the FAA airspace department, and the ALP is out for final signatures.
  - o "FAA Acknowledgment of Turf Options" update. The Manager mentioned that the "new" airport grounds keeper will start removing/treating the bonsai mesquite trees west of the runway.
  - o Rhett Hawk's request for approval on 2 new tenants. The Manager reviewed the board's decision. Both tenants were deemed non-aeronautical, so therefore in accordance with the Rhett Hawk lease and FAA policy, the board disapprove the request.
  - Lease Review The Manager mentioned that he has discussed the Rhett hawk lease with the new Judge, but nothing has been done at this point.

### **REPORTS**

David Smith reviewed the fuel sales for last year and Tim Lehmberg reviewed the sale tax reports for the City and County.

#### **BOARD MEMBER'S FINAL COMMENTS**

- Keith Keller made a motion to the board to request the Airport Manager to solicit proposals from engineering firms to become the Airport's "Engineer of Record" and help develop plans for future airport development (the motion was in support of the May 2022 board approved development plan). The board unanimously recommended approval.
- David Smith made a motion that the board will not support any "non-aeronautical" request for the airport unless it is for the already designated non-aeronautical areas (i.e. business park). The board unanimously recommended approval.

**ADJOURNMENT** (2:45). The board was adjourned. The next meeting was changed to Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Note: all minutes are available on the airport website (<a href="http://www.gillespiecounty.org/page/airport%20-%20AAB%20Minutes">http://www.gillespiecounty.org/page/airport%20-%20AAB%20Minutes</a>)

Attachment





# Agenda

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Approval of Minutes
- 3. Airport Manager's Report
- 4. Open floor (Crosswind, TFS, Tac Aero, and guest)
- 5. New Business
- 5. Old Business
- 6. EAA report/update/comments
- 7. Comments-FBO, EDC, and Board Members
- 8. Adjourn



- •Minutes Approval vote needed
  - Nov 28th
- Airport Manager's Report
  - Event Update (Italicized Unconfirmed)
    - TXDOT Avn Conference Apr 12-14
    - T-6 Formation Clinic Apr 26-30
    - Airport Day (75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) May 20th

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### AAR

- Airport Manager's Report
  - Court Review On Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, the Commissioners approved the Alpha Paving's quote to paint a "no taxi" area on the airport's north parking ramp; the reappointment of Judie Mooney to the AAB; and the LUA for the TFS. On Dec 27<sup>th</sup>, the Commissioners approved the Gray's purchase of Hague's private hanger and approved a new 30-year lease. Finally, on Jan 9<sup>th</sup>, the Commissioners approved 3 County t-hanger leases (for C-12, C15 and C-18)
  - T-Hangar Occupancy 100% (26)
  - Airport Status:

Lights (PAPIs, Beacon, Rwy Edge, Taxiway, Signs)

· Runway lights - PIC only

Communication (CTAF, GCO, AWOS)

Weather Station

Facilities

Miscellaneous (Construction, Closures, etc)

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- Airport Development Update:
  - Active Private Projects:

#	Developer	LOI Date Rcv'd	Status	Comments
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4	224 Bus Crt LLC (2.55 acs south of SSBT)	6/22/22	II	



## AAB

- AM comments
  - Eclipse Planning
  - Our new TXDOT Avn Planner, Daniel Benson.



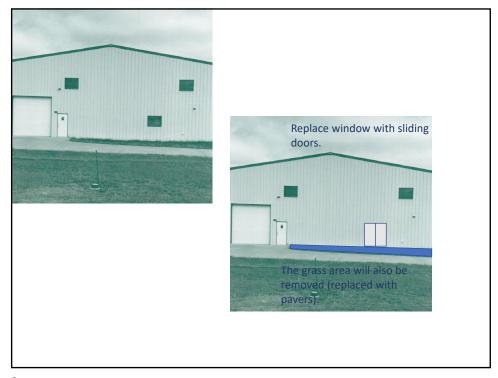
- Open Floor
  - Crosswind
  - Texas Forest Service
  - •Rhett Hawk
  - •Tac Aero Tailwheel Academy
  - Tac Aero MX
  - Guest

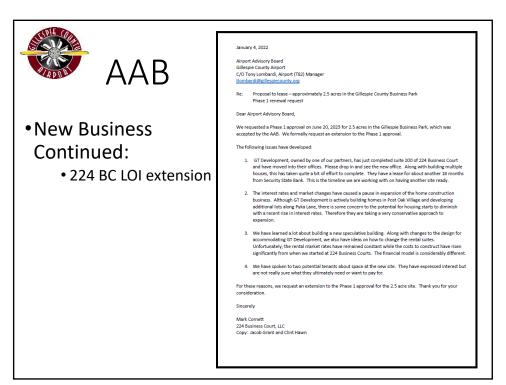
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# Patrick Gray's Hanger Modification Request

(New Business)







### •New Business Continued:

- Airport Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) review and recommendation
  - Submitted Application in Dec 2021(Comm Court approved 12/13/2021)
  - On Comm Court agenda on Jan 10th, it was tabled w/no action
    - AAB tasked to review it...Judge Stroeher was concerned with mask requirement
  - AAB reviewed it at their regular schedule AAB meeting on Jan 18th
    - Tabled...readdress in 6 months

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### **AAB Minutes**

- Airport Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) review and recommendation. On Jan 10th, Commissioners Court reviewed the grant agreement associated with the Airport Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) (3rd round of the COVID 19 relief acts). If the County accepted the grant, the airport would receive \$59K. During the review, the Judge identified several concerns with the wording of the grant agreement. The main concern was related to the requirement to implement a "face covering policy" in accordance with the CDC and TSA guidelines. Due to these concerns, the Court tabled the agreement and requested that the AM contact TXDOT for clarification, and in addition, the court wanted to know what other airports in the area were doing. The Court also wanted the opinion of the AAB on ARPA. Tasked by the Court, the AAB reviewed and discussed the ARPA agreement. The consensus of the board was that they do not support the federal requirement to implement a "face covering policy". The AM mentioned that the airport/County has already accepted the first 2 rounds of grants (CARES Act (\$69K + the CIP phase II sponsor's share (\*\$200K) and CRRSAA(\$23K)). The AM also mentioned that he contacted TXDOT last week and according to comments he received, TXDOT was unaware of the face covering policy until the AM mentioned it. TXDOT also mentioned that their legal team is investigating/researching this requirement. In addition, as for the request to contact similar airports in the area, the AM summarized their responses..."No mask mandates by any of them". Finally, the AM pointed out that a decision to accept the agreement was not required until June 30, 2025, so we have time to see if things change in the near future. After the discussion concluded, Mr. Smith gave the board 3 options to decide on:
   Recommending accepting the agreement
  - Recommending accepting the agreement
  - Table the topic for 6 months
  - Outright recommend not to accept the agreement
- · The board unanimously recommended to table it for 6 months.



- •Old Business:
  - Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)
    - Phase II updateT82
    - Planning Study Update Approved (Out for Signature)
  - FAA AC 150/5300-13B...2.10.6 Aircraft Operations in the Unpaved Runway Safety Area (RSA) Update
  - Lease Review
  - Rhett Hawk request for new tenants (nonaeronautical use)

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### AAB

- EAA report/update/comments
- Comments-FBO, EDC, and Board Members

