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$192,000 a year.

"The finest airport manager in the world deserves the appropriate recognition," said Jan Collmer, who serves on the airport board's compensation committee with board Chairman Louis Zapata, Vice Chairman William Cooper and former Chairman Pete Schenkel.

None of the other committee members could be reached for comment.

Dunham said he turned down a final interview for the Hong Kong position because the job involved the "total commitment" of overseeing construction of a new airport and because he wanted to remain close to family members still living in California.

Also, with the excitement surrounding the proposed expansion of D/FW, he said, "I like doing what I'm doing here."

Dunham said he understands why the Hong Kong job possibility may have caused D/FW officials to consider seeking a raise for him, but he added that he is "shocked by the generosity" of the compensation committee.

"I certainly try to do a job that would be worthy of that," he said.



Oris Dunham: Was a finalist for $500,000 job at Hong Kong airport