

# Meeting Minutes

## Airport Commission

### Regular Meeting

May 10, 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  
Commissioner Mark Mount  
Commissioner Robert Ehlbeck

#### Staff Attendance

Ryan Reeves, Airport Manager  
Chris Andres, Airport Planning Program Mngr.  
Scott Rinkenberger, Airport Ops Manager  
Diana Alonzo, Management Assistant

#### Absent

Commissioner Mark Riesterer

#### Others in Attendance

Harley Mehlhorn, City Planner  
Stephanie Watney, Concord Hospitality  
Matt Hook, Concord Hospitality  
Kelly Bell, Concord Hospitality

### 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. April 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes

Move Airport Commission to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, April 12, 2023.

## **Consent Agenda Motion and Vote**

It was moved by VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE and seconded by COMMISSIONER OROZCO to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of the April 12, 2023.

Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

## **Action Agenda Item No. 2 Election of Officers**

2. CHAIRMAN HAWLEY introduced item No. 2 Election of Officers

## **Action Agenda Item No. 2 Motion and Vote**

COMMISSIONER OROZCO asked the Commission to entertain a motion to re-elect CHAIRMAN HAWLEY as Chair of the Commission and seconded by COMMISSIONER MOUNT. CHAIRMAN HAWLEY accepted the nomination. The MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked the Commission to entertain a motion to re-elect VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE as VICE CHAIRMAN of the Commission and seconded by COMMISSIONER OROZCO. VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE accepted the nomination. The MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

## **Approve PLH23-0012 Concord Hospitality**

3. Move to present an Airport Conflict Evaluation (ACE) report to the Zoning Administrator and City Council with a finding of "no conflict with airport uses" for the proposed Concord Hospitality development.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE MOTIONED to Approve PLH23-0012 Concord Hospitality development. It was Seconded by COMMISSIONER OROZCO.

Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

## **Briefing**

### **4. Monthly Operations Report**

MR. REEVES gave an overview of the Monthly Operations Report for the month of April 2023 with 18,637 operations for the month. April 2022 had a total of 16,353 operations. CHD continues to maintain their national rankings as 50<sup>th</sup> in the nation and 17<sup>th</sup> in the GA rankings. MR. REEVES also stated there were more operations this year than the preceding year by nearly 4,000 operations. There are fewer IFR arrivals and departures compared to the previous April. The national analysts warned that there would be an 8.9% decrease in overall IFR. As of now, the analysts have not issued a forecast of what will be seen in May.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked what the reasoning behind that is.

MR. REEVES responded that it is largely due to the economic environment. All of the VFR transient and local traffic are doing better at the airport and their activity reflects an increase in flight training both at this field and other fields.

### **5. Monthly Noise Report**

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

In April 2023, nine (9) households made nine (9) reports regarding aircraft activity. Seven (7) reports were for aircraft noise. Two (2) reports were for aircraft traffic. Two (2) households were repeat complaints. This was a much quieter month than the previous two (2) months.

COMMISSIONER EHLBECK asked when someone buys a property near an airport if they are notified.

MR. RINKENBERGER responded yes. He just closed on a house and had to sign a document acknowledging the presence of an airport.

MR. REEVES stated that inside the dashed box shown in the noise report, the buyer receives an aviation easement notifying they are near busy airspace.

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

MR. ANDRES stated that this has been a state law for over 20 years.

MR. REEVES stated that Chandler has been very forward leaning on promoting the airport with the community during noise report contacts with the public.

## 6. Monthly Origins and Destinations Report

MR. REEVES shared operations data that will continue to be monitored during the summer to help with the Strategic Business Plan. The data shows that helicopters are not the majority of our operations, but single-engine aircraft are. Thursdays tend to be the busiest day for arrivals and departures. Data showed that Saturdays in April were the busiest day for arrivals and departures due to great regional weather. Runway 4L-22R is the busiest runway, even considering it was closed for nine (9) days. The operational numbers next month will reflect this closure.

188 business flights took place in April 2023. There were five (5) repositioning flights from CHD representing 4,067 gallons of fuel burn enroute. Total flights to and from CHD represent 28,632 gallons of fuel burn.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked if these were IFR flight plans.

MR. REEVES responded yes; these were IFR plans only. He also shared that he is working with the engineers that developed Virtower to create a means to quantify aircraft design type as well as make and model for surface operations. This will allow airport staff to breakdown how many aircraft design groups use 4R versus 4L.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY stated that he noticed the data is being broken down by runway, he would like to see the extension of 22L. CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked MR. REEVES if he had any conclusions REGARDING 22R getting more traffic, if the numbers show runway 22L being underutilized in the summer.

MR. REEVES responded yes; he hopes for two (2) things out of this. The reason behind asking for a breakdown of utilization aircraft design type as well as FAA type is to demonstrate the aircraft design group one (ADG 1) and two (ADG 2) show that smaller aircraft are predominantly on the north runway, while aircraft design two (ADG 2) and three (ADG 3) go to the south runway. We also hope to show what a low impact any increase in that runway's length would actually be. The Super Bowl report showed that when they had 280+ flight plan departures over the course of a five (5) day period, the public did not notice the increase. This will also show that with the traffic segregated properly, the larger aircraft use the south runway. As the summer months approach, this will show that the design groups two (2) and three (3) aircraft simply are not on the south runway because they have to go to other places.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked if the loud aircraft generating the most complaints are on the north side of the airport, if 22L is extended it will attract more jets. The people on south will likely not be impacted because that is where the traffic already is.

MR. REEVES responded that this is where the noise reports come in and where they quantify the type of aircraft over the past 17 years of data. This will help quantify the aircraft and the aircraft

type, demonstrating that most noise complaints come from single-engine fixed-wing or helicopters. This will show that turbines are not a concern, and that overall Chandler does not have a significant noise problem. Breaking down the data by design group type per the FAA standards on each runway will allow for finite data set to show that aircraft are arriving and departing without causing significant noise complaints from turbine operators.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if there is any indication of local operators, how frequently they use reduced power during takeoff.

MR. REEVES responded that they do not, but it would be a great blanket survey.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if there was a way to come up with this information or ask them to provide what their policy is. Also stated that during the cold days, light weight or even during repositioning, they are most likely going at reduced power setting.

MR. REEVES responded that they could receive those decibel settings from the respective aircrafts' operating manuals.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE if he was indicating that if the runway were longer, they might be able to takeoff at lower power setting and be quieter.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE responded that anytime that you have a long enough runway and depending on your weight, you can always takeoff at a lower power setting. While he worked for the airlines, VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE was required to do this because it increases the life of the engine by decreasing the overhaul time.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY stated that it was a great argument for a longer runway.

## **7. Monthly Construction Report**

MR. ANDRES gave an overview of the Construction Report.

### **Capital Projects- Design Phase:**

*Airport Operations Garage:* This is a city funded project at \$1 million. The programming and conceptual layout is underway. Comments have been received for the first concept, but they are waiting for the refined layout.

*Airport Fuel Tank Relocation:* This is a city funded project at \$610,000. The design for a new above ground tank is underway. The initial 30% plan review has been completed.

*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. The design proposal was received.

### **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 final paving is scheduled for completion on 5/9 and the final striping for early June.

*The Wildlife Hazard Perimeter Fence:* This is 100% ADOT funding at \$1,107,500. The contract with Diamond Ridge Development Corporation is for \$796,813 and it scheduled to go to the Council agenda on 5/25.

### **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 recognized MR. ANDRES and his service as an Executive Director for the Arizona Airports Association (AzAA). He also shared some details about 2023 annual conference that took place in Flagstaff, AZ in early May. This is an opportunity for airport representatives from all over the state to get together in one place and discuss what pressing topics within the airports industry.

MR. REEVES also shared that on June 15, staff will have their annual Airport Capital Improvement Project coordination meeting with ADOT Aeronautics and the FAA Airports District office. During the meeting they will go over CHD's capital plan.

MR. REEVES stated that the business strategic plan is on schedule for the initial report preparation and wished to recognize MS. ALONZO, MR. RINKENBER, AND MR. NYETRAE. For the past two weeks, they have gathered detailed data needed to complete these reports. MR. REEVES will have a meeting with the team principal to formulate and discuss the steering committee.

The fuel sales have been increasing. Nearly 1,600 gallons were sold within 9 days in May. The projections for sales through the end of year provided for the budget have been exceeded.

As of Monday, the Airport is fully staffed with 7 full-time employees. Matthew Morrell is the newest Airport Operations Tech.

MR. REEVES recognized the Airport Ops for their work on the Arizona Pavement Management System (APMS) project. This project was possible as a result of AzAA lobbying for the past 5 years with the House and Senate. As of this morning, the one-time funding from 26 million is likely to increase to 42 million. More projects like this one may be possible in the future.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked if private airports participate in the Arizona Airports Association (AzAA).

MR. REEVES responded that some do. The membership committee is currently looking at such airports because there is a high number of private airfields in the state. The reason AzAA might not appeal to them as it does for municipalities is because AzAA is about engagement of all the groups, City Administrative, contractors, consultants, and the state federal agencies. Private airfields do not receive state or federal aid like CHD.

MR. ANDRES stated that he is currently the Chair of AzAA membership, and he has been coordinating with his predecessor on the outreach for additional airports and other entities to join. One focus that they have is for student outreach because there is a need for students to go into airports and making airport administration a career choice.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked if he felt that bringing in private airports would be something positive.

MR. ANDRES responded yes.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked since there is going to be another coat for the APMS project, will they have to paint the white and yellow lines again.

MR. REEVES stated that they will paint over it since this is just single coat to allow the sealant as well as crack seal to cure. Aircraft can land safely and not harm the crack sealant, but they want it to be hard for the final paint. There will not be another coat of sealant.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked if the City had to pay anything for this project.

MR. REEVES responded yes; as seen under Capital projects, the City had to match \$61,758, 10% of ADOT's funding of \$617,574.

MR. ANDRES stated that ADOT was responsible for the procurement, the City only had to sign a check and coordinate with the crew for the project.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked if ADOT covered 90% of funds and the City 10% of the cost.

MR. ANDRES responded that ADOT covered 100% of the design cost and the \$617,574 is the construction cost of which the City was only responsible for 10%.

MR. REEVES stated that this is part of the APMS project, a statewide system of which all 67 airports are eligible for. The crew that did this is enroute to Kingman, AZ to complete the next sealant then they will be in Buckeye, AZ.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY stated that this shows that the City is not completely burdened by these types of projects.

COMMISSIONER EHLBECK asked if this sealant blend has it been done in other high temperature airports.

MR. REEVES responded yes; a similar blend has been used in Yuma, AZ. Taxiway A has a patch of several hundred feet that was tested and has been there for several summers. It has been holding well. The concern with putting more polymer is that the Arizona sun and high temperatures bleach out asphalt. This can turn into a greyish tone that can blend into the desert floor, this should keep it dark for some years to come.

## **Member Comments/Announcements**

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY stated that he wanted to welcome the new Airport Commission Members and invite them to introduce themselves.

COMMISSIONER EHLBECK introduced himself. He stated that he has been a Chandler resident since 1999. Also sharing that his career is in technology, and he works for AWS. He also shared that his son just graduated from ASU, that his daughter is in the U.S. Airforce as a Second Lieutenant as an Airfield Operations officer, and that she is also an ASU graduate. He shared that he is excited to be part of the Commission.

COMMISSIONER MOUNT introduced himself. He shared that he is from Washington state and recently moved to Chandler, AZ. He spent 35 years in law enforcement in Seattle, WA and retired as a Lieutenant. He also spent several years as a commercial pilot.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE welcomed the new Commissioners.

## **Calendar**

The next regular Airport Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., in the Chandler Airport Terminal, 2380 S. Stinson Way.

## **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

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Ryan Reeves, Secretary

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Christopher Hawley, Chairman