



ORANGE COUNTY AIRPORT COMMISSION
AIRPORT COMMISSION HEARING ROOM
3160 AIRWAY AVENUE
COSTA MESA, CA 92626

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 17, 2024

5:00 PM

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Susan Dvorak, Chair, Fifth District
P. Alberto Sandoval, Commissioner, First District
Sal Tinajero, Commissioner, Second District
Bruce Junor, Commissioner, Third District
Brendan O'Reilly, Vice Chair, Fourth District

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

AIRPORT STAFF PRESENT: Charlene Reynolds, Airport Director
Komal Kumar, Interim Assistant Airport Director
Mark Sanchez, Deputy County Counsel
Christine Nguyen, Deputy County Counsel
Eric Freed, Deputy Airport Director, Public Affairs
Nick Gaskins, Manager, Access and Noise
Chris Denham-Martinez, Organizational Strategy Manager
Elizabeth Gallegos, ASR Manager

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Dvorak called the meeting to order

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Sandoval led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** On Chair Dvorak's motion and Commissioner Junor's second, the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 4, 2023, were approved as amended by a unanimous vote.
- 2. PRESENTATION** Plan Year 2023 Million Annual Passenger Overview

Airport Director Charlene Reynolds introduced Item #2 to the Airport Commission and explained when John Wayne Airport (JWA) began the voluntary seat withdrawal process and when it was determined that mandatory seat withdrawal would become necessary. Charlene expressed appreciation to the JWA staff for their work during this time.

Access and Noise Manager Nick Gaskins presented the Commission with an overview of the 2023 Capacity Allocation & Million Annual Passenger (MAP) Limitation. Nick went over the process for Plan Year (PY) 2023 Capacity Allocation, PY 2023 MAP projection, the 2023 seat withdrawal timeline, and PY 2023 MAP total.

Deputy County Counsel Mark Sanchez responded to questions from the Commission regarding the consequences if the MAP exceeded the Settlement Agreement's 11.8 restrictions and discussed the safeguards in the Access Plan, such as the mandatory withdrawal process. Mark responded to additional questions inquiring if other airports are as heavily regulated as JWA and how the Airport could change the MAP restriction.

Nick explained how Access and Noise Office staff use historical data for project allocations and how it was not possible to predict the growth airports encountered in 2023. Charlene added to that and stated that the airline industry experienced a higher-than-average growth in 2023 of 12% per the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). She noted that typical passenger year-over-year growth is 2-3% and discussed the steps JWA staff will take moving forward into 2024.

Nick responded to questions from Chair Dvorak regarding the metrics and methodology used to calculate the annual projections, whether that had been analyzed, and if changes could be made to that process.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Newport Beach Resident Jim Mosher shared his support for a set limit on how much JWA can grow. He discussed the consequences for exceeding the MAP limit should be towards the airlines for exceeding their yearly allocated numbers and shared why he believes airport staff allocating seats too close to the MAP capacity limit will be an ongoing problem.

Chair Dvorak also asked if, in addition to averages, trends were also being reviewed in the allocation calculation and requested the Airport Director to consider hiring an outside source to examine the process.

Charlene Reynolds responded to Chair Dvorak's request and stated that 2023 was an anomaly and did not believe an external source could have predicted the outcome.

3. **PRESENTATION** Mission, Vision, and Values

Organizational Strategy Manager Chris Denham-Martinez presented the Commission with JWA's new Mission, Vision, and Values. Chris discussed the organizational assessment completed with over 120 employees, resulting in seven areas of recommendation and a four-month development and vetting process that included several focus groups and an Executive meeting to review the various proposals that led to the final product. Chris shared the importance of a healthy organization having a Mission and Vision statement that reflects the business, guides its workforce, and resonates with its customers. Additionally, Chris explained how an organization's Values set the tone for how its workforce will pursue its Mission and Vision and how that can be achieved through JWA's new core values.

Mission Statement – Connecting People, Places, and Opportunities.

Vision Statement – To be the airport of choice by creating exceptional experiences.

Tagline – Close to Home. Close to Perfect.

4. **CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR ELECTION FOR THE 2024 CALENDAR YEAR**

Chair Dvorak called for Chair nominations for 2024.

The following is the action taken by the Orange County Airport Commission: On Commissioner Junor's motion and Commissioner Tinajero's second, Fourth District Commissioner O'Reilly was unanimously elected Chair.

Newly elected Chair O'Reilly called for Vice Chair nominations for 2024.

The following is the action taken by the Orange County Airport Commission: On Commissioner Dvorak's motion and Commissioner Tinajero's second, Second District Commissioner Tinajero was unanimously elected as Vice Chair.

APPROVE

OTHER

DENIED

Unanimous (1) Sandoval: X (2) Tinajero: Y (3) Junor: Y (4) O'Reilly: Y (5) Dvorak: Y
Vote Key: Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; X=Excused

5. AIRPORT NOISE VIOLATION COMMITTEE INTERIM CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBER SELECTION FOR THE 2024 CALENDAR YEAR

Per the Orange County Airport Commission Bylaws of July 26, 2022, the Chair selects three members by lottery. Chair O'Reilly selected three names out of a box. The first member selected was Fifth District Commissioner Dvorak, the second member was Fourth District Commissioner O'Reilly, and the third member picked was Second District Commissioner Tinajero.

Deputy County Counsel Mark Sanchez discussed the Airport Noise Violation Committee's purpose and the General Aviation Noise Ordinance (GANO) in response to questions from the Commission, and Airport Director Charlene Reynolds discussed the appeal process regarding questions about their role on the Committee.

Public Comment: Newport Beach resident Jim Mosher expressed concern about JWA staff not tracking owners or operators of the aircraft that have reached the third strike level and denied use at JWA. Jim Mosher stated that per the GANO, the Airport should not be tracking violations by aircraft but rather by owners and operators. JWA is expected to investigate who operated and owned the aircraft and link that information with other violations. He also stated that his Public Records Request showed that leniency was given to five of the nine aircraft that have reached a third strike level and are only denied use during curfew hours, which he thought was not much of a consequence because aircraft ~~cannot~~ rarely operate during curfew hours. Jim Mosher questioned if such actions should come to the Committee to determine since the GANO states that the owner or operator should be banned from JWA once three violations are given.

Commissioner Dvorak and Chair O'Reilly requested a staff presentation on the General Aviation Noise Ordinance (GANO) and the noise violation process.

The following is the action taken by the Orange County Airport Commission: On Chair O'Reilly's motion and Vice Chair Tinajero's second, Commissioner Dvorak was unanimously elected Interim Chair of the Airport Noise Violation Committee.

APPROVE OTHER DENIED

Unanimous (1) Sandoval: **X** (2) Tinajero: **Y** (3) Junor: **Y** (4) O'Reilly: **Y** (5) Dvorak: **Y**
Vote Key: Y=Yes; N=No; A=Abstain; X=Excused

6. SUMMARY OF RELEVANT ACTIONS BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS (Board) Airport Director Charlene Reynolds stated that on October 17, 2023, the Board made the Selection of Concession Operators for Negotiation of Lease Terms. The Board also Approved as Recommended, the Amendment for A-E Consultant Services with Landrum & Brown and Approved as Recommended, the Amendment for Parking Facilities and Valet Parking Operating Agreement. On November 7, 2023, the Board Approved the Mandatory Capacity Withdrawal for the 2023 Plan Year as Recommended.

7. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- A. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None
- B. AIRPORT DIRECTOR COMMENTS – None
- C. AIRPORT COMMISSION COMMENTS – None

8. ADJOURNMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING The meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.