

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE AIRPORT COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Airport Commission convened in a regular session on Thursday, July 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Donnellan Fitch, Glass, Hsiao, Jacobsen, Johnson, and Chairperson Orpe.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian, Business Manager Williams, and Assistant to the City Manager Sunshine.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Chairperson Orpe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Fitch, seconded by Commissioner Jacobsen, moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF JUNE 14, 2012

MOTION: Commissioner Jacobsen moved for the approval of the June 14, 2012 Commission meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Donnellan seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

6A. Commissioner Johnson commended Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian for a job well done at the June 28, 2012 Helicopter Committee meeting.

6B. Commissioner Fitch echoed Commissioner Johnson's compliment, commended Barry Jay on his article in "Checkpoint," and expressed her disapproval of the behavior of some of the Helicopter Committee meeting attendees.

6C. Barry Jay, Brian Avenue, President of Torrance Airport Association and FAA Safety Team representative, shared information regarding the July 9, 2012 Airport Association meeting followed by a safety seminar at the General Aviation Center. He

stated that changes in the Los Angeles basin airspace were discussed, in particular changes in Los Angeles International Airport additional Class Delta airspace.

Commissioner Donnellan thanked Mr. Jay for attending Commission meetings and keeping them informed.

7. ACTION ITEMS

7A. TEMPORARY USE OF VACANT FARM PROPERTY ON AIRPORT

Brian Sunshine, Assistant to the City Manager, presented a request for a License Agreement from Measurement Analysis Corporation (MAC) to use an area of 600 feet by 3 feet on vacant Airport property off the helipad area to bury a cable for the purpose of simulating recovering cable from the ocean floor. He stated that MAC is located at the west of the Airport and the term requested is 60 days, not to exceed 90 days. He stated that MAC would dig a 48 inch deep trench, lay the cable, backfill it with saturated sand, and return the area to pre-test condition upon completion. He noted that there would be a \$1,000 fee and FAA review to ensure that there is no interference with aeronautical operations. He requested that the Commission provide favorable input of this temporary non-aeronautical use of the vacant farm property while long-term use is under consideration.

Responding to Commissioner Johnson's inquiry regarding the fee, Mr. Sunshine concurred that the fee is nominal and that the goal is to help a local business meet a testing date with an outside client.

In response to Commissioner Jacobsen's inquiries, Mr. Sunshine stated that MAC has done testing of this nature on the Airport in the past and that they will be required to work with Airport personnel regarding trenching requirements to keep dust to a minimum during the construction period.

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian stated that the Tower is comfortable with the construction location and MAC access from the perimeter road; however, they want them to have radio communication capability with Operations staff. He advised that at the pre-construction meeting staff will ask them for a list of workers so they know who is coming and going.

Commissioner Donnellan noted that he is somewhat familiar with the company and that they do quality work and are familiar with the Airport.

Responding to Commissioner Glass' inquiry, Mr. Sunshine stated that MAC would conduct their work during normal business hours.

Barry Jay, Brian Avenue, President of Torrance Airport Association, stated that the request was brought up at the last Torrance Airport Association meeting and that no one had any objections.

MOTION: Commissioner Donnellan moved to concur with staff recommendation that the proposal for temporary use of vacant farm property be allowed. Commissioner Hsiao seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

8A. AERONAUTICAL OPERATIONAL INFORMATION UNDER THE PURVIEW OF THE GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Chairperson Donnellan noted that the following reports for July 2012 were included in agenda materials: Hangar and Tiedown Rental Status, Ongoing Projects, July Meeting Room Schedule, Hangar Waiting List, Events Requiring Emergency Response for May and June 2012, and Airfield Operations Status for June 2012.

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian reported that there is currently one hangar vacancy. He explained that the Airport advertised to lease the small Type A hangar because no one on the waiting or transfer waiting lists wanted that size.

In response to Chairperson Orpe's inquiry, he stated that three out of four runway noise abatement signs have been installed. He explained that two signs are suggested noise abatement routes for taking off to the west and two are for taking off to the east.

8B. LAND MANAGEMENT REPORT – AERONAUTICAL: None.

8C. NOISE ABATEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT: None.

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

9A. Commissioner Jacobsen stated that he attended the July 9 seminar on air space and was pleased that so many people participated and that the Airport Association did not charge a fee.

9B. Commissioner Glass thanked fellow Commissioners for electing him Vice-Chairperson of the Commission.

9C. Commissioner Glass mentioned that Airport Commission meeting minutes were three months behind on the City's website.

9D. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian discussed the June 28 Helicopter Committee meeting at the General Aviation Center. He reported that the FAA presented background on the City's proposal to change helicopter routes, their findings, and recommendation on how to proceed, noting that their presentation is posted on General Services' website. He stated that the Committee recommended to proceed with a not-to-exceed 90 day trial of the proposed routes. The FAA stated that first the FAA would need to move back into the permanent Tower and that no trial be conducted while they are in the temporary tower. Secondly, the FAA asked that a Safety Management System panel be established to allow stakeholders to review the safety aspect of the proposal and determine what can be tested. He stated that they also need to conduct noise testing along the routes in the community and, once a plan is developed, there would be another Helicopter Committee meeting and review by the Airport Commission before going to City Council.

Commissioner Fitch apologized to the FAA, Deputy Community Development Director Cessna, and Airport staff on behalf of Torrance residents for the manner that some participants expressed themselves at the June 28 Helicopter Committee meeting.

She expressed hope that this would not have a negative impact on the Airport and raised the possibility of having a sergeant in arms at the meetings and setting time limits for speakers.

In response to Commissioner Glass' inquiry, he stated that there are five members on the Helicopter Committee, no one currently from the FAA.

Barry Jay, Brian Avenue, stated that comments made by an individual at the meeting did not represent the views of the majority of Riviera Homeowners Association.

9E. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian provided an update on Santa Monica's proposal to pay its flight schools to conduct weekend and holiday training lessons elsewhere. He stated that the proposal has been tabled indefinitely but that staff would take precautions in case the issue comes up again in the future.

Commissioner Jacobsen raised the possibility of charging a landing fee for transient pilots to discourage other flight training operations at the Airport.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 7:47 p.m., Commissioner Donnellan moved to adjourn the meeting to Thursday, August 9, 2012 in the West Annex meeting room at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Orpe so ordered.

Approved as Submitted September 13, 2012 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
