



ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA AIRPORTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

11:00 am, Wednesday, April 13, 2016
Sacramento International Airport

Board Members Present:

Sherry Miller, President (on phone)
Brendan O'Reilly, Vice President (on phone)
Sandy Gutierrez-Carver, Board Member (on phone)
Cory Hazlewood, Board Director (on phone)
Martin Pehl, Board Member (on phone)
Carol Ford, Board Director (on phone)
Chuck McCormick, Board Director (on phone)
Mary Hansen, Secretary/Treasurer
Mark Bautista, Board Director
Kevin Wojtkiewicz, Board Member (on phone)
Terry Stover, Board Director (on phone)

Board Members Absent:

Ron Elliott, Past President
Steve Birdsall, Board Director

Guests:

John Pfeifer, Legislative Chair
Gill Wright, EAA Representative

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at approximately 11:05 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 Brendan O'Reilly and seconded by Kevin Wojtkiewicz. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Approval of Minutes

An error was noted in the name of Director Kevin Wojtkiewicz. The “t” is missing in the last name.

A motion to approve the minutes of February 17, 2016, as corrected, was made by Terry Stover and seconded by Cory Hazlewood. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Treasurer's Report

The ACA regular account has a balance of \$9,510.26; Aviation Day account has a balance of \$10,893.89. The total account balance is \$20,404.15.

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

It was noted that the FAA has sent out a “Save the Date” card for their planned conference scheduled for July 2016. However, a few days later, the conference was cancelled. Cory has their planned agenda. The conference committee will review and see what information can be incorporated into the ACA conference. The FAA has indicated they will support the conference and bring more people. The focus of the ACA conference and the FAA participation is providing a space and communications equipment to conduct ACIP meetings with those in attendance.

The conference committee scheduled a meeting for 10 am, Tuesday, May 10, 2016, to work on the conference agenda.

New Business

None

Announcements/Suggestions for Next Meeting

There was no further business to discuss. The next Board meeting is scheduled for 11 am, May 18, 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:25 am.

Submitted by

Mary A. Hansen
Secretary

Approved: _____

Date: _____

Legislative Report

The California Legislature 2015-2016 session reconvened January 4 and is scheduled to adjourn on August 31.

FAA Fuel Tax Revenue Policy: Another round of meetings between FAA, CAC staff, and California agencies, particularly Department of Finance (DoF), is scheduled for April 27 in Sacramento. 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 asserted 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 reminded of the policy and the deadline of December 8 for submission of plans for compliance.
- CAC prepared a survey of airports to determine what state support they actually receive and was particularly interested in responses from GA airports. ACA circulated the survey in early December. CAC reports that response to the survey was poor.
- FAA responded to the DoF November 25 letter on March 10, raising a number of detailed questions concerning the state's status.

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. ACA opposed two provisions of the bill.

- The bill proposed 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.

The ACA opposition letter was sent to Congress in February.

Subsequently, H.R. 4441 failed passage in the House. The Senate FAA Reauthorization Act of 2016 (S. 2650) moved to the full Senate after passing the Senate Commerce Committee on March 16. The bill does not contain the general aviation user fees or separation of the air traffic control system from the FAA provisions contained in H.R. 4441. ACA sent a letter of support for S. 2650 on March 10. The bill is currently under consideration by the full Senate.

The Napolitano Amendment: Congresswoman Grace Napolitano submitted an amendment to H.R. 4441 which would specify that the only taxes subject to the FAA Fuel Tax Revenue Policy are state 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 FAA 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. An ACA opposition letter was sent in February. The amendment died along with H.R. 4441.

Bills: The only bill currently being watched is CA S.B. 868 (Jackson): State Remote Piloted Aircraft Act. The bill would establish a wide range of requirements and restrictions on the operation of UAS's in the state. It is similar to a bill by Senator Jackson which passed in the previous session and was vetoed by the Governor.