

West Calcasieu Airport Managing Board Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2018

I. Call to order

Chairman Dalton Langford called to order the regular meeting of the West Calcasieu Airport Managing Board at approximately 4:40 p.m. on February 6, 2018, at the offices of Southland Executive Airport, Conference Room, 7000 Southland Field Road, Sulphur, Louisiana.

II. Invocation

Wilmer Dugas led the invocation.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge led by R. K. Levens and recited by all board members and guests.

(Police Juror Francis Andrepont told the Board that he tried getting the Board Members a per diem, and he explained that it cannot be done through the Police Jury. Mr. Andrepont said it will need to be done through the 2 entities that formed the Airport Board: The City of Sulphur and the West Calcasieu Port. Darla Perry asked if there would need to be a revised statute. Mr. Andrepont stated the he was just told that it had to be one of the founding supporters. The Board thanked Mr. Andrepont for his efforts.)

IV. Roll call

The following persons were present:

- ✓ Dalton Langford
- ✓ Don Chamblee
- ✓ Wilmer Dugas
- ✓ R. K. Levens
- ✓ Dana Keel
- ✓ Joe Palermo

(Others also present at the meeting were: Darla Perry, Tim LaFleur, Jackson Schruppf, Chuck Stutes, Francis Andrepont and Sheila Burton.)

V. Approval of minutes of the January 2, 2018 regular monthly meeting

Chairman Dalton Langford entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the

January 2, 2018 regular monthly meeting. Don Chamblee made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2018 regular monthly meeting, 2nd by R. K. Levens. No opposition. Motion carried.

VI. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Chuck Stutes stated that the Board needs to authorize the Airport Manager to be able to execute construction-related documents on the current FAA project: the Rehabilitation of the Taxiway and Apron. Don Chamblee made a motion to add to the agenda to authorize the Airport Manager to be able to execute construction-related documents on the current FAA project: the Rehabilitation of the Taxiway and Apron, 2nd by Dana Keel. No opposition. Motion carried.

VII(a). Discuss and take action to authorize the Airport Manager to be able to execute construction-related documents on the current FAA project: the Rehabilitation of the Taxiway and Apron

Director Tim Lafleur explained that all of the grant documents have been signed and that this is just the phases of payment as it goes through. R. K. Levens made a motion to authorize the Airport Manager to be able to execute construction-related documents on the current FAA project: The Rehabilitation of the Taxiway and Apron, 2nd by Don Chamblee. No opposition. Motion carried.

VII. Finance Report

Darla Perry presented the financial report and told the Board that on the Budget vs. Actual they were looking at a 6-month operational statement. Darla reported that the Airport has done better than budget. Budgeted amount was \$67,826.50; and actual amount was \$276,676.29. Darla stated that that amount includes the head count money, and she had not included the head count money in the budgeted amount. Darla said First Flight is coming through with what they told the Board they would be paying. Darla told the Board that they she has all of the financials available if anyone wants to look at them. Darla explained that the Airport has a LAMP (Louisiana Asset Municipal Pool) account, which is like a savings account. Darla said May 2015 there was \$2900 in the account, and presently there is \$702,000 in the account thanks to the income from First Flight. Darla said as soon as there is extra reserve she moves it to that interest-bearing account, which is 1.38 percent interest at the moment.

Darla reported that the Airport received the \$300,000 annual payment from Chennault, and she moved that money to the LAMP account. Chairman Langford told the Board he met with Rhett last week, and First Flight is working on the price and close to getting the extension on the new contract. Darla reported that First Flight has been running, on average, over 700 daily. Wilmer Dugas made a motion to accept the Finance Report as presented, 2nd by R. K. Levens. No opposition. Motion carried.

VIII. Director's Report

Director Tim Lafleur reported that the tractor that was placed on the Government bid site sold for \$14,000. The check has already been deposited. Tim said he asked the paving company to give the Airport a bid on the parking lot, but Kris is going to look into it to see if it would be better to add it to the next paving project to get State and Federal funds. Tim invited the Board and staff to come to the Airport tomorrow at 2:30 because the teachers from the last field trip, along with a school board representative, will be presenting the Airport with thank-you cards and photos. Tim said that First Flight plans on having a representative present. There was a brief discussion about the meeting tomorrow with the teachers. Tim explained how the field trips have been a big hit and how he has had nothing but positive feedback. Chairman Langford entertained a motion to accept the Director's Report as presented. Wilmer Dugas made a motion to accept the Director's Report as presented, 2nd by Dana Keel. No opposition. Motion carried.

IX. Engineer's Report

Chuck Stutes reported that there was a preconstruction meeting today on the rehabilitation of taxiway A and the apron. Chuck explained the contract has been finalized and filed at the courthouse. Based on today's meeting, Chuck said it appears the contractor will begin work in March. The contractor has 90 days to complete the work, but he feels he can finish it before 90 days.

Regarding the FAA project that is pending, which is the rehabilitation of taxiway B and the aprons at the T hangars, Chuck said they are working on the project and should have a preliminary package to DOTD and FAA around March or April. Chuck said they are holding them off from bidding until July or August because of funding.

Chuck announced that DOTD has issued their airport construction and development priority program for fiscal year 2018-2019. Southland Field is listed in 2 places (rehabilitation of taxiway B and the T hangar aprons) but is also listed as the 37th project out of 39 for the construction of new T hangars for which the State will fund \$530,000; and the local match will be \$20,000. Chuck said it is not official yet; but it looks like Southland Field is on the list for a new T hangar, which is good news. Chuck said this is State funding only. Darla Perry asked if they will get to number 37. Chuck answered that he didn't know but, if not, the Airport will be higher on the list for the following year. Chuck said making the list is very good.

Don Chamblee asked about the fuel farm. Chuck said he is waiting on a package from the electrical and mechanical engineers and should be receiving it this week. Chairman Langford entertained a motion to accept the Engineer's Report. R. K. Levens made a motion to accept the Engineer's Report. No opposition. Motion carried.

X. New Business

Joe Palermo said he wanted to address the lawsuit between First Flight and the School Board. Mr. Palermo told the Board he feels First Flight is the best thing that has ever happened to the Airport. Mr. Palermo asked if the Airport has done anything affirmative

like going to the School Board or writing letters in support of First Flight. Mr. Palermo said that First Flight has done a lot for the airport and the community and feels they should be supported. R. K. Levens asked what the status is on the lawsuit. Darla Perry said it is in the Supreme Court now. There was a brief discussion about the lawsuit between First Flight and the School Board. Mr. Palermo said he would like a motion having the Airport's counsel or someone on behalf of the Airport write a letter to the School Board asking to reconsider the lawsuit they have against First Flight and would like to discuss how the lawsuit may affect the Airport. R. K. Levens stated he would 2nd that motion. Darla Perry asked if the Airport should get First Flight's approval, and Joe Palermo agreed. There was continued discussion about the lawsuit.

Attorney Jackson Schrumpf suggested asking First Flight's lawyer if he thinks it would be a good idea and to also suggest the language that should be placed in the letter. The Board agreed and asked Jackson Schrumpf to contact First Flight's lawyer to have a letter drawn up on behalf of the Airport in support of First Flight. Chairman Langford entertained a formal motion. Joe Palermo made a formal motion to have First Flight's attorney compose a letter on behalf of the Airport, in support of First Flight, asking the School Board to consider dropping the lawsuit they have against First Flight or negotiating some sort of settlement. R. K. Levens 2nd the motion. No opposition. Motion carried.

XI. Old Business

Jackson Schrumpf asked the status of the FAA paying for the work that was done. Chuck Stutes said they have not paid yet. Chuck said he has received reports that the project manager may possibly be retiring soon. Chuck stated that one of the projects was reassigned to another project manager, but for some reason she hasn't been at work for several weeks.

Mr. Schrumpf asked Tim if the aircraft has been removed from the runway. Tim answered no and explained the policy just went into effect on the 3rd. Tim stated a registered letter was sent out today to the tenant on behalf of the Board. Joe Palermo asked who the tenant is. Tim answered Rita Fontenot. There was a brief discussion about the tenant and the new dormant aircraft policy that was put into effect.

XII. Public Comments

There were no public comments at this time.

XIII. Chairman's Update

There was no Chairman's Update at this time.

XIV. Adjourn

Chairman Langford entertained a motion to adjourn. Wilmer Dugas made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by R. K. Levens. No opposition. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:10 p.m.


Chairman


Acting Secretary