

**M I N U T E S**  
**AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**January 11, 2022**

The Airport Advisory Commission of the City of Farmington met on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 4:30 p.m., in the Executive Conference Room at 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, NM.

**Members Present:**

Via Zoom, Mark Gordon  
 Via Zoom, Zachary Kermitz, Alternate  
 Richard Roderick, Chairman  
 Jonathan Rudolf

**Members Absent:**

Wayne Mangum, Pro Tem

**Staff Present:**

Julie Baird, Assistant City Manager  
 Mike Lewis, Airport Manager  
 Anita Vigil, Deputy City Clerk

**Others Present:**

Via Zoom Felicia Bekis, Atlantic Aviation  
 Bruce Henry, Tenant

**Call to Order**

The Airport Advisory Commission (AAC) regular meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chairman Richard Roderick, there being a quorum present, the following proceedings were duly had and taken.

**Approval of the January 11, 2022 Agenda**

Chairman Richard Roderick announced Atlantic Aviation General Manager, Steve Marruffo, was out of his office with an illness and unable to make the self-service fuel presentation today. Item five (5) on the agenda would not occur and Chairman Roderick expressed hope the presentation would be rescheduled for the next meeting. Chairman Richard Roderick asked for a motion to approve the agenda for January 11, 2022. A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf and seconded by Commissioner Mark Gordon to approve the agenda for January 11, 2022 and passed by a vote of 4-0.

**Approval of the Minutes from the December 14, 2021 Regular Meeting of the AAC**

Chairman Richard Roderick asked for a motion to approve the minutes from December 14, 2021. A motion was made by Commissioner Mark Gordon and seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf, to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2021 regular meeting of the AAC and passed by a vote of 4-0.

**Operations Report**

Airport Manager Mike Lewis presented the statistics as they appear in the agenda.

**Additional Operations Information**

Airport Manager Mike Lewis reported on additional operational items not listed in the agenda. Mike Lewis noted the agenda item 'Final Budget Review' has stayed stable from last year and most likely did not need discussion.

1. The second half of Runway 5-23, runway reference code, upgrade from BII to CII is underway. This project involves a fifty (50) foot relocation and reconstruction of Taxiways B and G. Plans have been filed at the FAA office for almost a year and are waiting on approval. The hope is to get funding determined soon, in order to get the bids out by early spring. Airport Manager Mike Lewis spoke about expected taxiway closures, alternative routes for tenants, and other possible solutions. There was a short discussion regarding time frame, including duration and other details this project might generate. There was also a short discussion regarding why the taxiways needed relocation.
2. There has been mostly positive feedback regarding the newly created locations and designations for the west end taxiway re-configuration. The official charts will updated on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022. In the meantime, NOTAMS are posted. Mike Lewis asked the council if they had experienced any difficulties regarding the new configuration and AAC members seemed satisfied.
3. Airport Manager Mike Lewis was notified the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill passed this past fall included three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) in airport infrastructure grants. Four Corners Regional Airport was awarded two hundred ninety five thousand dollars (\$295,000.00). Albuquerque airport received seven million dollars (\$7,000,000.00). Santa Fe airport received one point six million dollars (\$1,600,000.00). Hobbs received one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00). FCRA was among nine (9) recipients of two hundred and ninety five thousand dollars (\$295,000.00) with the remaining airports receiving one hundred fifty nine thousand dollars (\$159,000.00) and one hundred ten thousand dollars (\$110,000.00), these amounts depending roughly on respective number of operations. The funds are outside of the normal airport improvement (AIP) funding. It is expected further information will be received soon from the Airports District Office in Dallas Ft. Worth (DFW) soon. A plan will be crafted once the details are known. Mike Lewis added the grant offer is for two hundred ninety five thousand dollars (\$295,000.00) every year for three (3) years.

It was discussed how best to utilize these funds, and Mike Lewis stated there would be discussions with the commission and airport partners in the near future regarding possibilities.

4. ArkStar, air service consultants for Four Corners Regional Airport, is experiencing difficulties reaching Boutique Airlines. ArkStar is also exploring other major carrier considerations. The difficulty is most airlines are focusing their attention on operations during this current state of affairs. Many airlines are cancelling entire city routes. During the last quarter of 2021 and so far this year, United States domestic carriers have cancelled or delayed thousands of flights. To show the magnitude, three thousand (3,000) flights were cancelled on January 3, 2022. If we assumed an average of one hundred twenty (120) passenger cancellations per flight, that would total three hundred and sixty thousand (360,000) people, not counting delays. It was asked by a commissioner if SkyWest was still an option for FCRA. Mike Lewis responded that option was on hold, at this time, for a number of reasons.

Airport Manager Mike Lewis asked the commission if there were any questions.

Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf asked if there was any more construction scheduled for completion. Airport Manager Mike Lewis explained some runway lights would be out of service for a short time due to construction. When taxiway relocation was complete, papis and vasis would be restored. This situation is similar for windsock removal and restoration.

**Business from the Chairman:**

Chairman Richard Roderick commented on the vacancy of the commission's seat by Theresa Pacheco, making the commission short one member.

**Business from the Members:**

Chairman Richard Roderick asked if there were any questions from commission members.

Commissioner Rudolf inquired about the tower's non-use of common aviation instruction phrases such as "line up and wait" and "immediate takeoff clearance". There was a short discussion regarding wait time, and Mike Lewis noted the tower perhaps chose to be conservative. Airport Manager Mike Lewis suggested he might contact the tower to inquire about why they use or don't use specific phrases or utilize specific procedures as discussed.

Responding to a question, regarding the current higher operations sustainment, from Commissioner Alternate Zachary Kermitz, Airport Manager Mike Lewis explained the increase driving the operations report can possibly be attributed to an increase in flight school activity as well as an increase in corporate and air ambulance activity.

Atlantic Aviation Manager Felicia Bekis added the University of North Dakota (UND) aviation program would cease their training operations at the end of March.

Airport Manager Mike Lewis explained he was a participant with New Mexico Department of Tourism, New Mexico Pilots Association, and New Mexico Managers Association (NMMA), who were all working together on a master plan to drive more general aviation air traffic to our region.

Alternate Commissioner Kermitz mentioned hosting a monthly fly-in breakfast or lunch, in conjunction with No Worries, might support more operations and bring more pilots from other states to Four Corners Regional Airport. It was acknowledged this was a good idea.

Chairman Richard Roderick added he did not see airport restaurant No Worries listed on the Airnav.com Farmington (KFMN) page. Atlantic Aviation Manager Felicia Bekis responded she would work with the Atlantic Aviation marketing team to update the KFMN Airnav web page.

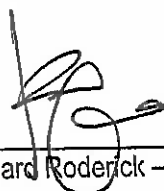
**Business from the Staff:**

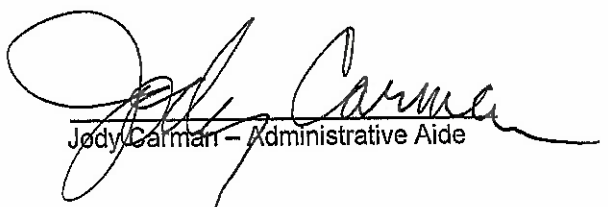
Chairman Richard Roderick asked if there were any questions from staff. Mike Lewis extended an invitation to interested parties to join the effort being made by the New Mexico Pilots and NMMA to increase recreational aviation with the NM Department of Tourism. Mike Lewis would inform members of the commission when these meetings occur.

**Business from the Floor:**

Chairman Richard Roderick asked if anyone from the floor had any questions. There were no questions or comments.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the January 11, 2022 meeting was adjourned by Chairman Richard Roderick, the motion was made by Commissioner Richard Roderick and seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Rudolf at 5:02 p.m.

  
Richard Roderick – Chairman

  
Jody Carman – Administrative Aide