

**PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE BARSTOW AIRPORT ADVISORY
COMMISSION MEETING**

December 2, 2008

PRESENT: Janson, Siemer, Pollack, Woodruff, Bergstein

EXCUSED: None

OTHERS: J.T. Rairigh, John Palen, Jim Reike, Dot Hornsby, Steve Bile, Dick Sipp,
Lynn Wollard

REPORTED BY: Bradd Maki

Commissioner Pollack called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

The minutes of the regular November 4, 2008 meeting was received and reviewed. It was moved by Janson and supported by Siemer **“to approve and file the minutes of the November 4, 2008 meeting.”** Approved (5/0).

The Monthly Manager’s Report Summary for October 2008 was presented and reviewed by J.T. Rairigh. Comparisons were made with the same time period the previous year. There were 23 good flying days and 8 poor flying days for this period. Aircraft movements were down primarily to a decrease in training flights. Rairigh indicated there are more than 10 individuals on the training roster and about ½ dozen are active. It was moved by Siemer and supported by Janson **“to accept the Monthly Manager’s Report Summary.”** Approved (5/0).

The Airport Maintenance Status Report was provided by J.T. Rairigh. Rairigh indicated the Oshkosh and plow, having front and belly blades, are received and in use. The AWOS is in the process of being installed by MDOT. They are waiting to finalize a contract for underground wiring installation. Some work exists at the AWOS and in the terminal as well.

OLD BUSINESS

Fact-Finding Committee Report – Siemer provided a summary report of findings from the committee and EAA Board comments received during their November 20th board meeting related to airfield maintenance at the airport. The premise provided in the report was that organized, on-field maintenance is a key ingredient to long term Barstow Airport vitality. To consider options for airport maintenance, Siemer provided a summary chart showing the following committee research:

- Survey of similar size Michigan airports,
- Midland City budget climate, and
- Barstow pilot input.

Siemer provided a brief history of committee research with key findings and maintenance options as reported at the November 4 commission meeting. Financial support such as salary, minimizing fuel flowage fees, or a building rental subsidy would be needed for organized aircraft maintenance.

Opinions from EAA Board during their meeting, including those in attendance, indicated on field aircraft maintenance is important but not critical. They were not supportive of aircraft maintenance as part of airport operations if the current level of service is diminished. They recognized the need for an aircraft maintenance operator to have liability insurance, and are not opposed to "through the fence" operations on a temporary basis until a full-time FBO is stationed at the airport. Insurance to perform aircraft maintenance is estimated to be between \$6,000-10,000 annually. Rates for aircraft maintenance are estimated to be about \$60-\$80 per hour. A concern was mentioned regarding the percentage of aircraft stationed at the airport and in the area that an FBO would need to be self sustaining at the airport. Having an FBO would be a hard sell at this time. Siemer indicated from discussion with a local mechanic that a good mechanic would create a line-up of those who would need maintenance. Discussion continued.

It was determined that the rules regarding through the fence operations need to be reviewed. Concerns were raised to make sure insurance is still required for liability protection and fees may be higher. Janson mentioned an airport in Arizona where aircraft can be maintained if they are based at the airport or with a special approval. Discussion ensued regarding where aircraft could be maintained and whether commercial rates would need to be adjusted. City revenues will need to be guarded. Janson motioned to **"review rules for aircraft maintenance at the airport to determine whether they can be revised to permit through-the-fence operations"**. Seimer seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-1 (Woodruff). McManus added the City Attorney will need to be involved with this review. The commission indicated this review be coordinated and reported by the Fact-Finding Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Janson indicated Operation Good Cheer will be happening this Saturday around 9:00 a.m. He briefly described the program purpose which involves providing children's gifts by plane to Child Family Services. One airplane came-in last year. There are approximately 475 airplanes flying out for this event.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.