



ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA AIRPORTS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Conference Call Meeting
11:00 am, Wednesday, August 12, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rayvon Williams, President
Mary Hansen, Secretary/Treasurer
Andy Swanson, Vice President
Brendan O'Reilly, Past President
Jeff Crechriou, Board Director
Gary Engel, Board Director
Ashley Whitmore, Board Director
Cody Roggatz, Board Director
David Decoteau, Board Director
Carol Ford, Board Director
Gary Gosliga, Board Director
Justin Castagna, Board Director
Cory Hazlewood, Board Director
John Pfeifer, Board Director
Richard Smith, Board Director
Chuck McCormick, Board Director

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Benny Stuth, Board Director
Charlie Broadbent, Board Director

Guests:

Melissa McCaffrey, Member
Gill Wright, Member
Mark Bautista, Member

The meeting was called to order at 11:03 am by President Rayvon Williams. The meeting was held through "Zoom."

Confirmation of Quorum

A quorum was confirmed.

Approval of Agenda

Carol Ford asked to add an item under New Business to discuss the PAC between California Pilots Association and ACA. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections to the minutes of July 8, 2020. A motion was made by David Decoteau to approve the minutes of July 8, 2020, and seconded by Gary Gosliga. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

The A regular account has a balance of \$30,671. Aviation Day account balance is \$14,643. The total ACA treasury is \$45,314. Membership renewals continue to come in.

Reports

a. 2020 Conference Update

Benny was unable to participate in today's meeting, so Rayvon provided the update based on calls he has had related to discussions about putting together a form of virtual conference for 2020. After several discussions, Rayvon indicated how the agenda would look:

Zoom-type conference of about 60-90 minutes to include a general membership meeting, Board member voting and election of officers, introduction of the tool kit and podcasts, and possibly a legislative and a technology update. This would then be followed over the next several months with various podcasts. Three tentative ideas were identified:

1. Legislative Update (key board members to develop podcast: John, Carol, Cody, and Melissa)
2. Emerging Technology Update (key board members to develop podcast: David, Jeff, and Gill)
3. Caltrans/FAA Update (Carol with work with Amy Choi from Division; and FAA side needs to be put together also)
4. The tool box roll out could be a series. Gary Engel was concerned that it does not have enough content just yet to really roll out its usefulness and will continue to work on that. The toolbox has a number of links associated with the FAA, but it is lacking actual documents.

b. Legislative Update

A legislative update was sent to the Board prior to the meeting and is included as part of these minutes.

c. Emerging Technologies Committee

No updated report to provide. The committee did meet recently and is going through their survey results and how they intent to disseminate.

d. Leadership Development Committee

Gary's additional comments related to making the toolkit more of a service going forward as it gets developed. His intent is to have it evolve over time and not just be a static depository, but also include in person visits.

e. Nominating Committee

As Nominating Committee Chair, Brendan O'Reilly sent out a request to each Board member up for re-election. Both Chuck McCormick and Cory Hazlewood will step down. He has received a letter and other documents from Kelly Moulton, C & S Companies, to declare her intent to run for one of the open Corporate seats.

Unfinished Business

a. COVID-19 Discussion/Airport Impacts

A general discussion was held. It seems that some airports are doing quite well and back to where they were pre-Covid-19, but some others are not doing much business.

New Business

a. Political Action Committee with CalPilots and ACA Discussion

Carol Ford discussed the PAC that was formed some 20 years ago. Three members sit on the committee from each organization. ACA currently has two representatives that were prior ACA members that are no longer involved in airport management or ACA and need to be replaced. ACA's current representatives are Mary Hansen, Ken Robbins, and Tom Weil. Ken and Tom need replacing. Calpilots also have people to replace. Gary Gosliga and Cody Roggatz were recommended. They agreed to contact Carol to further discuss. Action can be taken at the next meeting.

Announcements

There were no announcements. It was agreed to have a conference call on September 9, 2020, to tie up any last minutes items for the general membership zoom meeting to be held on Friday, September 18, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:55 am.

Submitted by

Mary A. Hansen
Secretary

Approved: _____

Date: _____

Legislative Update - August 12, 2020

California Legislation: The Legislature convened on January 6, 2020, for the second year of the 2019-2020 session. However, the Legislature was in recess through April due to the COVID-19 crisis. It is now back in session but holding abbreviated sessions. *The Legislature is scheduled to adjourn on August 31. Updates in italics.*

- **AB 245 (Muratsuchi): California Aerospace and Aviation Commission:** This bill is a reintroduction of AB 427 reported in 2018. The bill would create a California Aerospace and Aviation Commission to foster the development of activities in the state related to aerospace and aviation, commercial and governmental space travel, unmanned aerial vehicles, aerospace education and job training, infrastructure and research launches, manufacturing, academic research, applied research, economic diversification, business development, tourism, and education. AB 245 was introduced on January 22, 2019. Initially, the bill was supported by SWAAAE, ACA, AOPA, CalPilots, and several aerospace companies. Extensive amendments over the course of the bill have given rise to concerns by aviation stakeholders and those concerns are under discussion at this time. The bill passed the Assembly on May 23rd, 2019. It is now in the Senate and was referred to the Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development, where it passed on June 17, and ended the session awaiting hearing in the Committee on Governmental Organization. The bill remains in committee and became a two year bill. It may be heard not later than July 12, 2020. Given the abbreviated session schedule, it is unlikely that this bill will be taken up. *No change.*
- **AB 1190 (Irwin): Unmanned aircraft: state and local regulation: limitations.** The bill would prohibit a state or local agency from adopting any law or regulation that bans the operation of an unmanned aircraft system, as well as other provisions as specified. The bill passed the Assembly on May 23rd, 2019, and ended the session awaiting hearing in the Senate Rules Committee. The bill remains in committee and became a two year bill. It may be heard not later than July 12, 2020. Given the abbreviated session schedule, it is unlikely that this bill will be taken up. *No change.*
- **SB 648 (Chang): Unmanned aircraft systems: accident notification:** The bill would require the operator of an unmanned aircraft system involved in an accident resulting in injury to an individual or damage to property to immediately land the aircraft, as specified, and provide certain information to the injured individual or the owner or person in charge of the damaged property. The bill passed the Senate on May 9 and is now in the Assembly, where it passed in the Committee on Privacy and Consumer Protection on June 26, 2019, and ended the session awaiting hearing in the Committee on Transportation. The bill remains in committee and became a two year bill. It may be heard not later than July 12, 2020. Given the abbreviated session schedule, it is unlikely that this bill will be taken up. *No change.*
- **SB 988 (McGuire): Aviation fuel:** This bill is a first step legislatively to bring the state into compliance with the FAA aviation fuel tax revenue policy. It would require the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (the department) to collect and disseminate information and calculate the amount of revenue collected from the sale, storage, use, or consumption of aviation fuel in the state. The bill was introduced on February 12 and was scheduled to be heard in the Senate Committee on Governance and Finance on March 18. The hearing was postponed indefinitely due to the Legislature's COVID-19 recess. ACA,

SWAAAE, and CalPilots have sent letters of support. Discussion with the author and staff is needed to determine why only jet fuel and not avgas is included in the bill. Given the abbreviated session schedule, the President pro Tempore requested that Senators voluntarily reduce their bill loads and this bill was withdrawn. *No change.*

- **SB 1044: (Allen): Firefighting equipment and foam: PFAS chemicals:** This bill was introduced on February 18. The bill would prohibit a manufacturer of class B firefighting foam from manufacturing, or knowingly selling, offering for sale, distributing for sale, or distributing for use class B firefighting foam to which PFAS chemicals have been intentionally added, and would provide for civil penalties for doing so. The bill contains an exemption for firefighting foam, containing PFAS chemicals, that are required by federal law, specifically including section 139.317 of CFR 14. The bill was referred to multiple Senate Committees: Environmental Quality, Governmental Organization, and Judiciary. Hearings pending return of the Legislature. Recommend no position on the bill. The bill was heard in the Senate Committee on EQ & GO on May 18, amended, and re-referred to EQ & GO. The bill passed in the Senate on June 26 (38-0). It is currently in the Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials. No hearing date posted. *The bill passed from committee on July 27 and now is in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*
- **SB 939: (Wiener and Gonzalez): Emergencies: COVID-19: commercial tenancies: evictions:** This bill was introduced on February 6. However, it appears that the bill as introduced was a different topic and the “gut and amend” version came out of committee on March 12. The bill would prohibit a person, business, or other entity from evicting tenants of commercial real property, including businesses and nonprofit organizations, from taking specified other actions relating to the eviction of tenants of commercial real property, during the pendency of the state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020, related to COVID-19. The amended bill passed the Senate Committee on Judiciary on May 22 and is now in the Senate Committee on Appropriations. No hearing date set as of May 29. The National Air Transportation Association sent a letter of opposition to the authors on May 29 and has requested support in opposition from ACA, CAC, and SWAAAE. The bill is currently on suspense in the Senate Appropriations Committee. *No change.*
- **AB 1120: (Atkins, Caballero, Rubio and Wiener; Coauthors McGuire, L. Gonzalez, Hill, and Roth): Subdivisions: tentative maps:** *This bill requires local ministerial approval of duplexes and specified parcel maps. It is part of the Senate’s housing package, along with SB 899, SB 902, SB 995, SB 1085, and SB 1385. SB 1120 is a complex bill aimed at addressing California’s severe housing shortage. Of particular concern to aviation interests is that the bill would in some instances, as specified in the bill, limit local government decisions over the placement of new housing projects. The bill passed in the Senate on June 24 (39-0). As of August 7, ACA, AOPA, and CalPilots were submitting letters of opposition to the bill, which is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Committee on Local Government on August 11.*

FAA Fuel Tax Revenue Policy

- The Department of Finance continues its position that the state is in compliance and the FAA continues to wait for the Department to provide additional information. The compliance deadline of December 17, 2017, has come and gone with no apparent movement by the state or the FAA. The status of the state compliance plan is listed on the FAA website as “Qualified,” which is defined by the FAA as “The FAA requires further clarification or adjustment to satisfy the policy requirements.” In a letter dated May 17, 2019, from the FAA

to the Director of the California Department of Finance, the FAA stated that the State's plan for compliance was nonresponsive and requested immediate action by the State. It was reported at the Association of California Airports conference September 11-13, 2019, that the FAA continues to consider the State nonresponsive. The Association of California Airports and the California Airports Council have collaborated on a joint letter, along with the California Pilots Association and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, to the Associate Administrator of Airports of the Federal Aviation Administration, urging action on the State's noncompliance. That letter was sent on January 14, 2020. No new information. *No change.*

State Airports Funding:

- The CalTrans Division of Aeronautics reports that the 2019-20 FY airports funding is anticipated to be similar to recent years, at about \$6 million. They expect full funding of the general aviation airport annual credits, partial funding of AIP matching grant requests, and no funds for the Acquisition and Development Program. The Division recently announced that it is limiting AIP matching grants this fiscal year due to lack of funds. *No change.*
- The current loan program fund balance is approximately \$29 million. It is reported that the Department of Finance is considering transferring \$2.5 million per year for four years from the loan fund to the Aeronautics Account.. However, the Governor's May budget revision projects an approximately \$54 billion deficit due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The revision proposes a loan from the Small Airports Loan Fund to the General Fund of \$21 million. If this occurs there may be no funds to transfer to the Aeronautics Account. The proposal states that the loan is to be repaid but does not specify interest rate or schedule for repayment. The FY 2020-2021 approved budget includes the fund transfer. *No change.*

California Aerospace and Aviation Days

- The 8th annual California Aerospace and Aviation Days was held February 24-26 at the Capitol.

Tax Initiative

- The California Tax on Commercial and Industrial Properties for Education and Local Government Funding Initiative has qualified to be on the ballot in November 2020 as a constitutional amendment. The initiative, if passed, would require commercial and industrial properties, except those zoned as commercial agriculture, to be taxed based on their market value, rather than their purchase price, and allocate revenue from the change to local governments and school districts. This may have as yet undisclosed impacts on privately owned public use airports. *No change.*

John L. Pfeifer
8/8/2020