

Minutes of the
GILLESPIE COUNTY AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD
Monday, Apr 16, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Roberts
David Smith
Steve Allen
Mark Cornett
Bob Hickerson

STAFF PRESENT:

Tony Lombardi, Manager
Dennis Neffendorf, County
Jerry Luckenbach, City

GUESTS PRESENT:

Ethan Crane
Bev Smith
Bob Snowden
Gary Shipman & Staff

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 PM by Chairman Mike Roberts.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the regular Mar 19, 2018 meeting were approved.

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

- **Cattle Update.** The AM gave a summary of his meeting with TXDOT, AKCO and the cattle guard manufacturer on Apr 6th. The middle panel on the outbound side of cattle guard is not handling the current load of traffic. It has already been replaced once, and it needs to be replaced again. TXDOT stated that they will not fund and new cattle guard, and AKCO is responsible for making it right. The cattle guard has a 1 year warranty. The manufacturer believes the issue is the result of void areas (air pockets) under the base. The void areas allow the panel to torque/move during heavy loads resulting in the cracks and the deterioration of the panel. The recommendation of the group was to once again replace the damaged panel and mortar all the panels in place to prevent having air pockets under the panels.
- **TXDOT Conference (March 27th -29th) Galveston, TX.** The AM mentioned that Ethan Crane and he attended the TXDOT Aviation Conference. The big take away from the conference was the funding for Airport Improvement Projects remain the same as the last 17 years (~\$16M), but the spending power has been reduce by 50%. Mr. Fulton, TXDOT Aviation Director, is also concerned of the lack of TXDOT aviation funds, and believes that it needs to be addressed soon. He also mentioned that the FAA will provide \$1B to NPE airport's AIP to be funded at 100% (no sponsor funds). TXDOT and the FAA are still working on how to spend it.
- **Regional Airport Managers Meeting (TXDOT) (Apr 10th).** T82 hosted a Regional Airport Managers Roundtable Meeting. Megan McLellan, TXDOT Aviation Planner, led the meeting. Hot topics that effect all the area airports and best practices were shared. At the end of the meeting, everyone mentioned that this meeting was very rewarding, and would like to make it an annual event. The AM volunteered to host next year's meeting.
- **Upcoming Events.** The AM mentioned that Old Sport Biplane will sell rides this weekend and the T-6 Fly-in is the following week.
- **The County T hangars occupancy update.** The AM stated that we are 100% full
 - Mr. Smith gave a synopsis of how Kerrville funded their county/city owned T-hangars
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NEW BUSINESS

- Trinity Aviation Proposal. Trinity Aviation, LLC is an authorized MD Helicopter sales representative. They submitted a LOI for the board to review. They are looking to move their business to T82. They want to lease approximately 2 acres of land to construct a minimum of two hangars of about 14,000 square feet each. The first of the two hangars will serve as our sales showroom, and the second will serve as our repair and completion center, along with housing our helicopter dolly manufacturing.
 - Board Comments: Mr. Smith led the discussion. Mr. Smith stated the LOI was incomplete, and needed more information. He took time during the meeting to cover the items that he would like to be address before making a decision. Finally, after a long discussion, the board recommended tabling the topic, and requested the AM contact Trinity Aviation to request a new LOI with the recommended changes. Once Trinity returns the letter, the AAB will vote via email.
- Non-Profit Event Planner/Group. The AM quickly discuss creating a non-profit organization to help plan events at the airport. The county provides a portion of their HOT funds to support these types of organization. He mentioned that the board should consider this in the future.
- RAMP Project List review. The AM provided the board with a list of RAMP projects.
- Golf Course Interaction. The AM met with the new golf course manager. They discussed a “Gas for Golf” program where a GA pilot gets gas from the FBO, and they would receive a coupon for “buy one green fee, and get one for free”. They also talked about a shuttle between the airport and the golf course.

OLD BUSINESS

- Airport Day Update (Steve Allen) (Apr 7th). Mr. Allen gave a summary of “Airport Day”. The weather was bad...no flying. He also stated that they are looking into moving it to May next year.

REPORTS

Dave Smith reviewed FBO fuel sales...He stated that February was a bad month, but they are back on track.

ADJOURNMENT (3:21 pm)