

City of Lawrence

Aviation Advisory Board Meeting

May 28, 2015 Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Born, Jonathan Becker, Richard Haig, Gary Knudsen, Jeff Long, and Cheri Thompson
MEMBERS ABSENT: Anthony Perez
STAFF PRESENT: Charles Soules
PUBLIC PRESENT: David Hadel and Lloyd Hetrick

- I. Call to Order:
Richard Haig called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM.

- II. The Previous Meeting Minutes:
Gary Knudsen moved and Jeff Long seconded a motion approving the prior meeting of April 2, 2015. The motion passed unanimously.

- III. Airport Manager's Report:
Project Updates
 - REILS – Chuck Soules reported that all that is needed to complete the project is the FAA nighttime inspection, which should occur sometime in the next sixty days. It was reported that the signage at the end of Runway 15 read RWY 33. Lloyd Hetrick reported he had blacked out the incorrect number until a new sign was delivered.

 - Environmental Assessment – The draft assessment is complete and available. This assessment is a necessary element of the 5-year plan for the airport. Wes McCulley has requested a public hearing on the report. The hearing will be held in the City Commission Meeting Room at City Hall on Thursday, June 17, 2015 at 7:00 pm

 - West Apron Repair - Chuck Soules reported all stakeholders had been contacted about the repair work. The Street Division of the City would be meeting at the University of Kansas hangar with interested stakeholders on the West Side of the airport on May 29, 2015 to coordinate the repair so that stakeholders would know when their access to hangars would be impaired. The Street Division was anticipating finishing the project before August 1st, weather permitting.

- IV. FBO Report:
Lloyd Hetrick reported that he had a deer incursion today at the intersection of the taxiway with RWY 01/19, as he was taxiing out. This report provoked a number of other reports of incursions on animals onto the runways and taxiways.

Lloyd Hetrick also reported on drone activity. There is/are no City or County procedures or regulation and no communication about the use of drones. This growing activity is of concern to Lifeflight for drones flying at or below 500'. The

proposed FAA regulations are still in the Comment Period and are not expected to be published in the Code of Federal Regulations until early next year. The proposed FAA regulations made a distinction between private and commercial operations with commercial operations requiring a pilot's license. This distinction was going to cause some "commercial" operations to declare they are private activity. Jeff Long reported drone activity on KU campus was within 5 miles of the airport and therefore needed to communicate on the Unicom. No one on the Board expected drone operators to comply, let alone be aware of the communication requirement. The prices of these drones are dropping, making them more available to persons with little or no flight training. It was reported communication between KU Legal and City Legal were trying to work out an outline to address the issue. The philosophy has to be to work with drone operators to regulate, not prohibit. While this is not an exclusive-to-the-airport issue, there is a need to take this growing issue with its safety concerns to city commission. Any plan whether developed by the City Legal Department or elsewhere needed to adopt a functional approach used by the FAA.

V. Emergency Management / Hazmat Exercise:

Richard Haig, Cheri Thompson, Jeff Long and Lloyd Hetrick reported on the Emergency Management/ Hazmat Exercise and the simulation of collision of a fuel truck and 19-passenger airplane. Not much time was spent concentrating on the hazmat issues but did spend a great deal of time with the issues of communication and coordination among the 17 interested organizations. The first recommendation from the exercise will probably be to incorporate common names of hangars into the Douglas County Emergency Dispatch computers so that the street addresses and GPS coordinates would match. The Commission noted that there are at least 11 buildings at airport. One of the other recommendations would be to provide Dispatch with GPS for each end of a runway so the emergency personnel would have the appropriate routing information for access to runways. Another recommendation would be a Contact/Call list for various hangars. The recommendations will be coming from the consultant to DG Emergency Management. Jeff Long reported the consultant was doing the same kind of exercise for KU.

VI. Wildlife Hazard Fence:

Chuck Soules reviewed the budget discussions of the City for 2016. The local match of the Wildlife Hazard Fence will be in the 2016 City Budget. Chuck Soules confirmed that the Fence would be funded on a 90-10 ratio with 90% coming from the FAA budget. He estimated with engineering and surveys included the Wildlife Hazard Fence project would come in at \$1,000,000.00. There was a general discussion of the interplay between program and discretionary funding from the FAA. When the "Go" letter comes from the FAA that means we are getting someone else's discretionary funds as well as our base funds. If we are not responsive, Lawrence could lose entitlement and discretionary funds from FAA.

The board discussed the importance of the fence for safety and secondarily for security of airplanes at the airport. There was a general consensus that this issue needs to be included in the City's budget planning for 2016. Richard Haig will coordinate with Mayor Farmer getting some time at one of the public

comment sessions, tentatively, June 9, 2015.

- VII. Open House / Youth Camp for 2015:
Richard Haig reported that Youth Camp is ready to go. Shirts are done; Certificates and Domino's pizza ordered - need ice. Still need pilots for the flight ride module. Thirteen registered so far, but down because of this past weekend being Memorial Day. Richard will be on KLWN this coming Tuesday on According to the Record to publicize the event
- VIII. Adjournment:
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Next Meeting time is 6:30 pm on Wednesday, August 19, 2015, in the Richardson Memorial Pilots' Lounge at the Lawrence Municipal Airport Terminal Building.