



ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA AIRPORTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

11:00 am, Wednesday, February 17, 2016
Sacramento International Airport

Board Members Present:

Sherry Miller, President (on phone)
Brendan O'Reilly, Vice President (on phone)
Steve Birdsall, Board Director (on phone)
Chuck McCormick, Board Director (on phone)
Mary Hansen, Secretary/Treasurer
Kevin Wojtkiewicz, Board Member (on phone)
Terry Stover, Board Director (on phone)

Board Members Absent:

Sandy Gutierrez-Carver, Board Member
Ron Elliott, Past President
Mark Bautista, Board Director
Martin Pehl, Board Member
Cory Hazlewood, Board Director
Carol Ford, Board Director

Guests:

John Pfeifer, Legislative Chair

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at approximately 11:10 am by President Sherry Miller. Introductions were made. Several members called in.

Confirmation of Quorum

A quorum was confirmed.

Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Steve Birdsall and seconded by Terry Stover. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Approval of Minutes

A clarification and correction of the first sentence on page 2 of the January 20, 2016 minutes was identified. The sentence should read "The MOU in place was reviewed."

A motion to approve the minutes of January 20, 2016, corrected was made by Chuck McCormick and seconded by Kevin Wojtkiewicz. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Treasurer's Report

The ACA regular account has a balance of \$9,731.62; Aviation Day account has a balance of \$5,982.64. The total account balance is \$15,714.26. The Treasurer reported that the deposit of \$1,000 was made to the conference motel.

Reports

Legislative Update

The Legislative Report follows at the end of these minutes.

California Aviation Day

The Board was reminded that there was an Aviation Day conference call following this meeting at 1 pm. Further discussion was held until that meeting.

Conference Update

Board members confirmed that Mark McClardy is still expected to announce an FAA conference a few weeks before the September conference. However, nothing has been sent to anyone and a venue has not been selected. ACA will put together another "save the date" email to get the information out to airports ahead of any FAA conference announcement.

A brief discussion on agenda topics was held. A Conference Agenda Subcommittee was named to include the following:

Cory Hazlewood
Chuck McCormick
Brandan O'Reilly
Sherry Miller
John Pfeifer

Board members suggested that UAS would be a good topic to consider. The Board was encouraged to think about topics and provide suggestions to the committee. A July 1 agenda deadline was set to have a draft available for review.

It was suggested that a thumb drive be provided this year to conference members that would include a number of appropriate documents that will be identified as the agenda is prepared. Mary Hansen will check into the time period needed in order to get the documents uploaded in time for the conference.

New Business

None

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Announcements/Suggestions for Next Meeting

There was no further business to discuss.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:40 am.

Submitted by

Mary A. Hansen
Secretary

Approved: _____

Date: _____

February 17, 2015 - Legislative Report

The California Legislature 2015-2016 session reconvened January 4.

FAA Fuel Tax Revenue Policy: Discussions between FAA, CAC staff, and California agencies, particularly Department of Finance (DoF), for another round of meetings regarding the state's compliance with the FAA policy are ongoing. Originally hoped for early December, it now appears that the meetings will be scheduled for late February. In the meantime, there have been significant actions:

- Apparently the DoF circulated a position paper dated August 11 recently to cities and counties. The paper outlines, in part, the FAA policy and challenges FAA authority to enforce the policy.
- In a letter dated November 25 to the FAA, DoF asserts that the state expends more in airport capital on operating costs than is collected in general sales tax revenues.
- In letters dated November 24 to the Governor, and dated November 30 to the California League of Cities and the California State Association of Counties, the FAA reminds of the policy and the deadline of December 8 for submission of plans for compliance.
- CAC is preparing a survey of airports to determine what state support they actually receive and are particularly interested in responses from GA airports. On December 1 I was asked to request ACA Board support of the survey. We have not heard back from CAC on responses to the survey.
- FAA has not responded to the DoF November 25 letter as of this report.

FAA Reauthorization: H.R. 4441-The Aviation Innovation, Reform, & Reauthorization Act was introduced on February 4. It passed out of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on February 11 and is now in the House. ACA is opposed to two provisions of the bill.

- The bill proposes to separate the air traffic control system from the FAA and create a semi-private corporation governance structure. The 11 member governing board would be in effect controlled by the airlines and would have no airport representation on the board.
- The new corporation would be primarily funded by general aviation user fees.

A draft ACA opposition letter was sent to President Miller on February 16.

The Napolitano Amendment: Congresswoman Grace Napolitano has submitted an amendment to H.R. 4441 which would specify that the only taxes subject to the FAA Fuel Tax Revenue Policy are excise taxes on aviation fuels. All other taxes on aviation fuels would not come under the policy. In a letter dated February 8, the California Department of Finance supported the amendment and raised questions of the legality of the policy. A letter dated February 3, written on behalf of the state's 20 "self-help" counties, also supported the amendment. The letter was signed by 20 county agency representatives. A draft ACA opposition letter was sent to President Miller on February 16.

SB 747: As reported in previous reports, SB 747 remains on the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee suspense file and is dead due to continued DoF opposition. There have been discussions between CAC representatives and Senator McGuire's staff regarding the introduction of a bill which would require the Board of Equalization to identify, track, and report all aviation fuel tax revenue. However, it now appears that such a bill will not be introduced in light issues raised in DoF's February 8 Napolitano amendment letter. The final day for bill introduction is February 19.