

Meeting Minutes

Airport Commission

Regular Meeting

April 12, 2023, | 6:30 p.m.
Chandler Airport Terminal
2380 S. Stinson Way, Chandler, AZ



Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hawley at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Commission Attendance

Chairman Christopher Hawley
Vice Chairman Charles McCorkle
Commissioner Chad Wakefield
Commissioner Cecil Orozco

Staff Attendance

Ryan Reeves, Airport Manager
Scott Rinkenberger, Airport Operations Manager
Chris Andres, Airport Planning Program Manager
Diana Alonzo, Management Assistant

Absent

Commissioner Bozelli
Commissioner Wakefield

Others in Attendance

Micah Miranda, Economic Development Director
Michael Winer, Economic Development Project Manager
Jeff Kohlman, AMCG
David Benner, AMCG
Doug Joest, AMCG
Chris Hacker, Kimley-Horn
Patrick Heaton, Kimley-Horn

Scheduled and Unscheduled Public Appearances

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked if there were any members of the public that would like to address the committee on any items not on the agenda.

None.

Approval of Minutes and Discussion

1. February 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes

Move Airport Commission to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, February 8, 2023.

Consent Agenda Motion and Vote

It was moved by COMMISSIONER OROZCO and seconded by COMMISSIONER SPERLING to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of the February 8, 2023.

Motion carried unanimously (4-0).

Briefing

2. Economic Development Airpark Signs Update

MR. WINER gave the Airport Commission an Airpark Area Signage Project update. The Airpark area is a 9-square mile area, located along the Loop 202 Freeway. The area is anchored by Chandler Municipal Airport, and it is one of 5 employment corridors. The area is home to 353 businesses and 11,820 jobs.

The Airpark Area Plan update identifies gateway opportunities and encourages aviation-related themes in signage to help brand the area. City staff has been working with custom sign builder YESCO on a modern design that will complement existing and future development. In addition to the Airport Commission, outreach will be made to other key stakeholders to receive feedback and buy-in. The number of signs and locations will be determined at a later time.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if the signs were going to be lighted.

MR. WINER responded that they will not be lighted, but there will be a reflective material.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked for the project's timeline.

MR. WINER responded that after this presentation, staff will meet with the City Manager then they can work with YESCO on the timeline.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked if it would be about another six (6) months.

MR. WINER responded that he hopes the project can be accomplished with the next six (6) months.

COMMISSIONER OROZCO asked what type of material was being used.

MR. WINER RESPONDED that he would have to look into the type of material being used.

3. Update on Strategic Business Plan

MR. BENNER gave an overview on the Airport Strategic Business Plan stating that it uses a logical and disciplined process to define an airport's goals, objectives, and implementation plans that drive the day-to-day operation. In essence, transforming the mission and vision into specific goals, objectives, and action plans within each area of the Airport. They will focus on the airport's revenue and sources of funds can be enhanced while expenses and uses of funds can be managed.

MR. HACKER gave an overview on aviation market assessment and the airport assessment. This will allow them to understand what facilities are in the surrounding areas that attract people. They want to look into current trends such as battery powered aircraft and sustainable fuel to understand the bigger picture. They can then assess the airport land and improvements needed. From a land perspective, they want to understand growth opportunities. When they conduct an aviation capacity analysis, they want to understand and quantify the capacity for aviation products, services, and facilities to identify any deficiencies that may exist. They will then make a recommendation as to what services can be offered at the airport to help it grow and shape the business environment.

COMMISSIONER OROZCO stated that looking 15 years back, he can see the changes that have occurred for aircraft. Looking 15 years into the future, thinking what electric aircraft will look like, and it is hard to envision, but will definitely be a challenge.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked how the Commission can they be of help.

MR. BENNER responded that as they move forward, they will ask for input for who should be on the steering committee.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked who they would have on the steering committee and who have they had on these committees in the past.

MR. BENNER responded that they would send out a graphic regarding this, but there will be a mix of people. For instance, someone from economic development, someone from the public and someone that is not a tenant.

COMMISSIONER SPERLING asked what type of performance indicators there would be for data checking and what tools will be used to measure the models that are developed or will it be basic data checking.

MR. BENNER responded that historically it has been data checking and the implementation plans are going to align from a time standpoint. There will be time goals that are going to be simple to understand.

COMMISSIONER SPERLING asked for some examples of what it would include from previous projects.

MR. BENNER responded that some simple ones would include from an activity standpoint would be fuel volumes, key destinations, and arrivals. From an internal performance, the basis of accomplishing the implementation plans.

COMMISSIONER SPERLING asked what would threaten the schedule from not being able to complete the project on time.

MR. BENNER responded that in the past, time has been lost in formulating the steering committee. It is a big decision to identify the number of people needed and who those people should be.

COMMISSIONER HAWLEY asked about one or two airports in which MR. BENNER affected a change.

MR. BENNER responded that Battle Creek Airport was one of them. The process for each strategic business plan is important, especially for the steering committee. There was a disconnect between the sponsor, tenants, and airport. Getting everyone on the same page was important.

COMMISSIONER HAWLEY asked if the reason he mentioned this is because there was tenant friction.

MR. BENNER responded that there was a disconnect between the city, the airport, and the tenants. They were very intentional about the steering committee in order to get everyone in the same room and discuss the value of the airport. The importance of the businesses in the airport allowed for a change in the tenor and are now moving forward into accomplishing those goals.

COMMISSIONER HAWLEY stated that he thinks it is valuable to include someone from the Commission in the steering committee. COMMISSIONER HAWLEY also stated that he believes there should be a Study Session as they get everything in order.

MR. BENNER asked COMMISSIONER HAWLEY to describe what entails a Study Session.

COMMISSIONER HAWLEY responded that a Study Session can be held before the Regular Airport Commission and certain topics can be presented. The Airport Commission previously approved the Airport Master Plan, and a few Study Sessions were held during that process. He also stated that they should look into making the airport a year-round airport that is able to support the same type of aircraft even in the summer. As the plan is put in place, CHAIRMAN HAWLEY suggests keeping General Aviation (GA) in mind by keeping it affordable and accessible.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked MR. BENNER if there is a document that they can have in order to follow the project's timeline and status.

MR. BENNER responded that he could share the information.

4. Monthly Operations Report

MR. REEVES gave an overview of the Monthly Operations Report for the month of February 2023 with 20,104 operations for the month. February 2022 had a total of 17,759 operations. CHD continues to maintain their national rankings as 52nd in the nation and 17th in the GA rankings.

MR. REEVES gave an overview of the Monthly Operations Report for the month of March 2023 with 22,294 operations for the month. March 2022 had a total of 18,694 operations. CHD continues to maintain their national rankings as 52nd in the nation and 17th in the GA rankings.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if crane activity has impacted the number of operations.

MR. REEVES responded that MR. RINKENBERGER has done an excellent job in monitoring that the crane companies file the appropriate paperwork and follow the rules. Crane activity has been mitigated to early morning hours. If it is an all-day impact, staff has been in contact with the tower, and they have gotten ahead of it without having an emergency shutdown that will impact the airport.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if staff lets the FBO know when there is going to be an impact.

MR. REEVES responded that at minimum per the FAA aeronautical studies, they have to give 72 hours of notice to airport. Then staff notifies the FBO and flight schools if there is going to be any impact.

5. Monthly Noise Report

MR. RINKENBERGER gave an overview of the monthly noise report for February 2023. MR. RINKENBERGER also stated that when he puts in the address for the noise concern, he has to map out how far the address is from the airport. Once he has the address, he can see the elevation for that address and where the aircraft was in relation to the physical distance from the ground up.

In February 2023, forty-one (41) households made forty-two (42) reports regarding aircraft activity. Two (2) reports were for aircraft noise. Thirty-six (36) reports were for low-flying aircraft. Four (4) reports were for aircraft traffic. Only one (1) household was a repeat complainant. The noise concerns were caused by three (3) U.S. Navy helicopters enroute to Mesa Gateway from somewhere down south.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked if the parachute incident mentioned in the notes was related to these helicopters.

MR. RINKENBERGER responded that it was part of the same exercises down south, but could not confirm if this incident were directly related to the helicopters.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE thanked MR. RINKENBERGER for including the aircraft elevation in his report.

MR. RINKENBERGER gave an overview of the monthly noise report for March 2023.

In March 2023, fifteen (15) households made fifteen (15) reports regarding aircraft activity. Three (3) reports were for aircraft noise. Nine (9) reports were for low-flying aircraft. One (1) report was for other aircraft activity. Eight (8) households were repeat complainants. One main concern came from a resident from downtown Phoenix that lives in a high-rise apartment building. She had safety concerns over the banner towing occurring near populated areas.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked if this was Super Bowl related.

MR. RINKENBERGER responded that it was not related to the Super Bowl. This was part of a festival event, but it is not a regular event.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked if staff is able to pull these reports live as they are on the phone with the resident.

MR. RINKENBERGER responded yes.

COMMISSIONER OROZCO asked if there were any aircraft in violation of altitude.

MR. RINKENBERGER responded no, there were no aircraft detected below regulatory altitudes.

MR. RINKENBERGER also shared that complainant #10 on the map is a complaint that came from the Gila River Indian Community. Residents of the community were out horseback riding when an aircraft flew over the river very low, and it scared one of the horses. The Tribal Leadership referred them to the airport, which referred the complainant to the flight standards district office in Scottsdale, AZ. That was the last update he had on that incident.

MR. RINKENBERGER also stated that if a tenant is subject of a noise complaint, he gives the tenant a courtesy call. If a flying club aircraft is the subject of a noise complaint, staff will call the manager.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked if a noise complaint is caused by a flying club from another airport will airport staff reach out to them.

MR. RINKENBERGER responded yes because the resident with the noise complaint wanted to file a complaint with the FSDO.

6. Monthly Origins and Destinations Report

The data provided below documents the "Top 20" filed IFR flight plans for commercial operators into and from the Chandler Municipal Airport in **February 2023**. These flights represent business travel utilizing CHD; 324 such flights took place in February 2023. There were five (5) repositioning flights from CHD representing 2,837 gallons of fuel burn enroute. Total flights to and from CHD represent 72,176 gallons of fuel burn.

The data provided below documents the "Top 20" filed IFR flight plans for commercial operators into and from the Chandler Municipal Airport in **March 2023**. These flights represent business travel utilizing CHD; 299 such flights took place in March 2023. There were four (4) repositioning flights from CHD representing 2,114 gallons of fuel burn enroute. Total flights to and from CHD represent 39,856 gallons of fuel burn.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if there were noise complaints during the busy week.

MR. REEVES responded that there was only one complaint on a turbine aircraft on approach. MR. WRIGHT, City Manager, asked Council if they had received any noise complaints during the influx of jets through the Super Bowl weekend and everyone responded no.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if Council has been briefed on the results of the busy week and if staff had the types of aircraft that can be utilized if the runway was extended.

MR. REEVES responded yes, he briefs the Deputy City Manager on a weekly basis and he and the City Manager have weekly meetings with Council. All the information from the Super Bowl was passed on and everyone was very happy that there were no noise concerns.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if these meetings were recorded or made public so that residents can see that there are no noise complaints.

MR. REEVES responded that they were not recorded or public meetings.

7. Monthly Construction Report

MR. ANDRES gave an overview of the Construction Report.

Capital Projects- Design Phase:

The Wildlife Hazard Perimeter Fence: City comments received for 30% plans. ADOT environmental clearance was received on August 1, 2022. The plans are done, and on the street for bid. This is 100% ADOT funding at \$1,107,500.

Airport Operations Garage: This is a city funded project at \$1 million. The programming and conceptual layout is underway.

Airport Fuel Tank Relocation: This is a city funded project at \$610,000. The design for a new above ground tank is underway.

Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) Replacement: The FAA is funding the equipment replacement for \$200,000. The FAA environmental clearance has been received. 30% of the plans have been received and commented on.

Runway End Identifier Light (REIL) Installation Runway 4L-22R- (North Runway)- This is FAA funded for equipment replacement for \$110,000. Environmental clearance is underway.

Runway 4R-22L Rehabilitation (South Runway)- Awaiting FAA grant for \$350,000 for design. FAA environmental clearance has been received. The design contract was approved.

Taxiway B Improvements- Phase 1- Awaiting ADOT grant for \$2,035,000. Council authorized the grant in February 2023. Currently awaiting the design proposal.

Capital Projects- Construction Phase:

Arizona Pavement Management System: This is a 90% ADOT-funded project at \$617,574 with a City match of \$61,758. The work is scheduled for April 25th to May 3rd, with a final striping for late May early June.

Maintenance Projects:

Fence Repair: Selective tensioning along perimeter fence is ongoing.

Ramp/Apron Painting: Staff is planning on repainting the transient parking with lead-in lines.

Flight Planning Room/Pilot Lounge Repairs: Staff is still waiting for the updated wall planning maps/charts.

Terminal: The terminal is receiving general beautification and touch ups.

Information Items

8. Manager's Report

MR. REEVES shared that airport staff does an extensive amount of public outreach and staff intends on increasing the amount being done. The airport participated in the City of Chandler CIVIC program; this is an interactive program that provides Chandler residents with a behind-the-

scenes look at city areas. The airport is also part of "I am the City" airport tours for City employees, this allows them to learn how the airport operates. This has caused for the Chandler residents to inquire about private tours. This has resulted in private citizens emailing Mayor and Council advocating for the airport.

MR. REEVES also shared that the fuel system is operating and there have been no issues, staff will be ordering more fuel.

MR. REEVES presented a graph to the Commission regarding the number of operations during Super Bowl week comparing it to the previous year.

MR. REEVES introduced two of the incoming Commissioners, MR. RIESTERER, a tenant, and MR. MOUNT.

MR. REEVES also shared that Steve Smith from Chandler Air Service retired after 25 years at this airport.

MR. REEVES thanked COMMISSIONER BOZELLI for his two years of service to the Commission. He also thanked COMMISSIONER SPERLING for serving the Commission for so many years of service and everything that he did for the airport.

Member Comments/Announcements

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if staff knew about the clearance delivery for other airports were.

MR. REEVES responded yes, during debriefing with the FAA MR. REEVES stated that the PPR system was an academic exercise past noon on Saturday. There were no delays at CHD. This system worked perfectly for Scottsdale airport. The tower was outstanding during this time.

COMMISSIONER SPERLING thanked everyone for having him, and that it had been a pleasure working with everyone. Also stating that since the beginning to now, there have been a lot of changes to the airport from how it is viewed from the City, and this is quite an accomplishment.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE thanked COMMISSIONER SPERLING for his service to the Commission and he appreciates everything he has done for the airport. He also praised staff for a job well done during the Super Bowl. VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE also welcomed the new Commissioners.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY thanked COMMISSIONER SPERLING for all he has done for the airport. He also thanked COMMISSIONER BOZELLI for his service and welcomed the new Commissioners.

Calendar

The next regular Airport Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., in the Chandler Airport Terminal, 2380 S. Stinson Way.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Ryan Reeves, Secretary

Christopher Hawley, Chairman