

MINUTES OF THE TERRITORIAL AERONAUTICAL
COMMISSION, held on Thursday, January 16,
1930, in the Directors Room, Young Bldg.
Honolulu, T. H. at 2:00 P. M.

PRESENT:

Mr. Anderson, Chairman
Mr. Boyer
Mr. Brown
Mr. Damon
Dr. Hagood
Mr. Peacock
Mr. Wooldridge

This was a special meeting called by the Chairman to discuss the acquisition of Maalaea Airport, Maui, by the territory.

Maalaea Airport:

At the meeting of the Territorial Aeronautical Commission held on January 13, Mr. Anderson and Mr. Damon were appointed as a committee to interview Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Hemenway of Alexander & Baldwin regarding a price for the Maalaea Airport property. The Government Board of Appraisers have appraised the land at \$10,725, as cane, kiawe, and swamp land; whereas the basis of valuation by the owners regards this land as a developed airport, at approximately \$19,000.

The question of dropping all matters pertaining to Maalaea at the present time was brought up; but the Governor feels that the territory should own an airport on every island, and the Commission likewise wishes to accomplish this result. Approximate estimates of the land for \$19,000, improvements \$11,000, and \$8,000 for the proposed Inter-Island runway would mean about \$38,000 to effect a purchase of Maalaea from the owners. This Commission had tentatively allowed \$20,000 for the development of Maui, necessitating the reapportioning of funds for the other islands if the purchase is made. Dr. Hagood emphasized the fact he thought Maalaea could be purchased at the end of five years at the same price the territory would have to pay now for the field, plus the improvements; and urged the Commission to wait at least a year before buying. However, Mr. Damon stated this Commission is standing on what it accomplishes while in office, and if Maui has not an airport at the end of our term, we will be open to much public criticism; further, he thought we might have to pay more at a later date.

Mr. Boyer's inspection of Maalaea:

On January 14, Mr. Boyer made a trip to Maui to investigate conditions at Maalaea for the Commission, and reported that when the field was first graded, tops of rocks knocked off, and valleys filled in where trees had been pulled out, large holes were to be found. Because of the heavy rains lately, Inter-Island planes have had trouble in landing; and Mr. Cover, operations manager, stated it had cost their company more to land in the water at Kahului with Maalaea in such a bad condition than it would to put in a runway. Consulting with Mr. Baldwin, he said he did not know enough about runways to say whether 2½ inches of asphalt macadam would last a long time or not. Mr. Boyer informed Mr. Baldwin that the proposed runway was likely to break down; whereupon Mr. Baldwin said he thought the Inter-Island Airways knew aviation problems thoroughly and felt it was all right to put the runway in.

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In discussing other possible sites it was brought out that the Island of Maui has been gone over very extensively, by the former Commission, the Army, and this Commission, who have all found that Maalaea is one of the few sites suitable for an airport on that island. Should the Commission resort to condemnation proceedings in order to acquire Maalaea? was a paramount question. Mr. Damon thought it wise to have the property re-appraised, and if the re-appraisal value were near the price set by Alexander & Baldwin, then the Commission could go ahead and purchase the field without condemnation proceedings.

Moved by Mr. Damon and seconded by Mr. Brown that it is the sense of the meeting that we desire to acquire an airport on Maui and that the matter of the value of Maalaea Airport be referred again to the Government Appraisal Board for re-appraisal in the light of its value as an airport. Carried.

Meeting adjourned:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



R. A. Anderson, Chairman.