

AIRPORT ZONING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
April 25, 1953

A public hearing of the Airport Zoning Board was called to order by Chairman George K. Houghtailing at the Circuit Court Building, Lihue, Kauai, Territory of Hawaii, on Saturday, April 25, 1953, at 10:10 o'clock a.m.

Present: Mr. George K. Houghtailing, Chairman
Mr. Olen V. Andrew, Member

Absent: Mr. Charles J. Pietsch, Jr., Member

Attending: Mr. Mark E. Martin, Manager, Honolulu Airport
Mr. Dorsey Edwards, Kauai Member, HAC
Mr. Charles A. Rice
Mr. Paul H. Townsley, Lihue Planatation Co., Ltd.
Mr. C. E. Perin, Manager, Lihue Airport
Mr. Fred Schumacher, District Engineer, T. Highway Dept.
Mr. Robert O. Ohata, Assistant County Engineer, Kauai

The Chairman informed those present that the purpose of the hearing was to obtain the views and comments from the public in regard to the proposed rules and regulations relating to the placing of certain restrictions on the heights of buildings and other structures, trees, etc., in the vicinity of airports throughout the Territory of Hawaii as a means toward preventing hazards to air travel.

The Chairman explained that the Airport Zoning Board was composed of three members and created under the provisions of Section 4935 of the Revised Laws of Hawaii, 1945, and that the tentative plans for the adoption of zoning regulations had been outlined at a public hearing held in Honolulu on April 1, 1953. He stated further that the adoption of zoning regulations was of utmost importance to the Hawaii Aeronautics Commission as the allocation of federal aid funds to the said commission had been withheld by the federal authorities because of the lack of such regulations.

The Chairman introduced Mr. Mark Martin, of the Hawaii Aeronautics Commission, who was acting as technical advisor to the Zoning Board, to explain in detail the portion of the general regulations that would affect the airport on the island of Kauai.

Mr. Martin explained as follows: that the approach zone from each end of the runway was 10,000 feet long on a slope of 40-1 (for every 40-feet distance from the runway the height of the structure could be 1 foot); that the side zoning was based on a 7-1 slope; and that the turning area was a circle 7,000 feet in radius from the runway itself and the allowable height would be 290 feet above sea level.

Mr. Townsley made reference to the clump of trees situated on the upper end of the runway (eastside) and inquired as to the status thereof after which the Chairman pointed out that the regulations could not be made retroactive and do not cover the now existing hazards; therefore an amicable agreement would have to be reached between the property owner involved and the HAC. Some discussion ensued after which Mr. Townsley suggested the topping off of the trees and inquired whether that would be a workable solution to which the members agreed that the suggestion would be of great help as a temporary solution. However, no action was taken by the Board.

The Chairman further elaborated on the proposed rules and regulations by stating that the law provides that if a proposed structure within the zoned areas necessitates a height beyond the restrictions, a special variance would be required. He also pointed out that the Board was desirous of cooperating with the community in assuring safer air travel and that according to the law, the Aeronautics Commission handled the administration of the Board's regulations and also the actual work involved.

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Upon query with reference to the radio tower of Station KTOH and the Kauai Police Radio Station antenna, Mr. Perin reported that these were not situated so as to constitute a problem.

Upon query by the Chairman with reference to obtaining local assistance to work with the Hawaii Aeronautics Commission to carry out certain projects, Mr. Rice suggested the use of the local Territorial Highway Department, because the Zoning Board itself was a Territorial division and also for the reason that the highway department had the necessary equipment and men. The suggestion was received favorably by the officials present, although no definite action was taken thereon.

The Chairman announced that aerial photographs with the proper scales and descriptions of the Lihue Airport were being prepared and as soon as they were completed, a copy thereof would be forwarded to the Lihue Airport and be made available to the public.

No further business having come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 o'clock a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


George K. Houghtaling, Chairman