

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: March 11, 2008

☐ Consent ☒ Regular
☐ Workshop ☐ Public Hearing

Department:

Submitted By: Department of Airports

Submitted For:

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to approve: the implementation of a general aviation (GA) landing fee at Palm Beach International Airport (PBIA).

Summary: Staff recommends the implementation of a GA landing fee at PBIA. Similar to most airports, GA users at PBIA do not pay landing fees. GA users pay a fuel fee at PBIA, totaling \$900,000 annually. Commercial airlines using PBIA pay landing fees totaling \$5 million annually. Both fees recover the cost of operating the airfield including: security, Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting costs, maintenance, debt service, and capital.

The Aviation and Airports Advisory Board (AAAB) voted 5-4, recommending against a GA landing fee. Members voting against the GA fee cited increasing costs (maintenance, fuel, insurance) to operate GA aircraft. Members voting for the GA fee voiced concerns over equity, stating that GA users should pay their fair share since GA operations account for over 65% of operations at PBIA.

Staff has identified a contractor that has technology to capture GA operations, bill the appropriate party, and collect landing fees. It is anticipated that the contractor would be paid from the collection proceeds.

If the Board recommends pursuing GA landing fees, staff will return to the BCC for the approval of the billing/collections contract and a proposed GA landing fee structure. **Countywide (AH)**

Background and Justification: The primary argument for the implementation of this fee is equity between GA and commercial users. FAA policy requires that fees be non-discriminatory; therefore, the GA fee structure should be similar to the current landing fee system. Commercial airlines argue that they are being overcharged because GA is not paying their fair share. The implementation of a GA landing fee at PBIA would reduce the amount commercial airlines pay, resulting in no net change in landing fees to the Department of Airports.

Attachments:
None

Recommended By: ms Susan V. Kelly 1/30/08
Department Director Date

Approved By: for [Signature] Baker 3/4/08
County Administrator Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs					
External Revenues (Grants)					
Program Income (County)					
In-Kind Match (County)					
NET FISCAL IMPACT					
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)					

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes _____ No _____
Budget Account No: Fund _____ Department _____ Unit _____ Object _____
Reporting Category _____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

This item represents no fiscal impact. Collections of GA landing fees will offset commercial airline landing fee revenue.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review:

Michael Simon

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments:

OC
2/22/08
OFMB
2/26/08

An J. Jacoby
2/27/08
Contract Dev. and Control
2/27/08

B. Legal Sufficiency:

Anne Kelfant
2/28/08
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director