

TEXARKANA AIRPORT AUTHORITY MINUTES

3:00 PM – Wednesday, April 24th, 2024

A Joint meeting of the Cities of Texarkana AR and TX and the Texarkana Airport Authority Board was held in the Ark Tex Council of Governments Building, 4808 Elizabeth St, Texarkana, Texas.

Call to Order/Roll Call

TEXAS

Chair Mr. Mike Mayo ✓
Mr. Matt Robertson ✓
Mr. David Potter ✓
Mr. David Baumgardner ✓

ARKANSAS

Vice-Chair Mr. Adger Smith ✓
Dr. Robin Hickerson ✓
Mr. Ray Abernathy ✗
Mr. Ronald Bruce ✓

Mr. Rob Sitterley ✗
Economic Representative

Mr. Paul Mehrlich ✓
Executive Director of Aviation

Roll Call: Mike Mayo called the meeting to order. Angie Clinton called the roll.

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of Meeting scheduled March 28, 2024
- Financial Report – Period Ending March 31, 2024

David Potter made a motion to approve the March 2024 Minutes of Meeting and Financial Report Period Ending March 31, 2024; Matt Robertson seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Master Plan Briefing: Paul Mehrlich gave a briefing on the Master Plan including the runway extension & strengthening as well the processes involved and timeline. An alternative plan for the affected community was shared. Mr. Mehrlich recommended voting either on the original plan, the alternative or tabling the matter for now. David Potter suggested voting on the original Master Plan while Dr. Robin Hickerson and Ronald Bruce asked for the matter to be tabled. It was mentioned that Ronald Bruce can voice his opinion but cannot vote on the matter. The AR City Manager, Robert Thompson, asked how the land purchases were going to be made. Mr. Mehrlich explained that the purchase can be made with a federal grant. David Potter made a motion to approve the original Master Plan and Matt Robertson seconded the motion. Dr. Hickerson opposed it, and Ronald Bruce abstained. The motion passed.

Public Comments: ***Please see the attached “Sign In” sheet for list of community members in attendance.*

Craig Harland, an East Heights community member, requested a modification for the single row hangars as opposed to the current plan, which would allow a wooded border for the neighborhood. He asked what the difference is for extending the runway at the other end and why other land can't be utilized.

Eric Hopkins voiced his concern about his portion of community land being taken. He reviewed the map and graphics and asked about compensation if he doesn't sell.

Jennifer Harland expressed her thankfulness that the alternative proposal to the Master Plan took her land out of the 20-yr plan. Her concern, however, is if any studies are going to be done regarding the noise contours from the hangars proposed in the Master Plan. The Director explained that hangars do not have noise contours. Additionally, she asked that the Board vote “no” on the original Master Plan. She expressed success for the airport but not at the expense of her neighborhood.

Airport Director's Report: Paul Mehrlich presented the Director's Report. He briefly listed a few punch-list items that will need to be complete prior to moving into the new terminal. He hopes for the administration to move in within the next couple of weeks.

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MINUTES
3:00 PM – Wednesday, April 24th, 2024

Mr. Mehrlich explained the delay in the apron phases, terminal parking lot and crack seal project due to the inclement weather.

He relayed that MCE is working on FAA closeouts and ADA grant application and that a grant application is being prepared for the construction of the terminal access road.

The Director explained that Flight Solutions is working on drainage and finishing the dirt work, that buildings have been ordered and is awaiting on the final building permit. MCE is coordinating with Flight Solutions on obtaining bids for apron work.

With regards to the runway/taxiway strengthening, Mr. Mehrlich informed the Board that he is coordinating a meeting with the FAA to start the move of the Localizer. A survey has been completed and a geotechnical investigation is underway. He is also trying to set up a meeting with Congressman Moran while he is in DC in May. He announced AR-TX REDI group's collaboration with State representatives to get the State's \$17 million released to start designing the overlay in conjunction with the lengthening.

Again, Paul Mehrlich referred to previous discussions with regards to the Master Plan.

The website is on track for launch in early May, and the Board agreed to no pictures or biographies.

With regards to Real Estate, the Director relayed that Tracy Harris with Harvest Ministries has been traveling but is reviewing the lease; that he has three new leads on potential projects coming back from MRO America; that Project Pain is in discussions with the State on incentives and will enter into a MOU with us; that we have entered into a MOU with a company for Project Woods and that he is working with AR-TX REDI group to determine the feasibility of the project.

The Director met with Advantage Aviation and is working on plans for rolling out for the advertising campaign for the new terminal in the next few weeks. He announced that Advantage Aviation is joining him for conferences in DC with airlines: American, United, Skywest and Allegiant, possibly Avelo.

A summary was given of the status of the airshow and the MOU. It was announced that Signature has received a new Avgas truck and is certified for use.

In conclusion, Mr. Mehrlich said he would be setting up a meeting with the Rates and Fees committee that consists of Ray Abernathy, David Potter and the Director. He announced that he has negotiated a new rate for American Airlines and is drafting a new 5-years agreement with them. He announced the upcoming budget season and hopes to have the first meeting in June/July. This concluded the Director's Report.

Resolutions:

- Consider and approve entering into a 3-year agreement with two 1-year options with Advanced Aviation Marketing.
- Consider and approve Work Order #14 \$480,376.97 for Runway Extension Design

Old/New Business:

New Business: David Baumgardner talked about Allegiant and their seasonal twice-a-week flights.

Old Business: Dr. Robin Hickerson asked for an update on the Ribbon Cutting, attendance and clothing attire for airport representatives. It was decided that business attire is recommended.

TEXARKANA AIRPORT AUTHORITY
MINUTES
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Executive Session: None.

Adjourn: David Potter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Adger Smith seconded. The vote was unanimously approved, and the meeting was adjourned.

****PLEASE SIGN IN****

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE
Jennifer Harland	Jennifer Harland
Craig Harland	Craig Harland
Eric + Leah Hopkins	Eric + Leah Hopkins
Juanita Greene	Juanita Greene
Matthew Vineyard	Matthew Vineyard
Mary Hart	Mary Hart
Cindy K Snell	Cindy K Snell
Phyllis Hooker	Phyllis Hooker
Trene Hale	Trene Hale
Shannon Elliott	Shannon Elliott
Kenneth Icehouse	Kenneth Icehouse
Gary Smith	Gary Smith
Lisa Thompson	Lisa Thompson
David Orr	David Orr
Robert Shuman	Robert Shuman
Don Walla	Don Walla

****PLEASE SIGN IN****

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