

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
AIRPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**Meeting of November 18, 2014**

**Montgomery Field Terminal, 3750 John J. Montgomery Drive, San Diego, CA 92123**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** J. H. Aldrich (Montgomery Field Aviation Lessee), Jackie Ander (Serra Mesa Community), Jim Demeaux (Clairemont Community), Chairman Buzz Fink (Special Expertise), Buzz Gibbs (Kearny Mesa Community), Lisa Golden (Otay Mesa Community), Vice-Chair Chuck McGill (Montgomery Field Aviation User Group), Tom Ricotta (Brown Field Aviation Lessee), David Ryan (Special Expertise)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Scott Hasson (Tierrasanta Community) *excused*, Bob Hitchcock (Brown Field Aviation User Group), Rich Martindell (Special Expertise) *excused*

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Nici Boon, Ray Richmond, Larry Rothrock

**STAFF PRESENT:** Brandi Mulvey, Wayne Reiter, Matt Schmitzer, Andy Schwartz, Mike Tussey

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Fink called the meeting to order at 3:10 P.M. A quorum was present.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the October 14, 2014 regular meeting were approved unanimously, as written. Dr. Aldrich, Mr. Demeaux and Mr. Ryan abstained, due to their absence at that meeting.

**3. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

**Indemnification Status of AAC Members**

The City Attorney opinion was sent to members today. Chairman Fink summarized: The City likely would be required to indemnify AAC members as “employees” under the California Government Claims Act, which would include a general duty in most circumstances to provide a legal defense and to pay judgments and settlements for claims arising out of acts or omissions occurring within the scope of an AAC member’s service to the City.

Mr. Gibbs shared a story which described the background of the topic.

Mr. Tussey explained that this legal opinion is not a blanket indemnification by the City to all advisory groups. It is confined to the AAC, and on a case-by-case basis. Each committee must request their own analysis by the City Attorney to determine their own indemnification status.

Mr. Demeaux wished to clarify that AAC members are likely indemnified, but not guaranteed. Chairman Fink replied yes, indemnification status would depend on the circumstances.

## **5. STAFF & DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### MYF General Update – *Montgomery Field Airport Manager Matt Schmitzer*

- Mr. Schmitzer distributed information compiled by the San Diego Business Journal ranking the airports in the county by total aircraft operations in 2013. MYF was number two behind SAN with 186,192 operations. Operations for this calendar year are trending up, with an optimistic outlook of potentially being number one for 2014.
- Last Friday, a Citabria ran off runway 28R near taxiway C. There were no injuries and no damage to the airport observed.
- Powerland mowed the airport November 3 – 11, as well as today.
- Repairs to the Operations Building are nearly complete, following the unusual storm event. Tile work at the Casa Machado is the only work that remains.
- Mr. Schmitzer gave kudos to the maintenance staff for their cleanup efforts near gate 3 east of Gibbs, an area formerly known as the “tree farm.” Mr. Gibbs explained that area was used by the Kiwanis Club to grow trees, and then donate them to the City for planting elsewhere.

### Noise and Special Projects – *Airport Noise Abatement Officer Wayne Reiter*

- Extensive F/A-18 activity at Brown Field last weekend resulted in several noise complaints.
- Meeting with the FAA this morning to discuss the Airport Capital Improvement Plan (ACIP) was a success. The ACIP is a list of grant-eligible projects the City intends to undertake during the next five years. The finalized version will be distributed to the Committee.

### SDM Metro Airpark Update – *DPC Project Manager Nici Boon*

- Moving forward with technical studies – grading/drainage plans, mitigation plans – to reflect the alternative approved by City Council. Working on permit approval by the end of next year.
- On November 4, the judge heard arguments related to the CEQA litigation and issued a tentative ruling, which denied the petitioners’ writ of mandate in its entirety. It is expected the final ruling will be in DPC’s favor. Mr. Tussey asked when the final ruling is anticipated. Ms. Boon replied within 90 days.

### SDM General Update – *Brown Field Airport Manager Andy Schwartz*

- An ongoing problem with the lights on Runway 8L-26R, which caused them to pulsate at step 1, has been resolved through a temporary fix. Select Electric found a problem with a transformer associated with the REIL’s.
- Gate 1 has been repaired, after having been badly vandalized last month.
- The Direct TV airship is at Brown Field. It will likely remain there through the first part of next year.

MYF/SDM Property Issues – *Supervising Property Agent Brandi Mulvey*

- Working on RFP's associated with MYF properties.
- Advertisement for an additional property agent will close next Monday, with an expected start early next year.

Management Update – *Airports Deputy Director Mike Tussey*

Deputy Director advertisement yielded 36 candidates. Interviews of the highest-ranked 8-9 of these will occur next week, November 24 – 26.

Chairman Fink stated he took the AAC's recommendation to include an AAC member on the selection committee to the Mayor's office. The request was denied, as it was found not appropriate, although the recommendation was understood to be well-intentioned and appreciated.

Mr. Gibbs asked if all 36 candidates will be interviewed, and if there were any local candidates. Mr. Tussey replied the list was refined down to eight-nine highly qualified candidates and eight alternates. Mr. Reiter is one of the candidates, along with a former county airport employee, Sherry Miller.

Mr. Ryan wanted to clarify the AAC will not have any input on the selection. Chairman Fink replied the Committee, or individuals, can make a recommendation. However, an AAC member will not participate in the selection process.

Capital Improvement/Consultant Project Update – *Airports Deputy Director Mike Tussey*

- MYF Rwy 5-23, Twy G: Expected start in December.
- SDM Rwy 8L-26R Construction Phase I: Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) finalized, appeal expected from the Metro Airpark opposition group. Start date next year.
- ADA Project for SDM and MYF: Expected start next year. Project will make use of a City contractor, avoiding the need to receive new bids.

Dr. Aldrich asked if a slurry seal of the Flattop area can be expedited. Mr. Tussey replied yes.

Mr. Ricotta asked who the point of contact is for the ADA project, as questions continue to go unanswered. Mr. Tussey replied he is, or Mr. Reiter.

Vice-Chair McGill asked who the new tower manager is. Mr. Schmitzer replied Dave Borcalli. Ms. Golden asked where Tom Dray went. Mr. Tussey replied he transferred to an administrative position at SAN.

Vice-Chair McGill wanted confirmation that all the major leases at Montgomery Field were either in negotiation or awaiting RFP. Ms. Mulvey replied yes. Mr. Tussey and Ms. Mulvey explained that the change in leadership at Real Estate Assets (READ) is expected to have RFP's and lease negotiations moving forward as quickly as possible. There is a clear path and direction. The plan is to have an RFP drafted by January 2015, and to have an additional property agent in place to assist with the workload.

Vice-Chair McGill asked if READ has a development plan or vision for the airport, other than the airport master plan. Ms. Mulvey replied no, the RFP's will be market-driven, rather than waiting on a new master plan. Mr. Gibbs added his belief that a vision for the airport is needed, citing examples at MYF and CRQ.

Mr. Ryan asked about the steps required to move an RFP from a draft to advertisement. Ms. Mulvey and Mr. Tussey replied the RFP is drafted, reviewed by the City Attorney, and then advertised. Council approval is required to award, but not create and advertise an RFP. Council Policy 700.10 requires the City to RFP property. Council approval is required to bypass the RFP process and enter into an exclusive negotiation.

Vice-Chair McGill asked if the 17 acres adjacent to National Air College is scheduled to go out to RFP. Ms. Mulvey replied not at this time, due to an environmental overlay, as well as other priorities.

Chairman Fink asked about the status of the old carpet building at Brown Field. Ms. Mulvey replied a month-to-month lease is moving forward.

Mr. Demeaux referred to a prior discussion and a presentation the Fire Department gave at a previous meeting, and asked for an update on an airport training video for Fire Department personnel. Mr. Tussey replied he will check on the status.

## **6. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting will be on January 13, 2015 at Montgomery Field. There is no December meeting.

The AAC luncheon will take place on December 9 at the 94<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron at 11:30 A.M.

Ms. Ander announced a concert at the Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa Library on December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M., featuring a guitar ensemble from Mesa College. Ms. Ander and Mr. Gibbs relayed the acoustics issue in the public meeting room at the library has been corrected.

Chairman Fink announced the retirement of the Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) Manager Jerry Pendzick at the end of the year. The Committee would like to invite him to the December luncheon.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Respectfully,

Wayne J. Reiter