

MINUTES OF THE TERRITORIAL AERONAUTICAL  
COMMISSION, held on Monday, January 27,  
1930, in the Directors Room, Young Bldg.  
Honolulu, T. H. at 4:00 P. M.

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Mr. Boyer  
Mr. Wooldridge

There being no changes in the minutes of the previous meeting, they were approved as circulated.

Maalaea Airport:

Mr. C. T. Bailey, Commissioner of Public Lands, was present at this meeting to discuss the acquisition of Maalaea with the Commission. On January 20, a letter was addressed to Mr. Bailey asking him to request his Appraisal Board to consider a reappraisal of Maalaea in the light of the view point held by the Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company, regarding the field as a developed airport; instead of cane, swamp, and kiawe land. The Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company has declined to accept an offer of the appraised value fixed by the Board of Appraisers, holding that an average of \$150.00 per acre for the area is a fair valuation. The Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company decline to state how the valuation of the field was determined but Mr. Bailey assumes it was arrived at by figuring the Company's reversionary interest in the improvements being made by the Inter-Island Airways under their five-year lease.

Mr. Bailey read a letter addressed to Mr. W. F. Pogue, Chairman of the Board of Appraisers on Maui, enclosing the letter written by this Commission requesting a revaluation of the Maalaea Field. A copy of Mr. Bailey's letter was placed on file. In answer to Mr. Bailey's letter, the Board of Appraisers on Maui feel that the valuation which they have placed on Maalaea is basically correct, and as they are ignorant of the land value of an airport they desire to know the value which the Commission places on the field. Mr. Brown suggested that we buy the land only, subject to the lease held by the Inter-Island Airways, and let them keep the improvements on the field. Mr. Bailey stated he didn't believe the land could be purchased in such a manner; whereupon Mr. Anderson phoned Mr. McGhee, Deputy Attorney General. Mr. McGhee said he could not say off-hand if it were possible to purchase the land in this manner, but thought it could not be done under existing conditions.

Owing to the fact that the owners desire to retain a 200-foot strip along the West edge of the field adjoining the Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company's cane land, Mr. Bailey does not see how the territory can acquire the Maalaea property without going to condemnation proceedings. Mr. Bailey presented a map of the field, showing the 200-foot strip on the mauka edge of the airport, which amounts to about 10 acres. For flying purposes, this strip is the most valuable part of the airport. It is reported that the Kahului Railroad Company, agents for the Inter-Island Airways, are putting up waiting rooms and a ticket office on the 200-foot area. Even if we have to sacrifice this area, Mr. Peacock desires to keep away from condemnation proceedings as the matter would probably drag along two or three years, with an added payment of the judgment suit.

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Mr. Anderson thought it wise to see Alexander & Baldwin once more and try to reach a point at which the Commission, the Appraisal Board, and the Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company might agree; then if no agreement can be reached we will go to condemnation.

Moved by Dr. Hagood and seconded by Mr. Brown that Mr. Damon, Mr. Anderson and Mr. Bailey interview the representatives of the Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company Tuesday forenoon; and that a meeting of this Commission be called Tuesday afternoon to hear and discuss the report from the Committee. Carried.

Ward Airport:

The Chairman read a letter received from Lieutenant R. C. Moffat, Department of Commerce Inspector, relative to the suitability of Ward Airport for flying purposes. In the opinion of Lieutenant Moffat, the hazards adjacent to two sides of the Airport make it a poor field for any but experienced and skillful pilots; but for continued operation it is not impractical to fly planes from this field which require little space for landings and take-offs when flown by experienced pilots familiar with the field and its surroundings. As for its use for student pilots, Lieutenant Moffat is against instruction work at this field; and believes that action by this Commission might be more immediately effective than that by the Department of Commerce, in stopping those individuals who are considering the use of Ward Airport.

Moved by Dr. Hagood and seconded by Mr. Peacock that this Commission address a letter to all companies interested in aviation, stating this matter has been taken up with the Department of Commerce and it is the opinion of this Commission that Ward Airport is unsafe for student training and should be used only by experienced pilots. Carried.

Parking of emergency car at John Rodgers:

Moved by Dr. Hagood and seconded by Mr. Damon that Mr. Peacock be authorized to instruct the operators of planes at John Rodgers Airport the proper location of one emergency automobile while student pilots are undergoing instructions. Carried.

Flying over restricted areas:

The Chairman read a letter received from the Inter-Island Airways making a report of their Sikorsky S-38 which flew over certain restricted areas on January 11, reported by Major General Fox Conner. Modification of Section 3, Restricted Areas, Air Commerce Regulations of the Territory of Hawaii, was discussed; but it was decided to let the matter rest to see if there are any other violations of the regulations reported before taking steps to consult the Army and Navy re possible changes in the boundary line of the restricted areas.

Dredging at John Rodgers Airport:

Specifications for dredging and depositing material to be used as fill for John Rodgers Airport were presented and read by the Chairman. Proposed plans for dredging operations, marked off on a blue print submitted from the Department of Public Works, were gone over while the Chairman read the specifications.

Mr. Damon brought up the question of why not buy sufficient material to put on the field instead of dredging a channel. Material enough necessary to cover various sections of the airport, delivered, would amount to a sum beyond that previously allotted to John Rodgers,

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making it impossible to purchase the required amount of fill. Dredging would be much cheaper.

Before any material is placed on the field, Mr. Peacock advised the Commission to see the Honolulu Plantation Company regarding the irrigation water flowing from the ditch adjacent to the airport onto the field. Mr. Anderson will consult with Mr. Alvah Scott, Manager of the Honolulu Plantation Company.

Moved by Dr. Hagood and seconded by Mr. Brown that the bids for dredging and depositing material to be used as fill for John Rodgers Airport according to the specifications drawn up by the Department of Public Works be approved and called for, with the suggested changes made in the specifications. Carried.

Entrance to the Hawaiian Airways Hangar:

For some time the entrance to the Hawaiian Airways hangar has been in a very bad condition, and with their Kreutzer plane resuming operation, it will be necessary to have the strip connecting the hangar with the runway repaired. The Ford truck at John Rodgers cuts up the cross wind take-off, making it necessary to have this repaired also. Mr. Peacock was authorized to buy sufficient coral, not to exceed 100 yards, for repairing the cross wind take-off and the entrance to the Hawaiian Airways hangar, this to be hauled to the field by the truck. Many soft spots on the field have resulted from recent weather conditions which should be fixed before dredging operations are started. Mr. Anderson was directed to take the matter of obtaining a steam roller from the City and County up with either the Governor or Mr. Harry Hewitt, Attorney General, for use on the field at Rodgers.

Molokai Report:

Returning from Molokai today, Mr. Anderson reported that the Molokai Field at Hooolehua which has been cleared of rocks by Libby, McNeill & Libby, was covered with tall grass and was in excellent condition. The previous estimate of cost for clearing the field was \$200.00; the final bill for use of a caterpillar and for labor amounted to \$41.40.

Moved by Mr. Damon and seconded by Mr. Peacock that we write a letter of appreciation to Libby, McNeill & Libby for their cooperation in the work done at Hooolehua. Carried.

Meeting adjourned:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



R. A. Anderson, Chairman.