



ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA AIRPORTS

Board Meeting Minutes FALL CONFERENCE

**Inn By the Lake, South Lake Tahoe
Friday, September 19, 2003**

Board Members Present:

Mario Cifuentez, II, President
Mark Bautista, Vice-President
Tom Weil, Vice President (Eastern
Sierra/High Dessert Airport Mgrs)
Mary Hansen, Secretary
John Pfeifer, AOPA CA Regional Rep
(Corporate/Non-Profit)
Steve Bultman, PE (Corporate)
Gary Antone (Northern CA Airport Mgrs)
John Swizer, CAE, Treasurer
Floyd Best (San Diego Area Airport Mgrs)
Rod Probst, CAE (Los Angeles Area Apt Mgrs)
John Sabatello (Inland Empire Airport Mgrs)
Paul Faurot (Corporate)
Leander Hauri, Past President

Board Members Absent:

None.

Welcome

The meeting was called to order by President Mario Cifuentez, II, at approximately 10.32 am.

Member Comments:

Mario gave a talk about the last year and the tremendous strides made by ACA. He further commented that this year is the largest turnout. He indicated that ACA has a bright future and will continue to have an impact on aviation.

After Mario thanked everyone, Vice President Mark Bautista presented two plaques – one recognizing all the efforts and work done by Steve Irwin and a second plaque recognizing Mario for his term as President and all his past contributions as a board member.

Wanda Kennedy – Napa County Airport – Requested that the Board consider agendaing a meeting and discussion concerning the proposed state aviation block grant program. Mark suggested that the President appoint a committee to look into the program and to report back on the pros and cons and how it has worked on the East Coast. Mark volunteered, along with Wanda, Tom Weil, California City Airport, Ken Robbins, Gness Field, and John Pfeifer, AOPA. It was noted for the minutes that the President is free to appoint members to a committee by the Bylaws. David Gotschall, Truckee Tahoe Airport, commented about the fact that the state and the level of politics can be a problem by adding another level of bureaucracy; how much will then be siphoned off for state program administration?

Website/Mailing Lists Discussion:

With Secretary Steve Irwin now departed for a new job out of the country, the general mailing lists will continue, but the other lists will not. Steve also has advised that he cannot continue with the website. Colleen Turner from San Carlos Airport volunteered for maintaining the email system and Mary Hansen, Yuba County Airport, volunteered to work on the website.

Steve's email address will remain the same.

Additional tasks: Janis Brand, 2003 Fall Conference chair, will put membership list in alphabetical order and distribute by email. Leander Hauri, Livermore Airport, will complete the update of ACA brochure after elections; Mario will print it. Mario will spearhead the efforts.

Committee Reports:

Spring Conference – May 2004 – a committee was formed at the last Board meeting; a call for topics was made and several members made the following suggestions:

Topic -- Block Grant Program

This is a current and pressing topic, so it will be included; the committee formed to study program can assist in putting this segment together.

Topic – Formation of Airport Districts or Authorities

This topic was suggested by Janis ... opportunity to get member input on best practices to get airports out from under municipalities and their politics.

Topic – Airport Committees

Leander suggested to include this subject also—are they a good thing? How do they work? What is the best way to establish one?

Topic – Methods of Communication

How to go before the public to get your message across; methods to use; how to be more offensive and not defensive.

Tom Weil reminded everyone that the Spring Conference is a State/ACA Sponsored Aviation Conference and to keep that in mind in determining topics. This brought out the following additional topics:

Topic – Life of a Bill; How it is Made

Topic – Visit Your Legislators

Reserve Thursday afternoon as a time that members can visit their legislators. Friday is when they leave Sacramento. An opportunity to make our presence known and a time to talk about the importance of aviation.

Topic/Panel Discussion

Possibly a panel of organization reps like CSAC, League of California Cities, Rural Counties, etc., to discuss how to piggyback on one another's lobbying efforts.

Legislative Issues

The role of the regional director was discussed by Tom Weil. There is a need to have more interaction and get other airports involved. The point was made that there is a number of Public Works Directors and City Managers and others with various titles that run airports. ACA needs to get them involved. Possibly the directors can take on various areas and give those airports a point of contact to feed information and get their interest to get involved. This can be further discussed with the new board.

Annual Elections

Nominations Accepted

Tom Weil was nominated for Vice President. George Fisher was then nominated to represent the Eastern Sierra area as a Director—in the event Tom is elected VP. This makes sense, but membership was advised that this would require a Bylaw change. The same problem occurs with Mark, as he is a Regional Director. Discussion continued and this was moved as a possible Bylaw change at the Spring Conference.

Discussion of Staggered Terms

Leander had previously emailed information concerning the need for staggered terms. This also requires a Bylaw change. Gary Antone, Red Bluff Airport, suggested this issue and the regional directorships both be addressed at the Spring Conference.

Motion was made by Herman Ruddell, Minter Field, to discuss Bylaw changes at the Spring Conference. Seconded by Gary Antone, Red Bluff Airport, and unanimously carried.

Votes Cast

The votes were counted with the following results:

President	Mark Bautista, Salinas Municipal Airport
Vice President	Tom Weil, California City Airport
Bay Area Apt Mgrs	Ken Robbins, Gness Field

Mario immediately stepped down and Mark took over as President.

As new President, Mark indicated that the new Board would plan a retreat to plan out the next year. A full year calendar will also be set. The plan is to coordinate the meeting dates with other organizations in an effort to get more airport managers involved. The Board will move back to quarterly meetings, which should also make it easier for more to attend.

The Board will work on a strategic plan for ACA at the retreat. This will enable the organization to get more focused and possibly give the organization more credibility with associated organizations. He emphasized the opportunities for ACA and SWAAE to work more closely together.

Mark next assigned some duties to others – Gary Antone & Jerry Martin, Auburn Airport were assigned to work on membership to get more people involved in airports as members of ACA.

Board Member Comments and New Business

Everyone agreed to have the 2004 Fall Conference at The Inn By the Lake. Janis Brand was directed to reserve the entire conference facility, which will give more room in the main conference room.

Registrations, refreshments, and other functions can be held in a separate room. The dates will be September 16-17, 2004.

Mark adjourned the meeting at 11:21 am.

Submitted by:

Mary A. Hansen
Secretary

Approved: _____

Date: _____

