

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AIRPORT COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2023, 6:00 P.M., AT THE COTTONWOOD COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 826 N. MAIN STREET, COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA

Chair Moeny kindly reminded the commissioners to press their microphone buttons when speaking for better amplification and recording quality.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Moeny called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken as follows:

A. Roll Call

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Jim Moeny, Chairman
Ron Baird, Commission Member
Vernon Reed, Commission Member
Jim Sutton, Commission Member

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

Bill Wade, Vice Chairman

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeff Tripp, Airport Manager
Rosa Cays, Customer Service and Reservations Specialist, Recorder

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Moeny led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Introduction of new airport commissioner

Jim Sutton was introduced to the commission and meeting attendees.

D. Approval of Minutes of June 7, 2023

Commissioner Baird made a motion to approve the minutes; Commissioner Reed second the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

II. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Chair Moeny read aloud the ARS regarding the Call to the Public. No one from the public had any comments.

III. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

1. Airport Manager's Report

None of the commissioners had questions or comments.

2. Airport Operations and Noise Abatement Report

Chair Moeny said the reports were self-explanatory and thanked Mr. Tripp; the other commissioners agreed. No other comments were made or questions asked.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

None.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Fixed Wing Pilots Guide – Final Review

Mr. Tripp said it has been a year since they started working on the guide. He said it was ready to publish it and send it to pilot schools, educate pilots, etc. Anything you'd like to change or suggest?

Commissioner Reed asked that it be indicated that Runway 32 is right hand traffic pattern, which is not common procedure. Mr. Tripp said it was indicated on the second page. Mr. Reed acknowledged this, and asked if it could be made more prominent with a translucent arrow or other indicator on the first page. Mr. Tripp said he would add an arrow.

Commissioner Reed said the guide was very nice; Chair Moeny said it was well done.

Mr. Tripp said a reference to FAR Part 91.225(f) which requires aircraft equipped with the ADS-B (Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast) to have the system operating even though we are a Class E airspace airport. Aircraft with older transponders are not required under FAA regulations to have the transponder operating, but we would like them to.

No other comments or questions were presented. Mr. Tripp said he would get the guide published. He said he would also check on the progress of the video developed by the Aviation Safety Advisory Group of Arizona for Cottonwood.

2. Page Airport Poker Run

Mr. Tripp shared information about an upcoming Poker Run to benefit an animal shelter in Page, Arizona. He asked if any of the commissioners or airport tenants would like to volunteer to help. Mr. Tripp said participants can fly from any of five airports. He suggested to the organizers that they require registration so they could anticipate how many participants they would have. Mr. Tripp said the event will help with fuel sales too.

Commissioner Reed volunteered for a 4-hour stint. Chair Moeny also volunteered.

3. Mobile Mechanic Rates & Fees discussion

Chair Moeny asked that this item be moved to next month's meeting.

VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Moeny said they had been advised not to have this as an item on the agenda. Mr. Tripp explained that the city attorney pointed out that having future agenda items as part of a meeting does not follow Arizona Revised Statutes.

Deputy City Manager Rudy Rodriguez introduced David Hausaman, Director of Public Works and Transportation, who will now oversee the airport and transit departments as part of his regular duties. Mr. Rodriguez clarified that this change does not affect Mr. Tripp's role as airport manager.

Ms. Diane Schneider of Clarkdale approached the dais. She said she came to the meeting to hear what the commissioners had to say about the airport manager's report, yet nothing was said. She asked how the public is to know what is happening at the airport if nothing is discussed at the commission meetings. Ms. Schneider asked if agendas would no longer be posted; Chair Moeny clarified that future agenda items would no longer be discussed at the meetings, but that agendas would continue to be posted. Ms. Schneider shared her opinion that the airport is a "money pit," and that the city does not charge Embry Riddle for touch-and-go's in hopes of getting more FAA money to support what they intend to do. She continued with comments about the planned airport expansion.

Mr. Rodriguez explained that the city will never expand the airport, nor has it ever been planned to expand the airport, and that there is no space to expand. He said the city maintains the airport with generous support from the FAA.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sutton moved to adjourn; Commissioner Reed second the motion. The regular meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.