

MINUTES
REEDLEY AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, June 14, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Reedley Airport Commission was held at the Reedley Community Center, 100 N. East Avenue, Reedley, California and called to order by Chairperson David Richey at 4:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

- A. Commissioners Present: David Richey, Chairperson; Carl Smith, Vice Chairperson; Robert Harris (arrived at 4:05 p.m.); Anthony Jewell; Robert Mason.
- B. Commissioners Absent: None.
- C. Staff Present: Joel Glick, Airport Manager; Denise Phariss, Administrative Assistant.
- D. Others present: John Johnson, Flight Science Instructor, Reedley College.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Harris to approve the May 4, 2017 Airport Commission minutes. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC DISCUSSION – None.

5. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- A. A thank you note was received from Jim Wiens of Madera. Mr. Wiens was the winner of the \$100 fuel card at the Airport Barbecue. He stated, “What a joy to be the winner of a \$100 fuel card and a free hotdog. I appreciate the display opportunity and your promotion of General Aviation. See you next year!” Denise explained that this is the first written thank you that she has received from a raffle winner.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Electric Airplane Project** – John Johnson, adjunct flight science instructor at Reedley College spoke with the Commission about his knowledge of the Electric Airplane Project. He has read the grant proposal and the City’s letter of commitment. The City of Reedley, the City of Mendota and Cal Start will be the recipients of the grant. Each airport will receive two electric airplanes and two chargers. Reedley has committed to keeping the planes 10 years. The City will provide a hangar (or alternate space) and 3 phase 440 volt electricity for the charger. \$90,000 in flight training scholarships will be available, but the grant doesn’t specifically state who will receive these scholarships. He feels that a scholarship program needs to be set up to administer this. Another issue is that the planes are currently classified as experimental and as such can’t be rented out for flying. It can, however, pay for the instructors to teach flight students. The grant, also, does not provide money for hangar rent. The City will have to provide that. The exciting part is that the City has paid the deposit and the planes are currently being built. They should be finished and ready to be shipped from Slovenia in August. One glitch since the grant was submitted is that Mazzei Flying Service has gone out of business. Reedley College is currently looking into other opportunities for flight instructors and maintenance of the aircraft. Johnson listed a variety of questions he feels should be answered before the program commences:
 - When will the FAA allow the cities to rent the aircraft to recoup some of the annual costs (electricity for charging, hangar space, etc.)

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- Who will legally operate the airplanes? (insure, maintain, house, etc.)
- Where will the planes be based? Should they all be closer to the flight school and simulators (therefore, closer to Reedley College)?

Johnson stated that what has worked for his programs in the past is, "If we serve the students well, the program will do well."

Commissioner Harris informed the Commission that Johnson was one of the pilots who gave airplane rides at the Airport Barbecue this year. Johnson flew 39 people that day (3 people at a time for 13 flights). Harris formally thanked him for his service that day and for coming to the Airport Commission meeting to explain a bit more about the Electric Airplane Program and Reedley College's involvement in it.

Although Johnson will be not be in attendance, he will call in to join the joint meeting on Thursday morning to discuss some of these issues. Johnson invited any of the Commission to contact him with questions.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. **2017 Airport Barbecue Review and Wrap Up** – Commissioner Harris reported that he received \$100 per commissioner to purchase the food and condiments for the Airport Barbecue. Although he hasn't done a final accounting, he spent approximately \$450. With 400 people served, that's just a little over \$1.00 each. The Commission agreed to donate their surplus donation to the Airport Beautification Fund. Some of the items that will be discussed prior to next year's event, include:
- An earlier cut off time for flights
 - Tear tickets for rides (or put in a jar).
 - Put waters in ice chest before the ice is put in
 - Implement a minimum age for flights (EAA uses 8 years old)

To recap: Fliers were sent to all schools Prek-8th grade. 400 hotdog meals were served. Food and waters were free. The food service was flawless with no line. The volunteers rapidly served the bun, hotdog and chili. The condiment tables were separated. No food was leftover. Low turnout of display aircraft was due to a conflict with a War Bird display in Madera. Temperature was in the low 70's with a slight breeze. 260 people signed up for airplane rides. A variety of raffle prizes were donated. Jon with the Exponent covered the event and wrote a great article. Guest Speaker, Joseph Oldham was introduced by City Manager, Nicole Zieba.

Overall the Commission and staff were very pleased with the event. Jean Clemons and Denny Mason stepped in to help, as did the NJROTC in the serving line.

8. STAFF REPORTS

- A. Joel Glick, Airport Manager
- 1) IFR Approach – No Update.

9. COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

- A. Capital Improvements – Recently the AWOS system needed a replacement component. It has now been delivered and replaced. The office will now be furnished. Pilot's lounge looks nice.

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- B. Landscaping/Parking – After the Barbecue the airport maintenance seems to be forgotten. Glick explained that maintenance staff is limited and once the barbecue is over he is playing catch up with his other duties. He has requested additional staff that may help with this issue.
- C. Public Relations – None.
- D. Airport Promotion – Flying groups should be invited to fly in and camp in the airport park area. Possibly have a band/concert/live music event. Groups that fly in will most likely fuel at Reedley, generating revenue.
- E. BMX Track – None.
- F. Hangar Development – None.
- G. Hangar Vacancies – Due to lots of recent movement in hangars, Denise thinks there is currently 1 vacancy.

10. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, it was moved by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Harris to adjourn at 5:10 p.m.

David Richey, Chairperson

Joel Glick, Airport Manager

Denise Phariss, Administrative Assistant