

At 5:00 p.m., CHAIRMAN HAWLEY called the Chandler Municipal Airport Commission regular meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Attending: CHAIRMAN HAWLEY
VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE
COMMISSIONER EHLBECK
COMMISSIONER MOUNT
COMMISSIONER NICHOLS
COMMISSIONER OROZCO
COMMISSIONER RIESTERER

Absent: None

SCHEDULED/UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES None

CONSENT AGENDA

COMMISSIONER MOUNT moved to accept the April 10, 2024 minutes. COMMISSIONER OROZCO seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

ACTION AGENDA

Election of Officers

COMMISSIONER MOUNT nominated CHAIRMAN HAWLEY as Chairman for the next term. COMMISSIONER OROZCO seconded. COMMISSIONER MOUNT complimented CHAIRMAN HAWLEY and VICE CHAIR MCCORKLE on their leadership. Motion approved unanimously.

COMMISSIONER EHLBECK nominated VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE for Vice Chair for the upcoming year. COMMISSIONER MOUNT seconded.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY nominated COMMISSIONER EHLBECK for Vice Chair for the upcoming year. COMMISSIONER MOUNT seconded.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE, COMMISSIONER EHLBECK, COMMISSIONER MOUNT, COMMISSIONER NICHOLS, COMMISSIONER OROZCO, and COMMISSIONER RIESTERER voted to select VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE for the upcoming year. CHAIRMAN HAWLEY voted to select COMMISSIONER EHLBECK.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE stated that historically the Commission rotated members through the Chair and Vice Chair positions with the Vice Chair ascending to the Chairman position.

COMMISSIONER MOUNT asked what the term limits are for the Commission.

VICE CHAIR MCCORKLE stated two, three-year terms, but renomination was up to the Mayor. VICE CHAIR MCCORKLE asked if term limits were in the Bylaws.

MR. REEVES stated that staff will have to confirm.

VICE CHAIR MCCORKLE stated that the only time succession would be an issue is when the Commission would be dealing with controversial and technical issues.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY stated that he did not see any reference to term limits in the Bylaws.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE stated that he spoke with the Mayor and that the Mayor's policy is to rotate new members in and limit terms to two, but that wouldn't preclude selecting someone else.

COMMISSIONER EHLBECK stated that he appreciated his nomination and would possibly vote for himself next year.

BRIEFING ITEMS

Operations Report

MR. REEVES delivered the April operations report.

Noise Report

MR. RINKENBERGER delivered April noise report. MR. RINKENBERGER noted the new icons for daytime and nighttime activity on the noise location map.

COMMISSIONER EHLBECK asked if other airports are getting the same complaints for pattern work from United Aviate. MR. RINKENBERGER state that he has not coordinated with other airports.

MR. REEVES stated that, in discussions with other valley airport managers, a specific uptick in United Aviate operations has been noticed. MR. REEVES stated that United Aviate is based at Goodyear, but is a Phoenix owned airport and noise complaints go to Sky Harbor. This issue is part of an ongoing effort to get United Aviate engaged in the local flight training workgroup. Staff does communicate this issue to residents and forwards the company's contact information. The Chandler-based flight schools are considerate of the surrounding neighborhoods and try to avoid intensive pattern work during late hours.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if the complaints regarding the Cirrus aircraft were all pattern-related or if instrument approaches were included. MR. RINKENBERGER stated that it was VFR pattern work as evidenced by the flight tracking system.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked how many instrument approaches do we typically get a month and how many of those usually result in a noise complaint. MR. RINKENBERGER stated that he does not have that data.

COMMISSIONER EHLBECK thanked MR. RINKENBERGER for the updated map showing nighttime and daytime calls.

Origins and Destinations Report

MR. REEVES delivered the April origins and destinations report.

COMMISSIONER MOUNT asked what companies are buying the B350 aircraft. MR. REEVES responded that we are seeing a variety of users and an increase in the use of the aircraft.

Construction Report

MR. ANDRES delivered the construction report and presented the concept for the Airport Operations Garage as requested by COMMISSIONER OROZCO at the previous Commission meeting.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY noted that the Airport spends a lot of time talking about pavement, but workspaces are very important for employee morale and civic pride. MR. ANDRES noted that the public does not notice paving projects, but would notice an interesting building that promotes the airport with good design.

COMMISSIONER OROZCO asked if the building would help with staff efficiency and asked where the fence line would be. MR. REEVES answered affirmatively and pointed out the location of the fence line and relocated vehicle access gate.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if the parking lot was ground side. MR. REEVES answered that it is the current Tower parking lot.

COMMISSIONER MOUNT asked if the building had office space. MR. REEVES answered that it does.

COMMISSIONER NICHOLS asked how many square feet the building is. MR. ANDRES answered that he couldn't recall off the top of his head but will get the information after the meeting.

COMMISSIONER OROZCO asked if the restrooms were for the public or for staff. MR. ANDRES replied that the restrooms were for staff because the garage is not designed for public access, but staff would likely let a member of the public use it in case of an emergency.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if the capacity of this garage meet our expected needs for any additional vehicles, equipment, etcetera when we expand the south side. MR. ANDRES stated that the building is designed to be scalable but with additional south side development will decrease the use of tractors for mowing open areas. There will be additional airfield needs, but the building is appropriately sized.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked about the need for unanticipated future needs such as battery removal equipment. There will be a need in the future to expand the building when the south side is developed. MR. ANDRES responded that given the current program and budget constraints the building is appropriately sized but flexible to expand.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY asked to confirm if the garage location is consistent with the current airport Master plan. MR. ANDRES responded affirmatively.

MR. ANDRES continued with the remainder of the construction report.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if the city is getting any grants for the garage and if there is any requirement for electric vehicles and the requirement for charging those electric vehicles? MR. ANDRES replied that the funding is all city funded and there is an FAA program that funds airport vehicles, but this is geared towards large airports that have large fleets. It is generally not competitive for general aviation airports.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE stated that the city can do what it wants if there is no other funding. He asked what kind of fuel containment we would have in the garage. MR. ANDRES reported that the equipment is powered by traditional internal combustion engines. Most vehicles fuel at the facility near Germann Road and Arizona Avenue for unleaded fuel and diesel is brought in small tanks to refuel the remaining equipment.

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

MR. REEVES delivered the fuel update. MR. REEVES indicated that we should pass through 55,000 gallons in approximately 8 days, which exceeds our annual expectations. This reflects our competitive pricing and we're still getting very good margin on it. This has been one of our big success stories over the years going from. COMMISSIONER EHLBECK stated that the April figures represent a significant jump and asked whether internal or external conditions caused the increase in sales. MR. REEVES responded that both internal and external factors caused the increase, specifically Chandler maintaining its favorable price while others were unable to competitively purchase fuel. This requires continual staff monitoring and planning and a bit of luck to buy competitively.

MR. REEVES made brief comments about the Strategic Business Plan efforts including refinements on the draft financial analysis and discussions about refining goals. 79 goals were suggested by the workshop participants. MR. REEVES noted that the consultant stated that his large commercial airport clients do not typically get that much feedback from their stakeholders, so this feedback is exceptionally strong. Next steps are getting buy in from city leadership and then moving into a Council work session.

MR. REEVES stated that he and MR. RINKENBERGER attended the Arizona Airports Association Spring Conference in Yuma. Among many items, the importance of preserving the State Aviation Fund from legislative sweeps is the top priority. Millions of dollars in critical capital funding are at stake. MR. REEVES further stated lobbying efforts that are underway of which he is a part.

MR. REEVES stated that the ACIP process has begun, and the recent city capital budgeting process is mostly complete with favorable City Council support for the airport.

MR. REEVES reminded the Commission that the next meeting will include Open Meeting Law training from the City Attorney's Office.

MR. REEVES stated that he will be giving a presentation on the history of the Chandler Airport on July 2nd.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if there was any video from the conference. MR. REEVES responded that there was no video.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE asked if there were any breakout sessions.

MR. REEVES replied that the conference is largely held in an open forum. There are really no breakout sessions, but that is something that's never been filmed. MR. REEVES further stated that he suggested to the organization that video sessions might be a good opportunity for those unable to attend the conference.

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE stated that video would be good for Commissioners to have access to the sessions.

COMMISSIONER MOUNT asked if the city has a video unit and could go with staff to the conference to record.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY questioned whether the city would be comfortable with loaning video capability to another organization.

MR REEVES replied that it typically isn't done.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY stated that all you need is a webcam to provide video recording.

MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

VICE CHAIRMAN MCCORKLE noted the Memorial Day holiday coming up and to remember those who fell.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY briefed the Commission on the recent strategic business plan stakeholder meetings. The strengths and weaknesses were accurate, and the consultants next step was to develop draft weighted and prioritized goals that address those weaknesses or harness those strengths. The top goals focused on planning and implementing the extension of Runway 4R-22L, leasing more land for development, increasing revenues by modernizing or and looking at our market rents and cost-based fees, developing and implementing a staffing plan, and updating the Airport's primary management compliance documents. CHAIRMAN HAWLEY stated that staff is swamped and the Airport needs more staffing.

CALENDAR

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY stated that the next Airport Commission meeting will be June 12th, 2024.

CHAIRMAN HAWLEY concluded the meeting at 5:59 p.m.