

Minutes of the  
GILLESPIE COUNTY AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, June 15, 2015

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MEMBERS PRESENT:

Keith Keller, Acting Chairman  
Mike Roberts  
David Smith  
Gary Stehling

STAFF PRESENT:

Roger Hansen, Manager  
Jerry Luckenbach, City  
Liaison

GUESTS PRESENT:

Tim Lehmborg  
Beverly Smith  
Lindy Segall

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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was opened at 1:35 PM by the airport manager as no quorum was present. Later during the meeting a quorum was attained and the meeting was called to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the May 18, 2015 were approved.

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

The Greatest Generation C-47 event scheduled for Memorial Day weekend was cancelled due to the weather. Initially the organization was indicating they would be back to the airport during the Labor Day weekend. They were informed they could not return that weekend due to the CAF event. An article for the newspaper regarding fireworks during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration has been forwarded for publishing. A law enforcement presence during the fireworks show at Lady Bird Park has been requested from the sheriff. Initial planning for the parking of the CAF aircraft has begun and they have been asked to come to the airport and walk the terrain.

The Military Bunch for Lunch program contains \$309.12.

There (were) no items for the Commissioners Court.

There are 3 vacancies in the County T hangars due to the sales of aircraft. The waiting list has been used but no responses have been received as of this time. Two individuals have expressed an interest but nothing else. Immediate availability has been listed on the airport tab of the County website.

NEW BUSINESS

On June 14, 2015 a Grumman crashed about 2000' from the departure end of runway 14 in an open field on private property to the east of Highway 16. There was one fatality with another individual critically injured. The FAA and NTSB responded and are investigating.

The AOPA sent information to regarding submitting an RFP, Request for Proposal, for the airport to host a regional fly-in. Due to the expected air and ground traffic, suggested indoor venue space and aircraft ramp space Gillespie County airport is not suitable for hosting such a major event. The airport manager will forward an email noting we will not submit an RFP. (AOPA Event Discussion Attached.)

The manager met with Tim Lehmberg about an inquiry regarding the establishment of a CFM 56 engine refurbishment facility in Gillespie County/Fredericksburg. The requirements of such a facility exceed local capabilities.

TXDOT-Aviation Division advised that CIPs are now on a 3 year scheduling criteria. The manager submitted a letter of intent to have all the asphalt surfaces rehabilitated in FY2018. This will place the runway on a 6 year cycle from the last rehabilitation. The drought and subsequent rainfall has changed the surfaces.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Klotz Associates have been given a "Notice to Proceed" for finishing the design and engineering phase of our FY2015 CIP.

Bob Hilton of AvTech Marketing came to Gillespie County Airport with on May 25<sup>th</sup> and reprogrammed the GCO unit. While it works very well with pilots who are familiar with the needed procedures the unit still has problems hanging up the connection at times. Since the unit cannot be depended upon to operate properly despite errors the test has been terminated and NOTAM'ed out of service. Both Bob Hilton and Bill Gunn have been advised of the situation and we await further ideas from AvTech Marketing.

#### REPORTS

The FBO reports that signs for AvFuel are now in place on the FBO building and the fuel trucks. We continue to outpace last year's record sales. On July 1<sup>st</sup> Ethan Crane will become the General Manager of the Fredericksburg FBO. Ethan is a very capable and personable individual for this job. It appears the FBO may be out of the lawsuit for helicopter crash from October 2012.

The EDC Executive Director indicates all economic indices continue to be very positive for both the city and county. Tim Lehmberg also indicated the proposed sale of Boot Ranch fell through.

#### COMMENTS

The next meeting will take place on Jul 20, 2015.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM.

## AOPA EVENT DISCUSSION

**Background:** A pilot flew into our airport and liked it very much. Through a friend the pilot thought Gillespie County airport would be a good choice for an AOPA (Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association) regional fly-in event. AOPA then sent us a Request for Proposal in order to get in line for bringing an event here.

**Discussion:** The RFP has numerous sections covering everything from community benefits to the minimum criteria.

### **Minimum Criteria:**

- Not in Class B Airspace
- Runway of 4000'
- Not near hindering Restricted Airspace
- Instrument Approach
- Park no less than 500 aircraft, grass surfaces are potential areas
- ATC or "...willingness of airport management to explore proactive safety and traffic control solutions."
- On field FBO, capable of fueling 250 aircraft in 6 hours, expand manpower to meet service demands
- On call minor airframe and aircraft powerplant maintenance

### **Special Criteria:**

- Non-Carrier airport
- Minimum of two paved runways
- Not in mountainous terrain
- Available camping

### **Infrastructure, Venues and Logistics**

- Expect 2,500 people in attendance (average in 2014)
- Lots of space for meetings, keynote presentations, exhibit halls, seminar space and 90,000 square feet for ramp space, 300,000+ square feet for parking

Stated volunteers needed 250-300, AOPA could help but most from community

**Recommendation:** Gratefully decline the opportunity to submit an RFP