

Alamosa Airport Advisory Board Meeting

May 9, 2024 at Centric, Alamosa Airport

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Carl Denslow. All board members were present: Randy Wright, Vice Chair, Donna Wehe, Erin Keck, and Andrew Hartman.
2. There were no additions/deletions to the agenda.
3. Wright moved to approve the agenda, Keck seconded and the motion carried.
4. Wright moved to approve the minutes from 1/11/2024, Wehe seconded and the motion carried.
5. Presentation from the Public
 - a. Erin Minks, Senator Benett's Field Representative, gave an update on funding and other airport related issues. She has been in touch with leaders at Alamosa County about the FAA's biannual reauthorization for part 139. One potential change could be the prorating of the emplanements to money equation in the future.
 - b. Sarah Stoeber with the SLV Council of Governments invited advisory board members to join in the OEDIT economic development meeting on May 15th. There will be an afternoon presentation from the railroad leaders followed by dinner at 5:30 pm at Friar's Fork.
 - c. Roni Wisdom, Alamosa County Manager, updated the board and guests about the challenges to the budget. She passed around financial statements which show that the county is subsidizing the airport to about \$60,000 per year. Now that the AARPA funds have been exhausted, it will really hit the county budget negatively next year. She asked for someone from the AAAB to attend the budget work session in August.
6. AGENDA ITEMS
 - a. SLV Regional Airport Manager Will Hickman gave an update to the board which covered the following topics:
 - i. Number of recent emplanements and how they compare to a year ago;
 - ii. Parking lot is going fairly well, takes the guys 20 minutes to drive through and look up the vehicle's license plates – has earned about \$7,600 for the year, next thing to implement will be enforcement and towing;
 - iii. The construction of the SRE/AARF building is on time and on budget;
 - iv. NAVAID was awarded the bid for the new beacons and signage for late 2024 summer
 - v. The runway broom equipment is going out to bid;
 - vi. The Homeland Security Grant is in progress but will wrap up soon with the cameras, hopeful to seal deal for generator soon (\$30,580);
 - vii. Will is interviewing for an administrative assistant, AARF position, and another tech position;
 - viii. The FAA agreement to settle the lawsuit came with an implementation and plan of correction. The details of this agreement were sent to the board members prior to this meeting;
 - ix. On June 8, there will be a Full Scale Exercise in conjunction with Alamosa County Emergency Planner Eric Treinen, FEMA, and SLV Health. Locals may pre-register as volunteers to be "passengers" with Eric or Donna Wehe.
 - b. Airshow and Fly-in Planning Committee

The advisory board was in agreement to establish a committee and Carl will take the lead to organize local groups who may be interested.

- c. General Aviation update was given by Carl Denslow. He said that the fly-in on May 4 went well, but could be communicated better, especially with the airport manager. Looking to involve the youth and find ways to monetize the events; and he talked about Search and Rescue's exercise with the National Guard.
7. EAS-Denver Air Connection – Jon Colman was unable to join the meeting but texted Erin Minks that he feels the connecting flights have improved. Discussion around the points, baggage, schedule and other items were discussed. It was suggested that Will reach out to someone else at DAC in case Jon cannot attend this meeting to be sure they are represented.
8. Marketing Committee – Kale Mortensen, Executive Director of the Alamosa County Marketing District, said that advertising with DAC is status quo, using billboards and digital ads. Keck offered ideas to improve or increase revenue by offering businesses the opportunity to advertise at the airport (but there is limited wall space).
9. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.