



AIRPORT COMMISSION

MINUTES

Wednesday April 2, 2025
Via Teleconference

In Person: Chairperson Ms. Hamm-Niebruegge

Via Teleconference: Mr. Bales, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Cantwell, Judge Clarke (Ret), Alderman Cohn, Mr. Fitzgerald, Ms. Fowler, President Green, Mr. King, Mr. Kling, Mr. Lents, Dr. Moore, Ms. Osborn and Ms. Ratcliffe

Members Absent: Comptroller Green and Mr. Jacobs

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

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

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

1. MINUTES

- A. Approval is requested for the Minutes of the March 5, 2025 Regular Airport Commission Meeting.

A motion for approval of the minutes was made by Dr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Bales. There being no discussion, a voice vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

2. FINANCE

- A. Approval is requested of the budget for Fiscal Year 2026 pursuant to Section 18.12.060 of the Revised Code of the City of St. Louis.

A motion for approval was made by Mr. Bales and seconded by President Green. Mr. Strong presented the budget.

Mr. Lents noted that when comparing revenue to date against forecasted revenue, despite being seven months into the fiscal year the Airport has only generated 53% of the anticipated revenue for the year. Based on this observation, Mr. Lents asked if the Airport

is anticipating a substantial uptick in revenue in the last five months of the fiscal year. Mr. Strong replied that based on historical patterns, spring break and the summer months are the Airport's busiest time, and therefore the airport is anticipating an increase in revenue. Mr. Lents then noted that expenses are currently running ahead of the expense forecast, and asked if the Airport anticipates better performance going forward. Mr. Strong answered that the current spending includes the full Not-To-Exceed amount on all contracts, which the airport is very unlikely to actually spend. Additionally, each department is responsible for ensuring that their spending does not exceed the budget, and so can control costs going forward if necessary. Mr. Lents then asked if the slowdown in traffic was due to the economy, and if that slowdown was reflected in the budget. Chairperson Hamm-Niebruegge answered that based on her conversations with airline partners, bookings in the summer season should still be strong. Additionally, there are more seats available out of St. Louis which is likely to help with traffic numbers, but the Airport is keeping an eye on it.

Commissioner Ratcliffe asked for clarification on the wide variance in forecasted landing fees year to year as well as the year to year variance in the utilities revenue center. Mr. Strong answered that landing fees change every year and are hard to predict because they vary depending on whether non-signatory airlines land at the airport, as well as what types of planes they land at the airport. As much of that traffic is not scheduled substantially in advance of the landing, it is very difficult to accurately forecast. The airport has seen a decrease in regional jet traffic and a substantial increase in larger jet traffic. As landing fees are calculated based on aircraft weight, these larger aircraft generate larger fees, which results in an increase in that revenue line item. The utility cost center serves as a pure pass-through. We pay the utility fees and charge the amount back to the airlines without up-charging. Last year the airport anticipated an increase in utility rates but because that increase in utility rates did not occur, the revenue did not increase. As the utility revenues serve as a pure pass-through this paper revenue-shortfall did not have a negative impact on the Airport's budget. There being no more questions, a voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

The bid for the roadway and garage design package closed, HDR was chosen to go forward with the design. The CTP CMAR package is on the street, it will close on April 18th. The current AUA goes through June of 2027, the new AUA negotiations are underway, and the new AUA will go into effect when the authorization of construction is given.


4. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday May 7, 2025

5. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Fitzgerald and seconded by Mr. King. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:48pm.

The foregoing were approved by the Airport Commission at its Regular Meeting held on May 7, 2025.



Rhonda Hamm-Niebruegge
Chairperson