

AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Fremont County Airport
December 7, 2016
8:00 am

Members Present: John Marietta, Chairman; Leonard Mino; Jack Slagle; Rich LeDoux; Bruce Claremont; Tom Schielf; Jim Woolworth

Other Officials Present: County Commissioner, Tim Payne; County Commissioner, Ed Norden; Airport Manager, Richard Baker

Others Present: Ryan Pritchett, Armstrong Consultants; Jake Hoben, Armstrong Consultants; Matt Clark

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman John Marietta. Everyone was welcomed and Chairman Marietta introduced Commissioner Tim Payne as the Board's primary representative following Commissioner Nordon's retirement. The minutes from the previous Board meeting were then considered for board approval.

By Motion and Unanimous Consent the minutes of the 9/07/2016 Advisory Board meeting were approved.

Commissioners' Report by Tim Payne and Ed Norden

- It was announced that the County budget for 2017 will be approved on December 22, 2016.
- AT&T has erected a new tower at the field to replace the previous tower which has been in service since 1946. The new structure is 74 feet high, has been approved by the FAA and is capped by an energy efficient beacon purchased by the airport. AT&T spent \$300,000 to erect the new tower and is paying the County a \$6800/year lease fee for the site on which it is erected. The Airport is considering donating the old tower and beacon.
- Some property damage occurred at the field during the most recent fire fighting operations. Water trucks servicing heavy-lift helicopters along taxiway "A" crushed several PVC drainage pipes. There was no contract in place for that particular operation as is usually done so repair expenses are the responsibility of the County. The estimated damage totals \$1000. The expects the fire service bill for airport support services rendered will amount to approximately \$11,000.

Airport Manager's Report by Richard Baker

- A summary of fire fighting operations from the airport was given. 215 fire missions were flown from the field. 140,834 gallons of fire retardant (costing \$266,000) was used, primarily to fight the October fire. This was the most active fire season since 2005.
- The status of the efforts to establish a modular helitac fire facility at the field was reviewed. Joe Lobiondo, of the fire service, gave airport management an update stating the state lease of land to place a modular unit is "still in the works". The state requires competitive bids to procure the modular unit that would be placed at the field. Mr. Baker expects it will be February or March before that process is complete and a lease will be signed. The infrastructure preparations for the modular unit (water taps, leach field) have been completed at County expense. On a related subject, the state contract for use of a portion of the County hanger is in place and producing revenue.
- The status of the pavement project to maintain airport ramp surfaces was given. The project, which was to have been completed in October, is now projected to be completed in May 2017 due to contractor backlog. The contractor will honor his initial bid. Next year (2017) a runway maintenance project is scheduled which will involve application of crack seal, rejuvenator and repaint on Rwy 29/11.

Standing Committee Reports:

Safety & Security Report

- Security signage has been posted at all airport entrances warning of federal penalties for damaging or destroying equipment on airport property.
- A damaged section of perimeter fence by the west gate entrance has not yet been fully repaired. Richard Baker has called "Taylor Fence" to make repairs before year's end. The business in the Maverick hanger,

who's truck caused the damage, will be presented the bill. A suggestion was made to have the County lawyer send the business a letter stating the fence is being repaired at his expense. Commissioner Norden will follow-up with the County Lawyer. A police report had been filed on the incident.

Development Report

- Discussion continued on closing a lease contract for the state fire helitac modular unit (covered above). Richard Baker said he would ask Joe Lobiondo for a report on state progress towards completing the contract.

Finance Report

- Fuel sales have been up primarily due to fire activity in October. A current balance sheet for airport financials was not available.

Operating Procedures

- Airport "Operating Procedures" were revised in October 2016, revision 2, to change the review of airport documents from "annual" to "as required". This change was approved by the County Commissioners on November 8, 2016.

New Business

- The date of the 2017 Fremont County Airshow will be September 16, 2017. This date coincides with Florence Pioneer Days.
- Activities now are focused on fund raising. Sponsor packets need to be prepared soon for sponsor solicitations. To date Armstrong Consultants Inc. has committed to donate \$3500 and Fremont County is committing \$5000 from the airport budget.
- After January 1st emphasis will be placed on locking down performers for the planned airshow date. Verbal commitments have already been received from Don Nelson Airshows. Don will be flying an "SNJ" this year. Bryan Correll Airshows has also agreed to perform. Bryan flies a Pitts S2S. There was discussion also about inviting Gary Rower Airshows back flying the Super Stearman. Budget permitting, this will be considered.
- Ryan Pritchett commented that our last Airshow was very well done and very enjoyable. He particularly liked the low level parachute demonstration put on by "Rocky Mountain Paramotors" noting that it was a real crowd pleaser. He also noted that the shortage of food vendors, food supplies and ice was disappointing. A discussion followed on how to insure that food vendors will show up for the event (big up-front fees, contracts, etc) and insure they have a plan to keep stocked thru-out the day.
- George Rosal, past Airboss, has a conflict on September 16th so we will need to find another person to fill that role.
- A pancake breakfast is again planned. It was proposed that we invite Penrose Fire Dept back and EAA (EAA would have first right of refusal for the breakfast). One or the other could provide food vending for the balance of the day.

Old Business

- The "thru the fence" agreement with Jim Cole was discussed. The agreement, signed over three months ago, allows access to airport property but issues remain regarding what improvements Cole is responsible for between the gate and the nearest accessible taxiway. Cole has not communicated his plan to airport management since he exchanged e-mails with Don Moore, county engineer, who outlined what would have to be done, at his expense, to establish a usable taxiway from his gate (move a drainage ditch, move a hydrant, move underground utilities, etc.). While airport management waits for Cole's response, he may well be waiting for direction from airport management. Discussion ensued on who should contact who to resolve the unknowns. One suggestion was made to padlock the gate to prevent entry until this issue is resolved. Chairman Marietta suggested that we should save the e-mail correspondence between Don Moore and Jim Cole in a folder for future reference. Richard Baker stated he would assemble that folder. The discussion on the subject was suspended until the next meeting in March when progress will again be checked.
- Ryan Pritchett offered that Meadowlake Airport has over 300 based aircraft with many thru-the-fence agreements and Dave Elliot (Airport Association President) may be able to provide some guidance.

There being no further items for discussion Chairman Marietta adjourned the meeting at 8:55 am.

Minutes submitted by Jim Woolworth