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OST-2002-11376-10

**SALINA AIRPORT AUTHORITY
SAA RESOLUTION 02-3**

**A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING ACCEPTANCE OF MESA AIR GROUP'S
OPTION NO. 3 FOR SALINA, KANSAS, US DOT DOCKET OST-2002-11376**

WHEREAS, Mesa Air Group on behalf of its wholly owned subsidiary, Air Midwest, Inc., has submitted a proposal for Essential Air Service at Salina, Kansas to the United States Department of Transportation; and,

WHEREAS, Mesa Air Group submitted three service options in its proposal; and,

WHEREAS, the Salina Airport Authority has reviewed the three service options and evaluated the impact of each option on the viability of scheduled air carrier service for Salina, Kansas and the North Central Kansas Region; and,

WHEREAS, the Salina, Kansas catchment area includes fourteen (14) counties and over 180,000 residents of North Central Kansas; and,

WHEREAS, the Salina catchment area would best benefit from frequency of scheduled air carrier flights in order to accommodate business travelers currently driving to the Kansas City International Airport; and,

WHEREAS, the Salina catchment area will be best served by nonstop flights to the Kansas City International Airport instead of continuing to tag Salina flights onto existing Manhattan, Kansas service. The existing Salina and Manhattan tag does nothing but discourage Salina catchment area passengers from boarding Salina flights and dilutes the utility of available seats for both markets; and,

WHEREAS, the Salina catchment area passengers require both eastbound and westbound connections out of the Kansas City International Airport in order to travel to destinations throughout the United States; and,

WHEREAS, prior to the events of September 11, 2001, the Salina catchment area was served by two air carriers, Air Midwest and Great Lakes Airlines with a combined frequency of six (6) weekday departures that provided area passengers with both eastbound and westbound connections; and,

WHEREAS, Mesa Air Group had scheduled four (4) weekday non-stop roundtrip flights effective on October 6, 2002. Following the events of September 11, 2001, the Salina schedule was reduced to the current two (2) one-stop weekday roundtrip flights; and,

WHEREAS, Salina has a demonstrated need for frequency of flights and nonstop flights to the Kansas City International Airport. The periods of time when Air Midwest has operated a minimum of three (3) nonstop weekday flights to Kansas City, enplanements have exceeded an average of 740 passengers per month (8,880 per year); and,

WHEREAS, Salina and the North Central Kansas Region continue to experience economic growth and low unemployment; and,

WHEREAS, the demand for scheduled air carrier flights at the Salina Airport still remains except for the poor level of frequency, the lack of nonstop service and the uncertainty of small community air service; and,



Salina Airport Authority
Salina Municipal Airport / Industrial Center

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WHEREAS, the availability of Essential Air Service subsidy will allow Mesa Air Group to stabilize scheduled air service for the Salina catchment area, provide area passengers with a variety of connections with national and major air carriers operating at the Kansas City for both eastbound and westbound destinations and return Salina scheduled air service to an economically viable level.

NOW THEREFORE, Be it Resolved by the Board of Directors of the Salina Airport Authority:

Section 1. That the Board of Directors for the Salina Airport Authority, by adoption of this resolution, recommends that the United States Department of Transportation accept the proposed Option 3 – 3 weekday and 3 weekend nonstop roundtrips between Salina, KS and the Kansas City, MO., as submitted by Mesa Air Group, on behalf of the wholly owned subsidiary, Air Midwest.

Section 2. That the Executive Director of the Salina Airport is hereby instructed to submit the contents of this resolution to Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket OST – 2002-1137G, within three days of the adoption of this resolution.


Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Salina Airport Authority on this 15th day of May, 2002.


John K. Vanier, II, Chairman

CERTIFICATION OF SECRETARY

I, Robert H. Miller, the duly appointed, qualified, Salina Airport Authority Secretary, Salina, Kansas, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at a meeting of the Salina Airport Authority, Salina, Kansas held on the 15th day of May, 2002, and that said Resolution has been compared by me with the original thereof on file and of record in the office of the Airport Authority, and is a true copy of the whole of said original.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Salina Airport Authority, Salina, Kansas, this 15th day of May, 2002.


Robert H. Miller, Secretary

