

City of Lawrence Aviation Advisory Board Meeting

October 11, 2018 Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Haig, Bill Ackerly, Dan Born, Michael Kelly, Don Kinney, new member Monte Soukup (KU rep).

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Chuck Soules

PUBLIC PRESENT: Lloyd Hetrick (Hetrick Aviation), Ron Renz, Rick Bryant

I. Call to order

Noting a quorum, chair Richard Haig called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

II. Review of Minutes of August 16, 2018 Meeting

Minutes from this meeting were discussed, and one change was made--there were two numbers given for the number of the ordinance that will be updated. The correct number is 5035. With this change, the minutes were approved.

III. Public Comment

No members of the public wished to voice comments at this meeting.

IV. Update on Kid's Camp

Because this event had been cancelled previously because of weather, there were not as many participants as hoped. Many volunteers helped with the effort. Maybe consider a different time of year for this to avoid the potential for weather cancellation? No decision reached.

V. Update on Emergency Management Exercise

This event went well, and involved multiple emergency responding organizations, a location at the airport, a location at the hospital, and actors to simulate a complex emergency situation. Many challenges and potentials were discovered, which is the goal for this sort of simulation. A final draft report is due in a few weeks.

VI. Update on Federal Supplemental Grant Request/Approval process--(Rick Bryant)

As part of the application process, future plans have been reviewed to see where Grant funds would do the most good. Discussion of the present condition of runway 15-33 and taxiway, crosswind runway (1-

19) and taxiway, ramp and area around T-hangars. The hope is that funding would be granted for a surface upgrade to runway 15-33 and adjacent taxiways. All items needing attention are on the list that will be submitted, and depending on funds, some projects could be accelerated from their current status. Not currently on list, but under discussion is a full-length taxiway for crosswind runway 1-19. Deadline for application submittal is Oct. 31, 2018.

Additional discussion on the topic of runways and Lawrence Airport air traffic noted that official traffic counts are many fewer than actual because the official count is from ATC's record of instrument approaches. It was noted that when a pilot terminates their instrument approach before landing, that approach/traffic is not counted. This discussion also included the number of landings needed to reach a threshold number that would qualify for having the FAA consider funding an extension of runway 15-33, for which space has already been allocated.

VII. FBO Report (Lloyd Hetrick)

Currently working with the city on a lease agreement, and readying site plans for submittal.

There was a robust discussion about bringing more business to the airport to help grow jobs and revenue for the city. Some past experiences where businesses went elsewhere rather than the Lawrence Airport were related. Open-ended discussion on the mechanics of how to get the city and potential commercial tenants together.

VIII. New Business

It was announced that Airport tenant LifeStar has been sold to MedTrans, but no changes are anticipated with their operation at the airport, as they will be staying as a tenant. Sub-lease should involve a corporate ownership change only.

LifeStar founder Greg Hildebrand will be invited to the next Aviation Advisory Board meeting to thank him for his long-term support of the airport and Lawrence.

Budget issues and KU Aircraft were discussed. Because of budget cuts, KU is considering getting rid of its aircraft housed and serviced at the airport and using a charter operation instead. It was pointed out that a charter operation would be more expensive than operating and maintaining an aircraft, but KU is concerned about the image of a private aircraft in times of budget cuts. Richard Haig will talk with KU Aviation's Jeff Long to get his perspective, and report back to the board.

There was a general discussion about two programs that could be offered at the airport to generate additional public interest--A. A Rusty Pilot's Meeting, and B. An Adult Aviation Camp. More to come on these two potentials.

Skydiving Update--There have been no applications made for skydiving events.

Next meeting--Tentatively set for 6:30 pm, December 13, 2018 in the Pilot's Lounge at the Lawrence Municipal Airport Terminal Building.

VIII. Adjournment--There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.