



Gillespie Field Development Council



A Joint Powers Agreement Between the City of El Cajon and County of San Diego

Airport Administration Building ♦ 1960 Joe Crosson Drive ♦ El Cajon, California 92020-1236 ♦ (619) 956-4800

Cliff Leary
Chairman

Phyllis Trombi
Councilwoman

Jerry Hollingsworth
Vice Chairman

Bob Parker
Councilman

Ramzi Murad
Councilman

DRAFT – SUBJECT TO GFDC APPROVAL May 20, 2008 MINUTES OF April 15, 2008

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>
Cliff Leary	Peter Drinkwater
Jerry Hollingsworth	Roger Griffiths
Phyllis Trombi	Eric Nelson
Bob Parker	Sarah Solis
Ramzi Murad	

*For others present, sign-in sheet is available in the Administration Building office.

1. **ROLL CALL**

Chairman Leary called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Hollingsworth made a motion that the minutes of February 19, 2008 be approved. Ms. Trombi seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mr. Leary reminded the public to submit speaker slips for any Agenda item they would like to speak about. Mr. Leary announced that Mr. Paul Fordem passed away and spoke briefly about his life and accomplishments. Mr. Leary expressed how important it is for the "Airport users" to express their criticism, compliments and input regarding Gillespie Field during the Council meetings.

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATION: GENERAL AIRPORT ENGINEERING & DESIGN STANDARDS, FUTURE OF AIRPORTS AROUND THE WORLD

Mr. Nelson presented a PowerPoint regarding general airport engineering and design standards as well as the future of airports around the world. The presentation was a summary of the future of aviation and airports as it relates to engineering. It also reflected upon the level of commitment necessary to engineer modern aviation facilities in this day and age. The presentation also discussed how future engineering innovations will “positively” redefine aviation and airports.

5. AIRPORTS DIRECTOR UPDATE

Mr. Drinkwater explained that the Cajon Air Center Development requires consultant services to prepare engineering design of necessary infrastructure supporting under grounding of utilities, storm water drainage, sewer and related fire life safety connections, and pavement improvements, etc. A request for statement of qualifications of potential design consultants will be advertised by June 2008 for a not to exceed \$3 million as needed contract pending Board of Supervisor approval.

A briefing of the 2009/10 proposed capital improvement budget was presented. Members were advised that Cajon Air Center infrastructure improvements cannot commence until the EIR is completed.

Mr. Murad had a question regarding the proposed CIP funding identified for the Cajon Air Center infrastructure development. Mr. Drinkwater explained the CIP funding process and FAA criteria for evaluation. He emphasized that CIP funding requested is not guaranteed and requests compete against all other airports of similar classification.

Mr. Murad requested confirmation of the federal funding percentage provided by the FAA. Mr. Drinkwater responded that most CIP projects may qualify for between 90 and 95% FAA grant support. He further suggested that the GFDC might want the Airport’s financial section to present the budgets segment of their Airports 101 briefing.

Mr. Drinkwater briefed that County of San Diego Environmental Services has contracted with a consultant to revalidate the Gillespie aviation forecast accomplished by P&D for the Narrative Report. The original forecast did not anticipate Silver State Helicopter operations. It is believed that the ending of Silver State flying activity has brought the P&D original forecast back into alignment with actual airport operational forecast.

Mr. Drinkwater briefed on the issue of how no general tax fund money is used in the operation, maintenance, or capital improvement of airports.

The Aviation Trust Fund receives money from aviation fuel taxes and the airlines. Capital Improvements are funded from this money by the FAA.

Ms. Trombi made a comment about moving forward on the 70 acres using the AEF and getting reimbursement from FAA. Mr. Drinkwater explained that except for engineering design work, no retroactive reimbursement by grant would be made by FAA if actual construction work was started without prior FAA grant approval. It would be counterproductive to the AEF and the County of San Diego Airports System to withdraw money to pay for construction that is FAA grant eligible and forfeit the opportunity for this funding. Ms. Trombi asked about payments received for the Ramona tower. Mr. Drinkwater explained that the Ramona Tower has received \$690K in FAA funding as a result of special considerations afforded this facility.

Mr. Drinkwater explained that FAA entitlement funding is being reduced 25% effective immediately. We were notified that entitlement funding normally \$150K is being reduced to \$111K. Entitlement funding of \$1M for Palomar as a commercial airport is now \$750K. Discretionary funding of CIP projects is also being reduced. Furthermore, federal budget constraints and reorganizations threaten other operational aspects of general aviation to be determined.

Mr. Leary's expressed concerns regarding the size and cost of a double taxiway design configuration. Mr. Drinkwater explained that Airport Engineer Eric Nelson was concerned about safety and utilization of lease areas by aircraft on a single taxiway structure. Mr. Nelson briefed Mr. Leary on his reasoning for the proposed design based on FAA Airport Design Circulars and the constraints for drainage, fire support, tower visibility, access, wing tip clearances, etc. The subject will be further examined and briefed when the Design Consultant begins work on this project.

6. AIRPORT MANAGER UPDATE

Mr. Griffiths stated that FAA engineers inspected the PAPIs and that the FAA flight check will be last step then the PAPI's will be ready to go. Work on the west end transient ramp is going well, will be completed by the week of April 28th. Mr. Griffiths announced that there will be a static Air Show display by The Commemorative Air Force and The Collings Foundation from April 21st to the 23rd. The Collings Foundation will bring a B24, B17, B25 and P51 Mustang to Gillespie Field. Mr. Griffiths presented a PowerPoint regarding the Good Neighbor Report and announced there were 19,000 operations in February and March and explained that Silver State, Anglo American and gas prices could explain the low number of operations. He announced there were a number of noise complaints prompted by the Sheriff's helicopter training but explained that the Sheriff

was very good about halting the training and returning phone calls to public.

Mr. Murad asked if Airport Staff complete any sort of investigations regarding noise complaints. Mr. Griffiths answered that, depending on the circumstances, different methods are used to investigate noise complaints or safety concerns and spoke about Noise Abatement procedures. Mr. Murad asked if noise complaints seem to be depleting. Mr. Griffiths explained that noise complaints are variable and subjective but noted that they seem to go up in the summer months. Ms. Trombi noted that, as a pilot, she knows that other pilots and flight schools on the field are doing their best to keep the noise down.

7. REAL PROPERTY UPDATE

Mr. Drinkwater provided a short update as Ms. Lee Ann Lardy was not present at the meeting. Mr. Drinkwater stated that Pacific Scenes is in the process of submitting their 74-60's and are changing their contract to comply with neighborhood concerns. Mr. Drinkwater explained that the Cajon Plaza area is bigger than the entire Oceanside Airport in order to illustrate what a large job it will be to develop and fund it. Mr. Leary asked when the EIR would be available for public presentation. Airport staff did not have the dates but stated that Ms. Lardy is the point of contact for specifics on the EIR.

8. OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE GILLESPIE FIELD DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ON MATTERS NOT PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED

There were no items addressed by the Public.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COUNCIL FOR ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED DURING A FUTURE GILLESPIE FIELD DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEETING

Mr. Leary introduced a new item on the Agenda that was developed by Airport staff in order to ensure that neither the Council nor Airport staff have the only say on what should be on the Agenda. Ms. Trombi recommended that Airport staff present Budget information. Mr. Hollingsworth stated he would like to see more information regarding the Airport Enterprise Fund in a clear review of gain and loss on a quarterly basis.

10. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

11. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

Mr. Leary adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m. The next meeting of the Gillespie Field Development Council will be at 6 p.m., Tuesday, May 20, 2008 in City Council Chambers, 200 E. Main Street, El Cajon.

By _____
Sarah Solis, Office Support Specialist