

APPROVED SEPTEMBER 18, 2024



**SCOTTSDALE AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Scottsdale Airport Aviation Business Center  
Stearman/Thunderbird Meeting Room  
15000 N. Airport Drive  
Scottsdale, Arizona  
Wednesday, August 21, 2024**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Peter Mier, Chair  
Michael Goode, Vice-Chair (telephonic)  
April Beauboeuf  
Charles McDermott  
David Reid  
John Spalj (Telephonic)

**ABSENT:** Peter Lenton

**STAFF:** Gary Mascaro, Aviation Director  
Kelli Kuester, Aviation Planning and Outreach Coordinator  
Tiffany Domingo, Airport Administrative Coordinator  
Matthew Johnson, Acting- Director of Airport Operations & Maintenance

**GUESTS:** Andre Leary, Manager, NJL Aviation, LLC  
Nick Lovely, President, NJL Aviation, LLC  
Paul Darosh, Western Region Program Manager, Infinity Aircraft Services, LLC  
Kelley Price, Owner, Cater AZ  
Thomas Fowler, Executive Chef, Cater AZ  
Ryan Strand, President, Gary Services, LLC  
David Frash, Director, Government and External Affairs, NetJets Aviation, Inc.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

A formal roll call confirmed the presence of Commissioners as noted above.

Chair Mier led the commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **AVIATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Gary Mascaro, Aviation Director, noted it has been a slow summer, but they anticipate and are ready for an upcoming busy season. The NetJets held their ribbon cutting during the break but if anyone wants a tour, we can set that up. The airport received a \$900,000 plus grant for the upcoming Airport Master Plan from the FAA.

## **MINUTES**

### **Regular Meeting: May 15, 2024**

COMMISSIONER MCDERMOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 15, 2024, AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER REID SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 6/0 WITH CHAIR MIER, VICE CHAIR GOODE AND COMMISSIONERS BEAUBOEUF, MCDERMOTT, REID, AND SPALJ VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

## **REGULAR AGENDA            ITEMS 1-12**

### **1.     Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Application for Airport Aeronautical Business Permit for NJL Aviation, LLC**

Kelli Kuester, Aviation Planning and Outreach Coordinator, explained NJL Aviation, LLC, is seeking ratification of an Airport Aeronautical Business Permit to conduct aircraft maintenance and repair services. NJL Aviation, LLC, has met the requirements of the aeronautical business permit and Manager Andre Leary and Nick Lovely are here to answer any questions.

Nick Lovely, President of NJL Aviation, LLC, provided an overview of the company noting their headquarters are in Tampa, FL. They have over eighteen technicians and provide primarily AOG support. NetJets is one of their customers and they are looking forward to the opportunity to expand into SDL.

In response to questions, Mr. Lovely explained there would be two mobile units stationed here to provide line maintenance and AOG support at the surrounding airports. Currently, they provide support throughout the continental United States and the Caribbean but Arizona would be the fifth state. Five to ten technicians would be utilized in this area with the hopes of hiring more.

COMMISSIONER MCDERMOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR AIRPORT AERONAUTICAL BUSINESS PERMIT FOR NJL AVIATION, LLC, TO CONDUCT AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR SERVICES AT SCOTTSDALE AIRPORT. COMMISSIONER BEAUBOEUF SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 6/0 WITH CHAIR MIER, VICE CHAIR GOODE AND COMMISSIONERS BEAUBOEUF, MCDERMOTT, REID, AND SPALJ VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**2. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Application for Airport Aeronautical Business Permit for Infinity Aircraft Services, LLC**

Kelli Kuester, Aviation Planning and Outreach Coordinator, explained Infinity Aircraft Services, LLC, dba Empire Aviation, USA, is seeking ratification of an Airport Aeronautical Business Permit to conduct aircraft maintenance and repair services, and all requirements have been met.

Paul Darosh, Western Region Program Manager, provided an overview of the business noting they have twelve facilities across the U.S. They currently have three techs that will be on site in the Scottsdale area servicing Phoenix, Scottsdale, Mesa, and helping in Las Vegas as needed. Presently they have 86 technicians and 140 staff throughout the U.S.

In response to questions, Mr. Darosh noted their headquarters is in West Palm Beach, FL. Commissioner Mier asked if the number of jobs brought in by new businesses is tracked. Mr. Mascaro explained, due to rapid changes, employees back and forth are not tracked. However, Economic Impact Study Updates, which include that information and its impacts, are conducted by a consultant. Economic Impact Study Updates are part of the master plan.

COMMISSIONER MCDERMOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR AIRPORT AERONAUTICAL BUSINESS PERMIT FOR INFINITY AIRCRAFT SERVICES, LLC DBA EMPIRE AVIATION USA TO CONDUCT AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR SERVICES AT SCOTTSDALE AIRPORT. COMMISSIONER REID SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 6/0 WITH CHAIR MIER, VICE CHAIR GOODE AND COMMISSIONERS BEAUBOEUF, MCDERMOTT, REID, AND SPALJ VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**3. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Application for Airport Aeronautical Business Permit for Cater AZ dba Cater AZ Jets, LLC**

Kelli Kuester, Aviation Planning and Outreach Coordinator, explained Cater AZ dba Cater AZ Jets, LLC, is seeking ratification of an Airport Aeronautical Business Permit to conduct in-flight catering services, and all requirements have been met.

Thomas Fowler, Owner and Executive Chef, introduced Kelley Price, Owner, and then provided an overview of the company. He noted the company started in Michigan and have been servicing northern airports. They are looking to expand into the south.

In response to questions, Mr. Fowler explained their kitchen is currently off site in Sedona but plan is to open a kitchen closer to Scottsdale as their business grows. Currently, they are only contracted with NetJets and looking to contract with FlexJets. He explained how the food is transported from Sedona to Scottsdale, maintaining the appropriate temperature.

COMMISSIONER MCDERMOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR AIRPORT AERONAUTICAL BUSINESS PERMIT FOR CATER AZ DBA CATER AZ JETS LLC, TO CONDUCT IN-FLIGHT CATERING SERVICES AT SCOTTSDALE AIRPORT. COMMISSIONER REID SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 6/0 WITH CHAIR MIER, VICE CHAIR GOODE AND COMMISSIONERS BEAUBOEUF, MCDERMOTT, REID, AND SPALJ VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**4. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Application for Airport Aeronautical Business Permit for Gary Air Services, LLC, dba Ad Astra**

Kelli Kuester, Aviation Planning and Outreach Coordinator, explained Gary Air Services, LLC, dba Ad Astra is seeking ratification of an Airport Aeronautical Business Permit to conduct aircraft charter services, and all requirements have been met.

Ryan Strand, President, provided an overview of the company. He noted they currently operate out of the Signature West building. He currently runs Flight Works Scottsdale and Ad Astra is an additional brand the company is adding to operate as a short-hop Vision Jet charter out of that same hangar.

In response to questions, Mr. Strand noted they have eleven aircraft in their fleet. Three of them are Vision Jets, but only one is on the certificate now. The other two Vision Jets are under management and the remaining aircrafts are SR22 Turbo Cirrus aircraft, not jets. Mr. Strand further noted the Vision Jet flights will be short hops with one-and-half hour to two-hour flight times with destinations such as Las Vegas and San Diego..

COMMISSIONER MCDERMOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR AIRPORT AERONAUTICAL BUSINESS PERMIT FOR GARY AIR SERVICES LLC, DBA AD ASTRA TO CONDUCT AIRCRAFT CHARTER SERVICES AT SCOTTSDALE AIRPORT. COMMISSIONER REID SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 6/0 WITH CHAIR MIER, VICE CHAIR GOODE AND COMMISSIONERS BEAUBOEUF, MCDERMOTT, REID, AND SPALJ VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Mr. Strand complimented and thanked Ms. Kuester for her professional and courteous response to one of his clients who received a noise complaint.

**5. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Application for Airport Aeronautical Business Permit for NetJets Aviation, Inc.**

Kelli Kuester, Aviation Planning and Outreach Coordinator, explained NetJets Aviation, Inc is seeking ratification of an Airport Aeronautical Business Permit to conduct aircraft charter and management services. She noted all requirements have been met, including providing the City of Scottsdale business tax license.

David Frash, Director of Government and External Affairs, provided an overview of the company. Mr. Frash noted they have the largest, most diverse private jet fleet in the world which grants anytime access to even the most remote destinations across the globe.

In response to questions, Mr. Frash explained Net Jets Aviation, Inc, is solely owned by Berkshire Hathaway.

COMMISSIONER MCDERMOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR AIRPORT AERONAUTICAL BUSINESS PERMIT FOR NETJETS AVIATION, INC, TO CONDUCT AIRCRAFT CHARTER SERVICES AT SCOTTSDALE AIRPORT. COMMISSIONER REID SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 6/0 WITH CHAIR MIER, VICE CHAIR GOODE AND COMMISSIONERS BEAUBOEUF, MCDERMOTT, REID, AND SPALJ VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES

**6. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Application for Airport Aeronautical Business Permit Additions, Cancellations, and Revocations.**

Kelli Kuester, Aviation Planning and Outreach Coordinator, provided an update on the Airport and Airpark lists, noting the five permits just approved have been included on the Airport list. Maine Aviation Airport Charter, LLC, dba Mac Jet Center has cancelled their aircraft charter permit, which is reflected on the Airport list. Sawyer Aviation has canceled their aircraft charter permit, which is reflected on the Airpark list.

**7. Discussion and Input Regarding Monthly Operations Report**

Matt Johnson, Acting Director, Operations and Maintenance, discussed aircraft numbers were up slightly for the months of May, June, and July. Based aircraft report shows an increase in comparison to July of last year. Operations look good with business flat lined by the typical summer slowdown.

There were ten alerts during the past three months of May, June and July. There were twenty-one incidents during the past three months. There were eighteen enforcement actions over the past three months. U.S. Customs fees and totals were down over the past three months compared to last year. Mr. Johnson noted that June was the end of the fiscal year and the overall totals for the fiscal year have been included in the report. He went on to note that there are larger aircraft coming in now, which helps to keep revenue up. He also noted PPRs for the calendar year 2024 are up to 66.

The operations review from March 2023 to July 2024 shows a continuous increase throughout the year with April being a heavy operations month and May through July reflecting a flat line for the summer months before business starts to ramp up in August. Scottsdale continues to hold on to the 10th position on the FAA Business Jet Report.

Finally, Mr. Johnson discussed the annual Runway Safety Action Team meeting presented by the FAA as well as the Airport Operations presentations on construction safety and driver training safety.

**8. Discussion and Input Regarding Monthly Financial Report for April, May, and June 2024**

Kelli Kuester, Aviation Planning and Outreach Coordinator, noted the April, May, and June 2024 financial reports are included in the agenda packets. She then reviewed the June report which has the most recent information and represents the end of the fiscal year. The approved budget

for revenues was \$9.58 million with actuals totaling \$9.35 million. For expenses, the approved budget was \$3.26 million with actuals totaling \$3.12 million. Compared to last year, June's monthly revenues are slightly lower by approximately \$336,000. Expenses are higher by approximately \$117,000. Ms. Kuester noted there is a difference on the revenue side because the self-reporting accounts for the month of June are not actually collected until July and will not be reflected until August. On the expense side, an employee retired which required vacation and medical leave to be paid out. The Aviation Fund cash balance is approximately \$15.5 million as of June 30th. Account receivables aging report shows balances for all our city accounts as of July 2, 2024.

For the month of May, fuel totals reflect that FBO fuel sales accounted for 77.9 percent of total fuel. AVGAS was 2.6 percent and Airpark Operators were at 19.5 percent. Approximately 1.6 million total gallons were pumped, up 9.6 percent from last May. The fiscal year comparison is up 3.5 percent.

## **9. Discussion and Input Regarding Quarterly Noise Complaint Summary Report**

Kelli Kuester, Aviation Planning and Outreach Coordinator, provided an update on the quarterly noise report, noting it covers the second quarter (April to June 2024). There were 28 callbacks and 2 email responses by staff. There were 31 total complainants for this quarter with 15 being repeats and 16 new. The total number of complaints for the quarter is 89, compared to the 182 complaints last year. Ms. Kuester referred the commissioners to three major areas of concern, directing them to boxes C8, F 6, and J2 on the noise complaint report. The major reported was flight school aircraft and low-flying aircraft. Compared to 2023, the total number of complaints for the second quarter of 2024 has decreased by 93.

In response to questions, Ms. Kuester explained the decrease could be attributed to the outreach and education by the airport staff. Mr. Mascaro explained upon sending the master plan out to the community the noise complaints are expected to increase. Historically, articles or advertisements related to the airport generate noise complaints, which could have been a factor in the number of complaints last year. Ms. Kuester spoke about the one complainant who was putting in multiple complaints, noting he is still actively filing complaints and has now reached 10,000 complaints.

## **10. Discussion and Input Regarding Public Outreach Programs and Planning Projects**

Kelli Kuester, Aviation Planning and Outreach Coordinator, provided an update on the public programs and planning projects for May, June and July. She noted four voluntary curfew letters were mailed in May, eight in June, and five in July. In terms of monitoring property development through the City's Planning Department, there were three projects for the month of May, one for June, and three for July within the Airport Influence Area.

Social media posts have been active, with a notice about an upcoming blood drive. In addition, several posts were shared celebrating events such as:

- The FAA Western Pacific Region Outstanding Airport Award.
- The Super Scoopers Aircraft that visited recently.
- The grand opening of the NetJets facility.
- The photo opportunity with Civil Aviation group from Indonesia.
- A staff photo for City Hall selfie day.

- The National Aviation Day.

Ms. Kuester further noted several lists serve notices have been emailed including the announcement of the outstanding airport award, a reminder to users to avoid crossing through the NetJets ramp now that it is open and operating, and an announcement for our upcoming blood drive, as well as a list serve notice regarding a recent temporary flight restriction.

Additional updates included:

- The FAA has tentatively scheduled placeholder meetings for mid-November for the metroplex airspace. This will be an online meeting that is invite only per the FAA. Ms. Kuester along with a consultant will be listening to that meeting.
- The pilots briefing hosted by the FAA on May 30, 2024, was a success. Representatives from the FAA spoke with pilots and operators about what they feel is working well. The run-up area was brought up several times. Ms. Kuester was able to share the noise abatement program, share information on feedback from the community, and provide updated printed copies of the pilot's guide.
- The City of Scottsdale on July 1, 2024, launched an updated version of the City website. All departments city wide have been affected and this is being worked through.
- Lloyd Fox from American Dream TV visited the airport in June. He interviewed Ms. Kuester and took footage of the Aviation Business Center. A promotional video is going to be created, and once received, it will be shared with the commission.
- The Civil Aviation Group from Indonesia representing the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program visited the Airport on August 1, 2024.
- SDL is hosting a blood drive on August 26, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Aviation Business Center Parking lot.

#### **11. Administrative Report from Aviation Director or Designee Regarding the Status of Pending Aviation-Related Items**

Mr. Mascaro provided an update on the recruitment for the Assistant Aviation Director, noting they had a total of 80 applicants. After narrowing the applicants to those most qualified, they will begin interviews next week. The hope is to have an announcement in October.

An update will be provided in September by Mr. Johnson on the Kilo Ramp reconstruction and rehab award for contract.

Updates on items before the Planning Commission, Design Review Board, or the City Council include:

- Augusta One was withdrawn. It is unclear why.
- Axon is possibly moving forward again. It is uncertain which direction this item will go but it is under discussion.
- There has been no movement on the Banner Health Facility which was discussed previously.
- Hangar updates include the Sky Harbor Center, which is for storage; the Skyport Hangars on Redfield are moving forward; and the YAM Hangars at Scottsdale, which is 165,000 square feet building area.

#### **12. Discussion and Possible Action to Modify the Airport Advisory Commission Meeting Schedule and Commission Item Calendar**

No action. Next meeting date is September 18, 2024.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no future agenda items requested.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, Chair Mier called for a motion to adjourn at 5:46 p.m.

COMMISSIONER MCDERMOTT MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN VICE-CHAIR GOODE SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 6/0 WITH CHAIR MIER, VICE CHAIR GOODE AND COMMISSIONERS BEAUBOEUF, MCDERMOTT, REID, AND SPAJL VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

SUBMITTED BY:

eScribers, LLC