HAWAII AERONAUTICS COMMISSION Regular Monthly Meeting Saturday, October 22, 1955

The regular monthly meeting of the Hawaii Aeronautics Commission was called to order by Dr. Francis K. Sylva, Chairman, on Saturday, October 22, 1955 at 10:10 a.m., in the Board Room of the Commission, Honolulu International Airport.

A quorum of the Commission was in attendance. (See Record of Attendance.)

GENERAL

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING SECRETARY: In the absence of the Secretary, and with the consent of members present, the Chairman appointed Commissioner Furtado Acting Secretary.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 24, 1955 MEETING: Mr. Wirtz pointed out an error in the September 24th Minutes and requested that the matter of the "MOLOKAI AIRPORT, NEW TERMINAL LAYOUT - REQUEST FROM MOLOKAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING" be corrected to read ".....at a meeting at which representatives of the local airlines were present, one of whom was a member of the Molokai Chamber of Commerce...."

It was noted also that Commission action approving the expenses for a tour of airports by members of the Pacific Association of Port Authorities had been omitted, and it was requested that the action be made a matter of record.

Mr. Wirtz then moved to approve the Minutes as amended. Motion seconded by Mr. Furtado and carried unanimously.

CIVIL AIR PATROL BUDGET: The Director pointed out that it is mandatory upon the Commission to allot \$15,000 annually to the CAP, and that in their letter of September 27, 1955 the CAP has requested that the additional \$5,000 provided for by Legislative Act be made available to the Hawaii Wing, Civil Air Patrol, for their proposed training program.

Mr. Furtado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wirtz, and it was unanimously

WOTED: to appropriate the \$5,000 requested by the C.A.P.

REVISED RATES AND CHARGES: On behalf of the Commission, Dr. Sylva thanked those persons participating in the hearing held October 21st, which brought out a number of constructive suggestions and information that will be helpful to the Commission in establishing a rate schedule which would be reasonable and equitable to all users and tenants, and at the same time provide the Commission with sufficient revenues to properly operate the airport system, undertake proper maintenance, and also make such improvements as may be considered necessary or desirable by the Commission. He continued, that while the Commission does not agree with some of the claims—particularly the one in which it was stated that the Commission had a \$780,000 surplus (which does not exist)—it is felt that there is room for further study to be conducted by the staff, meeting with airline representatives and tenants.

Mr. Wirtz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Furtado, and it was unanimously

VOTED: to defer the matter until such further study can be made by the staff; and that the staff contact interested parties to expedite the matter in order that it may be considered at some future meeting of the Commission.

HAWAII

HILO AIRPORT

POLICY RE HANDLING OF MILITARY PERSONNEL AND AIRCRAFT: Mr.

Furtado advised that there is a considerable amount of
military traffic through Hilo Airport due to the Kilauea

Military Camp, which has resulted in conflict with civilian personnel and travelers. He explained that the terminal presently used for military traffic will be demolished shortly, and in order to keep military and civilian passenger handling separated, it would be desirable to put up a lanai and office and restroom facilities (using those presently in existence) for use by the military. He then made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Pietsch and unanimously

VOTED: to appropriate a sum of \$3,000 to provide a lanai, office and restroom facilities for use by the military at Hilo Airport.

HILO AIRPORT, ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT OFFER DATED OCTOBER 18, 1955
FOR INSTALLATION OF MEDIUM INTENSITY RUNWAY LIGHTS (Runway 3-21);
grading, drainage and paving runway 3-21, 15' x 5600' and taxiway;
relocation of tetrahedron, electrical installations; removal and
reconstruction of fence:

The following resolution was adopted on motion by Commissioner Furtado, seconded by Commissioner Pietsch.

Resolution Adopting and Approving the Execution of a Grant Agreement between the Territory of Hawaii acting by and through the Hawaii Aeronautics Commission and the United States of America, Civil Aeronautics Administration, Providing for Federal Aid in the Development of, and the Operation and Maintenance of, the Hilo Airport.

Be it resolved by the members of the Hawaii Aeronautics Commission, Territory of Hawaii:

<u>Section 1.</u> That the Hawaii Aeronautics Commission acting on behalf of the Territory of Hawaii shall enter into a Grant Agreement for the purpose of obtaining Federal-aid in the development of the Hilo Airport and that such agreement shall be as set forth hereinbelow.

Section 2. That the Director is hereby authorized and directed to execute said Grant Agreement in quintuplet on behalf of the Hawaii Aeronautics Commission, and the Acting Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to impress the official seal of this Commission and to attest said execution.

Section 3. That the Grant Agreement referred to hereinabove shall be as follows:

(See Copy in Commission files.)

MAUI

KAHULUI AIRPORT - CONTROL TOWER OPERATIONS: It was reported that a letter has been received from C.A.A. requesting funds for continued operation of the Kahului Control Tower for the period January 1 to June 30, 1956. The Director explained that the slight increase over the amount requested for the previous 6-month period is the result of salary increments.

Mr. Wirtz made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Furtado and unanimously

VOTED: to appropriate \$21,929 for continued operation of the Kahului Control Tower for the period January 1 to June 30, 1956.

MOLOKAI AIRPORT - NEW TERMINAL: Mr. Wirtz reported that, in view of the action of the Commission at its last meeting, the Director and he had appeared before a dinner meeting of the Molokai Chamber of Commerce a week ago. He continued, that as a result of the meeting, the objections heretofore raised by the Chamber and air carriers were satisfactorily answered. He then made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Furtado and it was

VOTED: that the staff be instructed to apply for federal aid (matching funds) and if same are available that the Department of Public Works be directed to complete plans and specifications and the project be put out to bid.

Motion Carried

Affirmative Votes: Messrs. Wirtz, Furtado, Wheeler,
Kobayashi

Negative Vote: Mr. Pietsch

MOLOKAI AIRPORT, PARKING RAMP, ACCESS ROAD AND VEHICLE PARKING AREA:

Mr. Wirtz stated that the construction of a parking ramp, access road and vehicle parking area would be necessary to service the new terminal. He therefore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Furtado, and it was

VOTED: that the DPW be instructed to prepare plans and specifications for a parking ramp, access road, and vehicle parking area at Molokai Airport, for the approval of the Commission.

Motion Carried
Affirmative Votes: Messrs. Wirtz, Furtado, Wheeler,
Kobayashi

Negative Vote: Mr. Pietsch

PUUNENE AIRPORT - REPLACEMENT OF PIPE, CONTRACT FOR: Mr. Wirtz reported that a contract between the HAC and Maui County for replacement of pipe at Puunene Airport had been prepared and approved by the Attorney General and signed by the Chairman of the Maui County Board of Supervisors. He made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Furtado, and it was unanimously

VOTED: that the Director be authorized to execute the contract and notify the County of Maui to proceed with the project forthwith.

KAUAI

<u>LIHUE AIRPORT - CESSPOOL FOR PASSENGER TERMINAL:</u> Mr. Edwards made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pietsch and unanimously

VOTED: that a sum not to exceed \$2,000 be appropriated and be made available for an additional cesspool for the Lihue Terminal.

HONOLULU AIRPORT

DEPT. OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION - REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF RENTAL: A letter dated September 30, 1955, from the Department of Public Instruction, requesting a waiver of rental, was presented.

Mr. Edwards made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pietsch and it was unanimously

VOTED: that the DPI be advised of the policy adopted by the Commission, to the effect that no free space be granted at any airport unless mandatory by law; and that the request be politely refused.

MASTER PLANNING - PROPOSED MEETING WITH AIR FORCE: The Director reported that the desires of the Commission with regard to a meeting on master planning, had been presented by communication to the Air Force local command. In an acknowledgment from the Air Force, they indicate regret that they are unable to keep the date anticipated because of additional time required for completion of plans. They anticipate, however, that the specialists will be in the Territory the early part of November; and after a military review of the plan, they would then be available between the 14th and 18th of November to go over the plans with the Commission.

Mr. Wirtz MOVED that a meeting be set up with the Air Force for 1:30 p.m., November 18th, and that the subject be placed on the agenda for the Commission's November 19th meeting.

Mr. Wheeler suggested that the meeting with the Air Force be held as soon as possible, in order that the Commission's plans may be discussed at the meeting of the Kokua Council, scheduled for the second week in November, at which time some cooperative thinking could be accomplished.

The Chairman advised that some of the data that the Air Force will bring out is classified and he did not think they would want to have this information known before they present it themselves.

Mr. Wheeler said that his primary concern was that there be no further delay.

Dr. Sylva stated that the whole commission should be present at the meeting with the Air Force because after considering the matter the Commission will have to decide whether to go along with the Air Force or preced alone.

The Director added that the Air Force would like to meet with the Commission in closed meeting. He said he had been advised that as soon as they receive proper security clearance they will make their plans publicly known.

Mr. Pietsch seconded Mr. Wirtz's motion to set up a meeting with the Air Force at 1:30 p.m., November 18th, and that the subject be placed on the agenda for the Commission's November 19th meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The Chairman commented, however, that if the Air Force would like to meet earlier, he was sure the Commission could get together with them.

HAWAII VISITORS BUREAU LETTER RE FOREIGN ARRIVALS AREA: The Director suggested that the HVB's letter of October 10, 1955, suggesting certain improvements to the foreign arrivals area, be taken under advisement.

Mr. Thomas V. Rice, Chairman of the Aeronautical Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, advised that his committee is made up of air carrier representatives as well as a cross-section of people who have a general aeronautical interest. He said that in 1951 they had presented plans and specifications to the Commission for improvements to the foreign arrivals area, and that again this year they reviewed the matter and forwarded specific suggestions on the improvement of the general appearance and layout of the foreign arrivals section. Mr. Rice pointed out that the facilities are wholly inadequate, unsightly, and generally create a very poor impression to incoming foreign passengers. He said that none of the suggested improvements involve a great deal of funds, and urged that the Commission give immediate consideration to the problem.

Dr. Sylva said that the HAC had, in the past, considered the matter and had turned it down in view of master planning.

Mr. Rice commented that in view of there being no target date for construction, that something should be done to take care of the congestion in the interim.

The Chairman advised that it was not the Commission's desire to spend any more money on present facilities. He added that it has only been since the last legislature that the Commission has had sufficient funds to build a new terminal, and that the Commission wants to build a new terminal now and not spend money on the old one.

Mr. Rice urged that the Commission reconsider its position.

In further discussion, Mr. Edwards asked Mr. Rice whether or not his Committee's findings were unanimous. Mr. Rice replied that they were in unanimous agreement on the means, if not the methods; that he has tried to keep out of inter-airline quarrels because it would generate a good deal of ill will.

Mr. Wheeler stated that he had, in the past, had the same feeling as some members of the Chamber's committee -- that the Commission had not had a target date on the program; but, for the first time, he felt that the Commission does have that. He asked what the committee's position would be in the matter if the Commission were able to announce definite construction plans, etc., by about the end of December.

Mr. Rice said that inasmuch as the Commission has funds, and in the event it can arrive at some workable arrangement with the Air Force on joint use so that a terminal can be built within the earliest possible date, he felt the users and interested bystanders could have explained to them the reason nothing can be done, and can be advised that construction on new facilities will be completed at some definite date.

Dr. Sylva pointed out that the Commission has gone far in taking care of the temporary needs of the users with the present facilities, and that he was sure the Commission could not satisfy them short of building a new terminal. He added that he thought most of the Commissioners felt the money available should be put into new facilities. He pointed out also that several members of the Commission had gone over the foreign arrivals area and discussed the requested improvements with people in those departments, and they don't seem to want the same things requested by the Chamber's committee.

Mr. Rice said that in the event nothing could be done with permanent facilities in the near future, he would urge that the Commission do something on the temporary facilities.

In the discussion which followed, Mr. Wheeler expressed the opinion, based on personal experience, that foreign arrival treatment is deplorable. He said that the display of graciousness on a staff level would do much to offset some of the building's deficiencies. He compared this to the courteous treatment given foreign arrivals in Canada.

Mr. Edwards stated that, on the other hand, there are some people who have reported that Honolulu is one of the best ports of entry. He added that, in any case, the Chamber's Aeronautical Affairs Committee could bring the matter to the attention of the proper authorities in order that some changes can be made in this regard.

Mr. Rice advised that the matter will be on the Committee's agenda for its next meeting, and he would like to report back to the Commission on how both organizations can suggest improvements.

The Chairman invited Mr. Rice's attendance at future meetings of the Commission in order that he may keep abreast of developments. Mr. Rice said he would appreciate the opportunity.

Mr. Matt Lurie of QANTAS Empire Airways, Ltd., also a member of the Chamber's Aeronautical Affairs Committee, stated that he would like to say something in defense of Immigration and Customs, who, he felt, are doing a good job under difficult circumstances. He added, however, that people can't be expected to give the best of themselves in such drab surroundings, and stated that Honolulu has the worst foreign arrivals facilities of any he had ever seen. He suggested, if nothing could be done within the building, that seating space be provided on the outside. Mr. Lurie pointed out also that the channeling of passengers could be changed to effect greater efficiency.

Mr. Wheeler suggested that the HAC consult officials concerned, to get their ideas on what should be done.

The Director reported that the staff has worked closely with the carriers concerned with the problem and the various federal agencies enforcing regulations on foreign arrivals. He said that it would not be possible to alleviate the problem unless the air carriers and federal agencies agree on a basic layout.

The Chairman called to attention the fact that if a new building is constructed for use by federal agencies that rental rates will be increased, in order to amortize the investment. He pointed out also that the suggested improvements to the present foreign arrivals area are estimated to cost somewhere around \$30,000.

Mr. Wheeler suggested, in view of the fact that the HAC is closer to a new building and funds are available for the project, that the Chamber could come up with a revised request to take care of the amenities.

Mr. Rice advised that he would reconvene his committee and present the matter to members.

PAINTING OF HANGAR NO. 9: Mr. Edwards pointed out that some time ago this once privately-owned structure was purchased by the HAC at considerable expense, and that recently the Commission spent about \$4,000 to close in the end of the hangar. He continued, that it now appears that the whole investment is in jeopardy unless proper painting can be accomplished to save the "skin" of the building and the structural steel work, and that it would seem appropriate to take steps to preserve them. He therefore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wirtz, and it was unanimously

VOTED: that a sum of \$7,000 be appropriated to take care of needed repairs and painting to Hangar No. 9, Honolulu Airport, and that the staff call for new bids to cover the project.

THE BARN - PERCENTAGE RATE ON GROSS SALES: The Director referred to a request from Mr. Robert T. Vieira, owner of "The Barn", for reconsideration of the percentage rate payments on gross sales, as outlined in his letter of October 12, 1955. Mr. Lee said that Mr. Vieira's request (that the Commission apply retroactively the same rental status to his operations as is now enjoyed by the Airways Hotel) is proper in the application for relief on the basis that a percentage on the gross is paid on "the Barn's" operation and not on a similar operation in the same vicinity. The Director recommended that the request be granted, in the interest of uniformity.

Mr. Kobayashi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, and it was

VOTED: to approve the staff's recommendation.

AIRPORT SAFETY ZONES: The Chairman advised that, in accordance with the Doolittle Report, the Commission should endeavor to maintain airport safety zones and should purchase such areas necessary to effect such clearances. He said that there is such an area at the end of Runway 8, Honolulu Airport, that comes under this category, and advised that this land could be turned back to the Commission by executive order.

Mr. Wheeler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Furtado, and it was unanimously

VOTED: that, in the interest of carrying out the recommendations of the Doelittle Report, proper authority be requested to have returned to the Commission the parcel of land at the end of runway 8, Honolulu Airport.

NOVEMBER MEETING - H.A.C.: In view of the Thanksgiving Holiday and the proposed meeting with the Air Force on November 18th, it was unanimously agreed by members present that the November meeting of the Commission be advanced one week (November 19 - 9:00 a.m.).

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Hawaii Aeronautics Commission

Present:

Dr. F. K. Sylva, Chairman

Mr. D. W. Edwards, Vice Chairman (Kauai)

Mr. Richard Wheeler, Member Mr. George Kobayashi, Member Mr. C. J. Pietsch, Member Mr. Cable Wirtz, Member (Maui) Mr. David Furtado, Member (Hawaii)

Absent:

Mr. R. C. Honda (On OCD duty) Mr. J. V. Hodgson (on mainland)

In Attendance: Mr. O. V. Andrew, TPA & AFS

Mr. V. Thomas Rice, Aeron. Affairs Comm. Chamber of Commerce

Mr. W. T. Waterhouse, Murrayair, Ltd.

Mr. A. E. Romaine, CAA Mr. R. E. Peterson, UAL Mr. E. C. Gallas, Gray Line

Mr. George Fox, PAA Mr. B. B. Williamson, UAL Mr. Walter G. Carson, UAL

Mr. Matt Lurie, QANTAS Mr. D. L. Grubb, HAL Mr. Dick Faris, HAL

Mr. J. Miller, Spencecliff Corp.

Mr. R. M. Lee, Director, HAC

Mr. J. E. Batchelder, Asst. Dir., HAC Mr. Bo Tong Wat, Finance Exec., HAC

Respectfully submitted,

David Furtado, Acting Secretary