

AIRPORT COMMISSION
6:00 P.M.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2024
SCHIEFFELIN HALL
(CORNER OF FREMONT AND FOURTH STREET)

I. CALL TO ORDER Chairman Daniel Valle called the Airport Commission Meeting to order on Monday September 30, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Chairman Daniel Valle led the Commission in a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Chairman Daniel Valle	Present
Commissioner John Jordan	Absent
Commissioner Ken Stickler	Absent
Commissioner Brent Webb	Present
Commissioner Steve McNeely	Present

Also, in attendance:

Council Liasson	Bill Barlow
Airport Manager	Jesse Grassman
Southwestern Aviation	Roy Jones
Secretary	Cora Nell Osgood

IV. CALL TO PUBLIC
With no participants, Chairman closes Call of the Public.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION: Approval of minutes for Airport Commission from Monday, May 20, 2024.
MOTION by Commissioner McNeely, **SECOND** by Commissioner Webb, to approve the minutes for Airport Commission from Monday, May 20, 2024.

DISCUSSION: None
VOTE: 3 yes/2 absent
MOTION: Carried

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION: Report from Jesse Grassman on ongoing and upcoming projects at the Tombstone Municipal Airport.

It's been pretty quiet since the last meeting. We still haven't done our final walkthrough from our last project when the extension of the tarmac and drainage. Upcoming projects are on hold until grant funding is awarded. Possibly on Monday we are going to install a new large and small windsock, which will be a good improvement. We are trying to keep up with the grass and weeds; keeping everything cut down. There has been some illegal activity in the area, especially by the shrine on Davis Road. Last week they caught 34, three or four of them ran across the airport property trying to cut across.

B. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION: Report on initiatives for acquiring power at the Tombstone Municipal Airport.

Dan Valle, Bill Barlow, and Roy Jones are working with Jason Bowling and Corey East at SSVC to get a solar plan for electricity at the airport. SSVC needs to know the voltage and amps required to run all areas. Roy Jones is to get that information to SSVC and/or Dan Valle by end of next week (October 11, 2024). Commissioner Webb estimates that 400-500 amps of service will be required. Areas that are needing electricity are runway, ramp and tie down areas, mechanic shop, future well site, fueling area, and future hangars.

Dan Valle is working with the Hispanic Chamber and Arizona Corporation Commission to acquire grant funding for this project. Letters of support have been written to get the funding. All information including the plan needs to be completed so the project is not passed over by ACC.

Things that will need to be considered is the amps needed for each location. Where and how many stations will be needed as power is lost over long spans as the runway is a mile long. Jesse Grassman suggests to put power midway of the runway and send power in both directions, so one line is not running the length of the airport.

It is hopes that the funding will be enough to not only provide power to the airport but also to buy LED lighting for the runway and other areas currently in use. Once electricity is available, more grant opportunities and expansion projects such as private hangars and living quarters for medivac companies will open up.

Once runway lights are installed, there will be more traffic as pilots will be able to land at night, including Commissioner Webb.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:** Report from Roy Jones on how operations are going at the Tombstone Municipal Airport, and future initiatives he is working on to improve the Airport.

It has been slow during the summer. The main purchaser of fuel was Cochise County Sheriff's Department and they took their helicopter to Texas for work in April. It will be turning to service this week and will be using Tombstone Airport for fueling almost daily.

Roy is meeting with MedTrans for Tombstone airport to become a possible fueling stop for their Douglas based Lifeline 2. Once electricity and water become available discussions will resume regarding Tombstone becoming a base location with living quarters.

On Saturday October 19th there will be a fly-in. 30 to 50 planes are expected and many will be purchasing fuel. Roy will be giving away pancakes and sausages. Currently he is the only food vendor for these events. Most people at these events do not go into town, they are there to see what the airport has to offer. There are planes arriving almost weekly who do use the courtesy vehicles to drive into town, purchase souvenirs, and stay at the hotels.

It was determined that Tombstone Airport cannot support an Air Show as there is not enough parking or facilities for all the guests and participants, even after electricity and water are installed.

- B. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:** Set the date of next meeting.

Next meeting set for January 27, 2025.

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION by Commissioner McNeely, **SECOND** by Commissioner Webb, to adjourn meeting.

VOTE: 3 yes/2 absent

MOTION: Carried

The Airport Commission thereupon adjourned the September 30, 2024 meeting at 6:31 PM.

Daniel Valle, Chairman