RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2015-477

MEETING: October 6, 2015

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Tony Stobbe, Public Works Director

RE: Approve an Airport Manager Agreement with Airborn Aviation Services

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve a Five-Year Agreement with Airborn Aviation Services to Operate at the Mariposa/Yosemite Airport as the Airport Manager, and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Agreement.

Entering into an Agreement with Airborn Aviation Services (AAS) will enable a mutual goal of having a safe and well maintained airport facility that serves the public and general aviation community.

The proposed agreement is divided into two phases. In the first year, AAS will occupy the terminal building and residence, assuming maintenance and utilities responsibilities for those facilities, and will begin to engage in commercial activities that may include flight training, flight seeing, and offering services to aviators. While no specific additional responsibilities are prescribed, there is no doubt that the active and regular presence of AAS at the airport will be of substantial benefit. During this period, Public Works will continue to administer long term leases, fuel sales, and inspections/testing. During this period the County should see reduced utility and routine maintenance expenses in the Airport Fund, but may see increased expenses as the increase in activity at the Airport could expose unanticipated underlying issues. After one year, the agreement stipulates that AAS will assume fuel sales, inspections, testing, making rental cars available, and staffing the terminal at a level needed to shift the airport to "Attended" status. Administration of longer term hangar leases will remain with Public Works, as will the revenue derived from that activity, but may be the topic a future modification to this Agreement.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board approved the original agreement with KMPI and has met several times to discuss the status of the Airport and the proposals for a Fixed Base Operator. Public Works brought forward a draft agreement on August 11, 2015, which stimulated a healthy dialogue with the Board, staff, and the prospective Airport Manager. The
Board issued direction to pursue a short term agreement to enable near term occupation of the facilities while finalizing a longer term agreement. After meeting with AAS and reviewing boilerplate short term agreements, it was mutually concluded that by modifying the long term agreement the intent of that direction could be satisfied just as expeditiously.

**ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**
The Board could elect to leave the Mariposa/Yosemite Airport in the status quo, resulting in the airport remaining unattended, and in the opinion of staff, underutilized. The Board could also direct another Request for Proposal period, but risk losing a local interested potential operator. The Board could find that parts of the agreement are unsatisfactory and provide direction to Public Works to seek modifications to the proposed agreement.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**
Adjustments to the Airport Budget will be done at a later date to if necessary to support the FBO Agreement. It is not anticipated that these adjustments will have a negative impact on the General Fund. Currently this budget has no net county cost.

**ATTACHMENTS:**
Airport Manager Lease October 2015 (PDF)

**CAO RECOMMENDATION**
Requested Action Recommended

Mary Hodson, CAO 9/30/2015

**RESULT:**  ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
**MOVER:** Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
**SECONDER:** Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
**AYES:** Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier