Sport Flyers Annual Meeting February 15, 2025

Held at Elizabeth Shawn’s hangar, 4118 Windsock Ln.

The meeting was called to order at 12:07pm.

Presentation by Joe Axline about getting married. Congratulations.

Motion by Bruce Watkins to open the meeting at 12:15.

Johnny Nimmons presented about having started the organizational changes but not liking where they went.

Ed Lake presented that he believes no organizational changes are legal.

Bruce Watkins played a recording from the November 7, 2024 meeting.

Anthony Robinson explained the reality of how little we have available to maintain the airport.

Ed Lake stated that Waller County has no record of the organization.

Joe Railey moved to end the discussion and continue with the published agenda. Seconded by Anthony Robinson. The vote carried.

Begin Agenda discussion:

Key items presented:

1. Roads: It costs $2500 each time the roads are graded. There was a proposal by a member of the board to grade the roads in December of 2024 but did not happen because there was no money available.

2. Mowing: Our annual mowing contract has been $4500/year. It will be going up to $5000 for 2025.

3. Gates: There is general agreement that we need a way to exclude non-airport traffic but there are no funds for gates. There was a comment that if the annual fees are increased, it may be possible to add gates one at a time over the course of several years.

4. Drainage: General reminder that each lot owner needs to keep their culverts open to enhance drainage. The instruction was to shovel out the dam of earth at the openings.

5. Speed bumps: Those installed in 2023 were insufficient and cause problems with road grading. Discussion of installing concrete speed bumps, building a concrete form, and the effectiveness of bumps vs. humps. A work party to build a concrete form was discussed but no plans were made.

6. Renters: There is a concern that renters contribute to the wear and tear of the runway and roads but are not contributing to the maintenance fund at a time when funds are needed. There was a proposal to charge renters an increased fee over that charged to lot owners. However, it was pointed out that it is almost impossible to maintain a census of rental aircraft. Further, there was no consensus over whether this should be a per aircraft charge or a per hangar charge. Eventually, it was generally agreed that the landlord, as a lot owner, is already paying maintenance fees for that lot and that fee is not dependent on how many aircraft are in his hangar. It was then agreed that the chief problem is those renters in the T-Hangars, which are not located on the airport but which are still using the roads and runway. It is agreed that there is no objection to their through-the-fence use if they are contributing to the maintenance fund at some rate not yet agreed upon. The treasurer says that there has been no contribution to the fund by the renters in several years. It was agreed to hold a meeting in the spring to discuss this specific issue in more detail.

Treasurer’s report: Chris showed reports showing revenue and expenses of the fund. It is clear that we have a large uncollected balance of accounts receivable and that our operating costs exceed our annual collections. Requests were made to break out receivables to show current year vs. past years. Requests were made to provide a breakout detail for runway maintenance.

Ed Lake requested that the financial report and maintenance invoices be sent out before the end of the year.

Treasurer’s report accepted by vote of those in attendance.

Secretary report: Emphasizing the limited things money needs to be spent on but the inadequacy of current funds. A financial review showed that if fees were not capped almost 35 years ago, and were allowed to continue to grow at the 5% rate in the Land Use Restrictions, they would now be near $700/year. This sounds large until you compare it to other airport communities which are currently charging over $1000/year. If only the rate of inflation were applied to the $120, going forward, annual fees would still be over $350. We are currently operating on a fraction of what was originally created.

VP report: Anthony announced that his hangar is for sale (he’s moving north of Houston) but wants to provide a solid foundation for the new owner to step into and hopes to be able to come visit us again after he moves.

Called for the vote: Increase maintenance fees to $150/lot in 2026 and $180/lot in 2027. Moved and seconded. The vote did not pass for Phase I with a count of 11 For and 16 Against. Phase II did pass with a count of 18 For and 10 Against. The increase will be applied next year to Phase II properties.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50pm.