

## AIRPORT COMMISSION

### MINUTES

**Wednesday July 3, 2024  
Lindbergh Conference Room  
via Teleconference**

Members Present: Chairperson Hamm-Niebruegge

Via Teleconference: Mr. Cantwell, Judge Clarke (Ret), Ms. Fowler, Comptroller Green, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. King, Mr. Kling, Mr. Lents, Dr. Moore, Dr. Nemanick, and Ms. Osborn

Absent: Mr. Bales, Alderman Cohn, President Green, and Mr. Fitzgerald

Airport Staff: Ms. Jones, Mr. Jungk, Mr. Kulinsky, Mr. Lotz, Ms. Lyles-Wiggins, and Mr. Strong

Legal Staff: Mr. Chavarria, Mr. Henderson and Ms. Yoffie

The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm.

#### **1. MINUTES**

- A. Approval is requested for the Minutes of the June 5, 2024 Regular Airport Commission Meeting. A motion for approval of the minutes was made by Dr. Nemanick and seconded by Ms. Fowler. Mr. Lents stated that his name was spelled incorrectly in the attendance section of the June commission meeting minutes. Chairperson Hamm-Niebruegge noted this typographic error and directed that it be corrected. There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

#### **2. FINANCE**

- A. Approval is requested for the First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement ("1<sup>st</sup> Amended MOA") between the City and Southwest Airlines Co. to authorize payments to consultants on behalf of the Signatory Airlines to negotiate the new Airport Use and Lease Agreement ("AUA"), and the recovery of those payments through a Special Assessment made to the Signatory Airlines. The term of the agreement began on May 16, 2023 and with the First Amendment will be extended by 18 months, through the end of Fiscal Year 2026. The total Not-To-Exceed Contract Amount will be increased by \$887,797 from \$750,000 to \$1,637,797.00.

A motion for approval was made by Mr. Bowman and seconded by Dr. Nemanick. Mr. Strong made a brief presentation explaining the necessity of the amendment. There being no questions, a voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

### **3. OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairperson Hamm-Niebruegge announced that an Ordinance authorizing the Third Amendment to the AUA, approved by the Airport Commission at the May Regular Airport Commission meeting has been signed by Mayor Jones. The Chairperson stated she believes that in the next couple of weeks the Third Amendment will be signed by a sufficient number of airlines to allow the amendment to be executed.

The interim financing program bill was presented last week in the Board of Aldermen, the Airport anticipates that it will be passed out of the BOA and signed by the Mayor relatively soon. The Airport has already issued REIs to banks and is awaiting responses.

Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup> has the highest number of booked passengers since the beginning of the TSA era. June bookings were similarly high, substantially surpassing pre-pandemic booked passenger totals. Lufthansa is also reporting very strong passenger numbers, their flights are averaging 90% booked on outbound flights and 80% booked on inbound flights. The Art of Travel is scheduled for October.

Chairperson Hamm-Niebruegge then discussed the impending SLDC takeover of M/WBE certification from the Airport. She explained that M/WBE certification has always been the responsibility of SLDC. During a time where SLDC was overwhelmed with its other responsibilities, M/WBE certification was contracted to the Airport because of its expertise from running the ACDBE certification program. Now, with some new initiatives at SLDC coming online to aid entrepreneurs in the City, it makes sense for SLDC to take back that certification process as part of a larger business development program. Mr. Bowman asked whether there would be a gap between when the Airport stops certifying M/WBE firms and SLDC begins. Chairperson Hamm-Niebruegge answered that there will be a short gap from when the Airport stops accepting certification applications and SLDC begins accepting them. The Airport will be responsible for clearing all pending applications which it has received prior to the handover and anticipates clearing all pending certification applications this fall. Ms. Osborn asked if the team at SLDC was prepared to manage the program at this time. Chairperson Hamm-Niebruegge answered that the Airport has done a number of training sessions with the SLDC team in order to help them prepare for the transition, will continue to assist them as they come online, and she is confident they will be prepared when the Airport hands off the program. She further noted that the Airport will still be responsible for our own M/WBE compliance program; SLDC is only taking back certification. Finally she noted that the Airport's management of the M/WBE certification process was not without challenges, given that it was necessary to keep M/WBE certification and ACDBE certification separate in order to maintain compliance with federal law regarding revenue diversion at airports.

Mr. Kling asked how Governor Parson's budget veto, would affect the Airport. Chairperson Hamm-Niebruegge confirmed that the governor did veto the \$7 million allocated by the General Assembly for the demolition of the Missouri Air National Guard (MOANG) facility.



She confirmed that demolition will proceed regardless of whether the Governor provides the Airport with funding. The Airport has already received approval to demolish the MOANG facility and intends to do so in the near future, but will continue to seek grants to reduce the overall cost of impending capital projects. The Airport felt that the MOANG demolition project was a natural fit for a state grant, as the MOANG facility was used by the state for Missouri Air National Guard operations. Those operations were later relocated to Whiteman Air Force Base in Johnson County, Missouri. While it is disappointing that the Airport did not receive a state grant for this project, the Airport will continue to work with our government partners to seek other grants and sources of funding for this project and others.

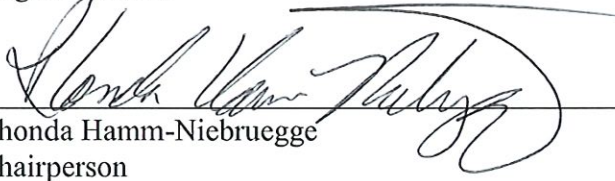
**4. NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday August 7, 2024

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lents and seconded by Dr. Nemanick. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:20pm.

The foregoing were approved by the Airport Commission at its Regular Meeting held on August 7, 2024.

  
Rhonda Hamm-Niebruegge  
Chairperson