

ZEPHYRHILLS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING

A Regular Airport Advisory Board meeting was held on Monday September 15th, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in the Robert H. Johnson Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Chair Person Juan Vega called the meeting to order. Present were members Juan Vega, David Ruffell, William Castle, Dan Evans, Erwin "Buzz" Hohmann and Ron Miller. Rachel Nash was absent.

Staff present was Airport Manager Michael Handrahan, Deputy Airport Manager Nathan Coleman, and Administrative Assistant Lucy Huber.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES – Bill Castle moved to accept the minutes of the Regular meeting held July 21st, 2014. David Ruffell seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS – Mr. Handrahan introduced the new Board members, Erwin "Buzz" Hohmann and Ronald Miller. They each took a moment to say a bit about themselves.

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS –

1. Driving Dynamics

In a previous meeting the Airport Board moved that the airport manager would hold off on working towards FAA approval to allow Driving Dynamics to use the airport taxiway for their events. This hold would last for at least one year. Board member David Ruffell wanted to revisit this decision that was, according to the minutes, based purely on the opinion of the Airport Manager. Because of the 10 plus years of good history with this company and the revenue to be gained by them, Mr. Ruffell wanted to revote to continue the FAA approval process. New board member, Ron Miller spoke favorably of the various driving clubs he is familiar with. He said that this activity goes on at airports all over the world as well as many Air Force bases. He believes it is a viable activity for our airport and he is very much in support of it. There was further discussion involving insurance needs and FAA qualifications. Mr. Handrahan reiterated his concerns in allowing this type of activity on the Airfield. If the activity is continued we would be bound by new FAA regulations (S.M.S.) as we have taken \$5 Million dollars in grant money.

David Ruffell moved that Zephyrhills Airport continues to pursue Driving Dynamics activities subject to FAA approval. Ron Miller seconded. Dan Evans, Juan Vega, Buzz Hohmann were in favor, Bill Castle voted against. The motion passed. Mr. Ruffell wanted this to move forward as quickly as possible. Mr. Handrahan agreed to restart the process of receiving FAA approval which he does not think will take too long.

INFORMATIONAL BUSINESS ITEMS –

1. FAA Grant & FDOT Grant for Design work for new Airfield lighting vault, ASOS Weather Reporting Station and New Airport Lighted Beacon. Relating directly to Runway 5-23.

Mr. Handrahan said we have accepted an FAA Grant for \$166,000 to begin design work for a new Airfield Lighting Vault. The vault is very old and in need of replacement. This is the next major project slated to take place. The ASOS weather system, as well as the lighted beacon,

have also been very problematic due to their age. These are all in the process of design work which will take place throughout the next year.

2. Emergency roof repairs to Aerocenter office area.

City Manager, Steve Spina, agreed we could move forward with the funding needed to make repairs on the Aerocenter roof which is in serious disrepair.

3. VIP Visitors at Turin and others.

Mr. Handrahan updated the Board on the various important visitors this company has had recently as well as some of their future expansion plans.

4. Property Appraiser's Office, Ad Valorem Tax relief involving future aviation leases.

Mr. Handrahan and Dr. Spina visited the Property Appraiser's office and Ad Valorem taxes should not be charged for Aviation use lease holders. This will change how all future leases are done at the Airport but will not affect current leases.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – Fuel Sales - NO ACTION REQUIRED OR TAKEN

There was group discussion regarding fuel costs as well as hangar availability.

David T.K. Hayes, General Manager of SkyDive City gave a quick update on what has been going on at the jump zone. Although the summer has been quite slow they are looking forward to mid October where people will begin arriving to train for the Championship of Canopy Piloting being held November 1st – 7th. There are over 100 competitors signed up for this event.

It was announced that a joint workshop with the City Council would be held immediately following the Board meeting. This workshop would discuss leasing at the Airport.

MEETING ADJOURNED - Juan Vega adjourned the meeting at 5:54 p.m.