

County of Santa Clara
Airports Commission



DATE: May 15, 2018, Special Meeting
TIME: 6:00 PM
PLACE: Isaac Newton Senter Auditorium
County Government Center – 70 W. Hedding Street, 1st Floor
San Jose, CA 95110

MINUTES

Opening

1. Call to Order/Roll Call.

Vice Chairperson Donahue called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Bud Beacham	Commissioner	Absent	
E. Ronald Blake	Commissioner	Present	
John Carr	Commissioner	Present	
Paul Donahue	Vice Chairperson	Present	
Keith Graham	Chairperson	Absent	
Gregory Hobbs	Commissioner	Present	
Julia Miller	Commissioner	Absent	

2. Public Comment.

No public comments were received.

2 RESULT: RECEIVED

Special Agenda - Items for Discussion

3. Consider recommendations relating to the County Airports Business Plan Update.
(ID# 91621)

Possible action:

- a. Discuss the Business Plan Update and Commission recommendations.
- b. Approve forwarding recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, Roads and Airports Department, or both.
- c. Authorize a Commissioner to prepare and submit a letter in support of the recommendations on behalf of the Commission.

Eric Peterson, Director of County Airports, Roads and Airports Department, provided information relating to the scope, schedule, and budget of the County Airports Business

Plan Update. He further provided information relating to the use of third-party consultants, including Michael Murdter, former Director, Roads and Airports Department, to provide aviation industry data and analysis for the development of the Business Plan Update. Finally, Mr. Peterson noted a decline in general aviation and aircraft parking revenue, identified potential projected revenue increases, and reported research findings for long-term airport sustainability without Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant money.

Commissioner Carr expressed disagreement with the Business Plan Update as presented. He further expressed concern relating to the transparency of the update process, lack of federal grant funding for County Airports, and fiscal history and management of County Airports.

In response to inquiries by Commissioner Carr, Mr. Peterson stated that although Mr. Murdter was the primary author of the Business Plan Update, the document was a combined effort of current Roads and Airports directors and staff. He further stated that his department was directed by the Board of Supervisors to compile a report and ensure that the current report meets the expectations set by the Board. Finally, Mr. Peterson stated that he was unsure how the general aviation community would react to the proposed Business Plan Update.

Commissioned Hobbs and Blake stated that the report demonstrates a single solution to increasing funding and revenue for County Airports and recommended exploring multiple options for a holistic perspective.

Discussion ensued relating to County Airports operating without federal grant funding, consistency of parameters for data and statistics provided in support of the Business Plan Update, and baselines for acceptable revenue streams.

Further discussion ensued relating to the Commission recommending to the Board of Supervisors that the County Airports Business Plan Update be revised.

Nine individuals addressed the Commission.

Mr. Peterson stated that he is not at liberty to discuss the content of grant assurance documents as they are restricted by attorney-client privilege. He further stated that the decision not to apply for federal grant funding was made during Mr. Murdter's tenure as Director. Finally, Mr. Peterson provided information relating to the timeline, deadlines, and challenges of the County Airports Business Plan Update.

In response to an inquiry by Vice Chairperson Donahue, Mr. Peterson stated that analysis performed during the Business Plan Update process concluded that it is possible to fund and operate County Airports without FAA grants.

Discussion ensued relating to concerns expressed by Commissioners and members of the public relating to the Business Plan Update.

Mr. Peterson stated that he will include written comments from members of the public as attachments when the Business Plan Update is presented to the Board.

The Commission authorized Commissioner Carr to prepare and submit a letter to the Board, recommending that the County Airports Business Plan Update in its current form, should not be received and approved by the Board, and that the document be revised and rewritten.

3 RESULT:	APPROVED [4 TO 0]
MOVER:	John Carr, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Gregory Hobbs, Commissioner
AYES:	Blake, Carr, Donahue, Hobbs
ABSENT:	Beacham, Graham, Miller

Adjourn

4. Adjourn to the next regular meeting on Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 157, County Government Center, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

4 RESULT:	ADJOURNED [4 TO 0]
MOVER:	John Carr, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Gregory Hobbs, Commissioner
AYES:	Blake, Carr, Donahue, Hobbs
ABSENT:	Beacham, Graham, Miller

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Soriano

Deputy Clerk