

# **MINUTES**

## **AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD**

**Monday, July 11, 2016**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Ralph M. Hall / Rockwall Municipal Airport  
1701 Airport Road, Rockwall, Texas 75087**

### **I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM. Present were Tom Woodruff, Mike Potter, Kellie Roby, Dwight Royall, and Mark Berglund. Board members Brad Bassett and Matt Murphey were absent.

### **II. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

#### **1. Discuss and Consider a request to hold the Rockwall Balloon Festival at the airport and take any action necessary.**

JJ Smith requested an opportunity to present his plan to hold a Rockwall Balloon Festival at the airport to the Airport Advisory Board. Mr. Smith was scheduled to present his plans to the Airport Advisory Board on Monday, June 27, 2016 but was out of town on the day of the meeting and sent someone in his place to present the plan.

The Board generally likes and supports the idea of a balloon festival in Rockwall but there are several concerns regarding logistics, impact to operations, potential cost vs. revenue, safety, and other items the Board wanted Mr. Smith to address. Due to a significant number of concerns and questions the Board had about the event, it was proposed that the Board hold a special meeting when Mr. Smith arrived back in town to discuss the event further.

The special meeting was held on Monday, July 11, 2016 at the Ralph M. Hall / Rockwall Municipal Airport. Mr. Smith presented his plan for the festival and brought two experienced balloon pilots to speak about both the balloon operation and promotions of the event. Mr. Smith stated his plan is to model the Rockwall Balloon Festival after the Plano Balloon Festival and bring participants and spectators into Rockwall, as well as offer non-profit organizations an opportunity to earn money for their respective charitable endeavors. Mr. Smith presented the idea of selling sponsorships to local businesses in order to raise funds and charge for parking. At the time, Mr. Smith did not have a detailed budget to share with the Board.

The Board expressed their concerns regarding the ability to park thousands of vehicles on the airport property. Tenants of the airport also communicated their concerns with regarding security of personal property during the event. Other concerns communicated to Mr. Smith were overall logistics, crowd control, safety of spectators, and safety of flight operations. Mr. Smith said he would work to address the Board's concerns and provide additional information to the Board.

Mr. Berglund made a motion to table action until such time that Mr. Smith can provide details that address the Board's concerns. Mr. Woodruff provided a second and the motion was approved 5-0 of the members present.

### III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 PM. The next Airport Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 22, 2016.

**PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS, THIS 22<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2016.**

**ATTEST:**

  
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Joey Boyd, Director of Internal Operations

  
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Dwight Royall, Chairman