

*City of Lago Vista Airport Advisory Board*

*Meeting Minutes*

*Wednesday, July 18, 2012*

An announced meeting of the Lago Vista Airport Advisory Board was held in the City Council Chambers of City Hall at 5803 Thunderbird Lane in Lago Vista, Texas on Wednesday, July 18, 2012. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Coltharp at 7:04 p.m.

In attendance at this meeting were Board Members Bill Coltharp, Chris Dehnel, Jim Orr, Jim Wood, Baron Carter, and alternate member Don Barthlow. Also in attendance were Councilwoman D'Anne Gloris, POA Vice-President Linda Coltharp, POA member Chuck Tully and City of Lago Vista Assistant Manager Frank Robbins. The published Agenda for the meeting is attached.

1. Reading of the Minutes. In accordance with the published agenda of this meeting, the minutes of the Wednesday, May 30, 2012 meeting which had been previously distributed to the board members were approved by a unanimous vote.
2. Staff Update. The AWAS has been inspected by the FAA and adjustments made to ensure the accuracy of its measurements. The telephone system has not been repaired as at this time, repair efforts are on-going.

The prop strikes on the runway reported by Chairman Coltharp have been repaired.

The TXDOT has sent a recommendation for the next Capital Improvements Program to the City which would consist of the following:

- A. Rehabilitation of the pavement of all taxiways, the runway and transient parking ramp.
- B. This would include the rehabilitation of the taxiway on the southwest side from its intersection with the taxiway to the Anderson annex southward to the last existing hangar on the southwest side. It would not include the paving of the six small lots further to the south on the west side for transient parking, this aspect of the CIP has apparently been abandoned by TXDOT.
- C. The recommendation still stands to buy 20-23 of the small residential lots on the east side of Rolling Hills Trail for possible T-hangar development. It was noted that this would also require the buying of at least one vacant lot adjacent to the runway to allow access. It was mentioned by the Assistant City Manager that TXDOT's current plan is to split the above-mentioned Improvements into two projects. One to be accomplished this fiscal year and the other to be accomplished in the next fiscal year.

A discussion was conducted outlining the items discussed during a meeting between Frank Robbins, Chairman Coltharp and Brian Bridges, which was held in Frank Robbins office on July 10, 2012 to discuss the deer fence. Topics discussed at this time included:

- A. The need for a deer fence.
- B. The feasibility of a deer fence.
- C. The potential public acceptance of a deer fence.
- D. The cost of the deer fence.

Notes concerning this meeting are contained in a memo from Frank Robbins to D'Anne Gloris dated July 16, 2012 and is attached to these minutes.

The Airport Manager's handwritten report was submitted for review and accepted by the Board. A copy is attached to these minutes.

- 3. Airport POA Update. POA Vice-President Linda Coltharp read a letter of appreciation from the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association issued to Councilwoman D'Anne Gloris for her support of the Lago Vista Airport. A copy of this citation is attached to these minutes.

- A discussion of the Wi-Fi system at the airport was conducted; it was decided to request the City to consider adding Wi-Fi to the services. It was decided to City Hall & the Library.*
- 4. Airport Advisory Board Enabling Ordinance. The current version of the revisions to the Airport Advisory Board Enabling Ordinance Article 9.600 of the City Ordinances was discussed by review of a tracking document mark up of the existing Enabling Ordinance the changes recommended and explained in the tracking document were discussed. The Board voted unanimously to recommend to the City Council the acceptance of the Airport Advisory Board Enabling Ordinance as modified by the tracking document submitted for inspection during this meeting. A copy of the tracking document is attached to these minutes.

- 5. TxDOT Aviation Capital Improvements. A discussion was conducted concerning the desirability of adding a deer fence for the protection of the airport runway. The need for a deer fence was discussed, it was discussed that there was a possibility of as many as eight deer/aircraft collisions which have taken place during the entire 30-to-35 year history of the airport. To the best of the Board's recollection, they consist of the following:

- A. Dr. Farber's Merlin whose starboard propeller was damaged.
- B. Gloris Lakeview Aviation aircraft
- C. Gloris Lakeview Aviation aircraft
- D. Beach Sundowner pilot and owner unknown
- E. George Eeds Seneca
- F. Greg Grounds, circumstances unknown
- G. Carl Vernon Fugomister
- H. Possibly Ken Wickham

It was noted that the most likely number of collisions is actually in the range of 5-to-6. There have been no injuries most of the aircraft damage has been minimal with the exception of Dr. Farber's Merlin.

It was discussed of the possibility may not reduce the City's liability at the airport but actually increase it, in that a deer fence would demonstrate the City's acceptance of liability of keeping deer off of the runway and should this not occur the City being apparently more liable than have the fence not existed. It was noted that perhaps the best defense is to simply issue a permanent Notum of the possibility of deer on the runway. It was also observed that it appears that over the years there are fewer deer being seen in the airport area, there have been no deer/aircraft collisions within the last 10-to-15 years, which argues for the lack of need of a deer fence.

It was also discussed that the location of a deer fence would probably involve some of the fence being placed on private property and most of the property owners at the airport having already expressed opposition to a fence.

It was also observed that it would require the presence of numerous gates in order to allow the owners of undeveloped lots access to the runway environment and that it would be difficult to ensure that these gates would be kept locked at all times and therefore, probably invite the addition of deer to within the fence area.

It was also reported by the Assistant City Manager that in conversations with the Kerrville Airport manager that Kerrville had determined that an eight-foot deer fence was ineffective and that the appropriate fence which would actually prohibit deer crossing would be an eleven-foot deer fence with three strands of barbed wire at the top.

After a lengthy discussion of the topic the Airport Advisory Board unanimously decided not to recommend any further effort toward the study or installation of a deer fence.

6. Board Member Issues. It was discussed that a number of the Board Member's terms will expire in January 2013 and it will be necessary to consider board membership at that time.
7. Citizen Comments. There were no citizen comments.
8. Date of the Next AAB Meeting. The date of the next Airport Advisory Board Meeting was selected as Wednesday, September 26, 2012 at the same place and time.
9. Adjournment. A motion was made to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. The AAB meeting was adjourned by Chairman Coltharp at that time.

End of Minutes.

