ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 4, 2014

The regular meeting of the Ontario International Airport Authority was held on Monday, August 4, 2014, in the City Council Chambers at Ontario City Hall, 303 East "B" Street, Ontario, California.

Notice of said meeting was duly given in the time and manner prescribed by law.

CALL TO ORDER

Commission President Wapner called the Ontario International Airport Authority Commission meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Commissioners:

Jim W. Bowman, Lucy Dunn,

Ronald O. Loveridge, Gary Ovitt and

Alan D. Wapner

ABSENT:

Commissioners:

None

Also present were Executive Director Al C. Boling, Legal Counsel John Brown and Assistant Secretary Vicki Kasad.

CLOSED SESSION

Hearing no requests to speak from the public, President Wapner adjourned the meeting to Closed Session at 10:03 a.m., for discussion of the following:

GC 54956.8, CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
 Property: Ontario International Airport, 2900 East Airport Drive, Ontario;
 Authority Negotiator: Executive Director or designee; Negotiating parties: Los Angeles Mayor or his designee; Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment.

RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION

The Ontario International Airport Authority Commission meeting was reconvened in public session at 10:30 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Bowman.

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President Wapner noted that the next regularly scheduled meeting would fall on Labor Day and indicated that members would be notified of arrangements for that meeting once they had been made.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

President Wapner indicated that there was no reportable action from the Closed Session discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approved the Minutes for the meeting of the Ontario International Airport Authority of July 7, 2014, as on file with the Secretary/Assistant Secretary.

MOTION: Moved by Commissioner Bowman, seconded by Commissioner Dunn and carried by unanimous vote to approve the Minutes as presented.

2. SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

Executive Director Boling provided a brief background and history of the Set ONTario Free campaign beginning in January of 2012. He noted that prior to the formal launch the City had already received approximately 20 unsolicited letters of support from public entities. He further noted that to date over 138 entities have passed resolutions or submitted letters of support representing public agencies, elected officials, newspaper editorial boards, and business and civic organizations. He indicated that there are 11,328 likes on the Facebook page, compared to only 1,349 likes on LAWA's official Ontario Airport Facebook page, and the YouTube videos have been viewed over 86,000 times. He further indicated that the Set ONTario Free website has received over 226,000 visits and over 367,000 page views. He noted that during negotiations with the City of Los Angeles, over the last year this campaign has been significantly turned down, but the local control initiative continues to grow.

Executive Director Boling expressed cautious optimism and indicated that the video being presented to the Authority at today's meeting will memorialize the encouraging comments made by Mayor Garcetti and Senator Feinstein and serve as a motivator as work continues toward a timely transfer of the airport. Staff showed the new video.

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President Wapner suggested that the timing be modified to allow people to more easily read the verbiage in the video. Vice President Ovitt inquired if the video was available in Spanish. Staff indicated that it was not but would be provided.

President Wapner commented that while there are not a lot of positive notes to play off of with the airport, he found it interesting that Mayor Garcetti said it was "an accident of history" that caused them to have the Airport. He expressed thanks to Mayor Garcetti for his involvement in the process. He also stressed the importance of having a United States Senator paying attention to our situation and expressed his appreciation for the involvement of Senator Dianne Feinstein, noting that her support was unsolicited, but based on constituent inquiries.

Commissioner Bowman indicated that he was quite impressed by the recent progress, noting that there was a tremendous difference in the level of outreach by Mayor Garcetti as compared to the previous L.A. Mayor. He indicated that Mayor Garcetti appears to be fair and consistent. He further indicated that the deal points are becoming narrow and accomplishable.

Vice President Ovitt commented that this is a minor issue for Mayor Garcetti, but important for us. President Wapner added that what Mayor Garcetti has said publicly is exactly what he has said at the negotiating table, and from everything he has seen Mr. Garcetti is publicly and privately committed to moving in the right direction. He concurred that he had cautious optimism, but it is the closest he has seen.

Secretary Loveridge requested a quick snapshot of what is currently happening at the Airport. President Wapner indicated that we are always excited about business at the airport, but we do not want artificial excitement. He noted that the numbers are small, but there was the addition of a Volaris Airlines flight, which provided a little increase. He indicated that the same flight at LAX would not have made a difference, but ONT did show a 1.5% increase for the month, making it the second month without a decline. He further indicated that the projection for scheduled seats was dropping, which was acknowledged by L.A. when they released their numbers. He explained that the problem is that the major airlines have cut down the number of direct flights and reduced the size of the planes to only regional planes, so the only other option is to cut flights. He indicated that LAWA has not hired a full time operations manager and has failed to take advantage of the assistance offered. He stressed the need for them to change the way they do business. He reiterated his excitement about the status of negotiations.

COMMISSIONER MATTERS

There were no matters from the Commissioners.

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ADJOURNMENT

President Wapner adjourned the Ontario International Airport Authority Commission meeting at 10:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

VIČKI KASAD, MMC, ASSISTANT SECRETARY

APPROVED:

ALAN D. WAPNER, PRESIDENT

ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY