

AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2018
2:00 P.M.

PRESENT: John S. Vero, Chairman
James M. Kulisek, James O'Donnell, Harry J. Porr, III, Erik Denega, George Casale,
James Zock

ALSO

PRESENT: L. Stephen Brescia, Chairman
Katie Bonelli, Majority Leader
Antoinette Reed, Legislative Counsel
Edward Magryta, Director of Aviation, Orange County Airport

Mr. Vero opened the meeting at 2:02 p.m. and requested everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Denega who arrived at 2:06 p.m.

Mr. Vero addressed the committee stating that at this juncture the committee would be more of a support committee as opposed to an advisory committee. There are several items in play including grant funds, commercial hangar development and the issue of water and sewer. Their primary concern is to not lose the grant money so they must act in order to get water and sewer services to the airport.

Mr. Porr motioned to discuss the
runway realignment status and
update, seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

Mr. Magryta explained that the runway realignment is 20% complete with the contracting meeting and/or possible exceeding performance expectations. He has spoken to the FAA about the Instrument Landing System (ILS) and the issue on whether they would be repainted and put back up; however, they seem to have warmed up to the fact that the landing system should be complementary to the other improvements to the airport. He presented the committee with aerial view photos of the construction. On runway 321, 70% of the concrete has been excavated and sent to Taylor Recycling and approximately \$2 million of the \$17 million has been dispersed.

The committee went on to discuss the overall condition of the Instrument Landing System (ILS), issues with getting parts, the FAA's ownership of the Localizer, Glideslope, Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) and antennas for the Instrument Landing System (ILS), struggles with the FAA, size capacity of jets for new runway, size of runway and the procedures and final certification of the project in November.

On the agenda was a hangar grant update.

Mr. Vero asked about the amount of the original hangar grant and the access of a grant for \$1.3 million for a corporate hangar.

Mr. Magryta explained that the first hangar grant was for approximately \$887,000.00. The state project process typically falls under the airports five-year engineering agreements;

however, in this case, he was not authorized to allow the state projects to go into their recent RFQ. For that reason, all the state projects must wait until the engineers are selected and another bid put out for the hangars.

The committee and Mr. Magrtya discussed loss revenue due to lack of commercial hangars, wait list for commercial hangars, necessity of sewer and water and \$2.5 million in funding waiting to be used.

Mr. Porr recommended the committee move onto the next agenda as it directly ties into the hangar discussion.

Mr. O'Donnell motioned to discuss water and sewer supply options, seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

The committee reviewed the proposals provided by the Town and Village of Montgomery on sewer and water and the cost analysis done by the Department of Public Works Engineer.

Discussion ensued on the following: necessity of having water and sewer; the poor quality of potable water at the airport; length of connection of the pipeline; critical need for fire suppression in the hangars; economic development of the airport and the County of Orange; commercial development of private hangars along the route 211 corridor; increasing revenue for the airport through land leases and fuel; infrastructure; municipal services, as well as an inter-municipal agreement with the Village of Montgomery for sewer services; inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Montgomery for water services; receipt of resolution from the Town of Montgomery supporting water services, grant monies of \$788,000.00 to support the infrastructure and a resolution from the governing body showing support.

The committee fully supports and recommends that they proceed with an Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) for sewer with the Village of Montgomery and a grant application for water with the Town of Montgomery along with county funding for the balance of the projects.

Mr. Kulisek motioned to have an Inter-Municipal Agreement for sewer services with the Village of Montgomery be presented to the Physical Services and Ways and Means Committees, seconded by Mr. O'Donnell.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek motioned to have a resolution in support water services with the Town of Montgomery be presented to the Physical Services and Ways and Means Committees, seconded by Mr. O'Donnell.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Casale asked about a new restaurant at the airport.

Mr. Magrtya explained that a few months ago a meeting was held on the future of the restaurant with the County Executive, County Attorney and Commissioner of Public Works and recommended that the restaurant be converted into a terminal with vending machines and possible seasonal snack bar opposed to having a restaurant on site. They do have an interested party that would like to use the kitchen for catering and the rest of the facility would be used as a terminal. The last two restaurants cost the county airport \$10,000.00 in lost revenue due to lost rent, damages and/or not filling the obligations with the restaurant.

Discussion ensued on having or not having a viable restaurant, issues with previous tenants, loss of lease revenue, request for list of repairs to the restaurant due to damages, possible recouping of those funds, benefits and justification for a terminal, construction and time frame of the terminal, lack of legislative input on the terminal, six restaurants in close proximity to the airport, possibility of food truck or snack bar, necessity for water and sewer to attract an established restaurateur, hours of operation at the terminal and security.

Chairman Brescia addressed the issue of the new signage for the airport. After further discussion with legislators it was suggested that the gold leaf be changed to orange and that the plane be changed to a Cessna aircraft.

The meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.