

MINUTES OF MEETING
JOPLIN AIRPORT BOARD MEETING
January 9, 2020

The Airport Board met in the Second Floor Conference Room at the at the Joplin Regional Airport Commercial Terminal Building. The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 A.M.

Item 1: Roll Call and Approval of Minutes from the last meeting.

Board members in attendance included Bob Loudermilk, Rob O'Brian, Randy Moore and Kelli Starkweather attended via phone. Bill Harding and Richard Russell were absent. Staff in attendance included Melissa Hunter and Steve Stockam. Also present was Pamela Lanier of the Alpha Air Center, Jack Schaller and Brian Kummess of Olsson Associates and Brent Williams of the Joplin Regional Airport Police Department.

Mr. Stockam read the Airport Board Mission Statement and a reminder of the City Code.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Loudermilk voted to approve the minutes from December's meeting. Mr. Moore Seconded and all were in favor.

Item 2: Old Business

First, Mr. Stockam gave an update on progress of airport projects. Mr. Stockam stated that he hoped to have the 90% drawings for the GA entrance road project prepared for the board, but we are still ahead of the curve. He added that it may be the first of February before we have the drawings as there are some clearance issues still being ironed out.

Second, Mr. Stockam gave an update on the 18/36 design project. Senator Blunt and Josh Hawley are pushing for the funding to come in the spring according to Mr. Stockam. This will be divided into two sections, 9 million this year and 9 million next year. He added that it may be late summer since this is an election year. No grants will be issued without bids in hand, so we plan to move forward to collect bids. Mr. Stockam stated that we still plan to keep the closure time as tight as possible. We are looking at both asphalt and concrete and ways to close the gaps in time. There is a specialist advising the FAA on ways to create a timeline. We want to ask for late penalties to be high and settled on \$3000 per hour penalty to be reimbursed back to our operators so it can't be written into the contract cost. We don't want American Airlines to be out if delays happen. We don't have all the details worked out yet according to Mr. Stockam. The FAA has not approved this request and it will drive up costs for the contractor. At the very least, the contractor will have to show a backup plan to mitigate any opportunities for delays. Mr. Moore asked if we were required to accept the lowest bidder. Mr. Stockam stated that we are, or the best value based on qualifications such as redundant equipment. Mr. Stockam stated that we are on schedule to have this out for bid by April or May, but the project will not start until spring of 2021 and suspect to finish in 2022. The only closure will be for nine days in July of 2021.

Item 3: New Business

Next Mr. Stockam updated the board regarding our new budget year maintenance projects. We don't have any major projects happening. We got approval to purchase a new water cabinet for jet bridge #2 as well as an APU.

Mr. Stockam presented the board with a slide show depicting our air traffic trends over the past few years. He stated that we ended the year on a high note. He has had outstanding loads however we didn't make it to the 100,000-passenger mark by just over 1,000. We will sure surpass that next year he added. Our departures nearly doubled from 2018 to 2019 and that is showing growth. In June our numbers go up due to the new ORD flight addition but there was a drop in DFW. We are now tracking both ORD and DFW and American Airlines has adjusted their schedule. Over the last four months DFW has increased and out performed even our previous years numbers. He added that there was a spike in seat capacity in April of 2019 but there will not be that spike this year. The chart depicting load factors shows that the market is gaining traction. Ms. Starkweather asked if the cancelled flights affect our load factors. Mr. Stockam stated that they do not, our load factor is calculated on only flights that operate. Mr. O'Brian asked what the schedule looks like going forward. Mr. Stockam stated that American has pulled back capacity as they always do this time of year. We will still have two morning flights, then on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, we will only have one ORD flight. Mr. Stockam stated that in the future, we would like to see load factors near 70 to 75%. As far as American Airlines is concerned, there are no negative comments. We finally got our contractual agreements back which will retro back to July 1, 2019. He added that it took a long time get approval through the attorneys. Both counter spaces will be leased to American Airlines and changes will be coming soon. They have hired local contractors to do the work. Mr. Stockam stated that with the numbers we have had, the economic impact passed the 2-million-dollar mark by the end of December. We have processed one invoice to American Airlines for the first month and there will be another. The Chamber of Commerce is not concerned as it is an investment in the community. Mr. O'Brian and Mr. Loudermilk agreed that you see it in the numbers. Mr. Stockam added that we will probably see 120,000 passengers in 2020.

Mr. O'Brian asked how the Facebook page is going. Mr. Stockam asked Mrs. Hunter to give an update. Mrs. Hunter stated that we are unable to gain control of the unofficial Facebook page that is published by Wikipedia. We plan to attempt to grow our traffic by making continuous posts and posting a notice on the unofficial page in attempt to redirect traffic to our official page. Mr. Stockam added that we have registered our business with Google. We are now getting weekly reports of tracking web searches concerning the Joplin Regional Airport. There are almost 20,000 searches per week which is a lot of interest. Additionally, Mr. Stockam has posted some items on his professional Linked In account as well. Several board members suggested using an app called Hootsuite that helps manage social media posts. Mr. Stockam stated that the city doesn't have a social media policy and the airport will be the guinea pig.

State legislature started a new session yesterday according to Mr. Stockam. He provided a summary from the opening session. They have pre-filed the abandon aircraft and upping the hours on an antique aircraft. Currently, an antique aircraft can't be flown more than 50 hours per year. They want to change that to 200 hours per year. Mr. Moore asked how old is considered antique. Mr. Stockam stated that it may be 25 years, but he wasn't sure. In the

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Executive summary they stated that transportation funding would be a priority. Mr. Stockam and Mr. O'Brian will be attending Jefferson City next week to push for funding of MoDot. Mr. O'Brian stated that the governor is staying true to the economic development programs. They have made great strides in workforce development. Mr. Stockam stated that there is a problem with retired ATC personnel. Once they retire, they can't come back to work as a contract tower because it messes with their retirement plan. Senator Hawley and Blunt are supportive of a bill to resolve the issue. Mr. Stockam stated that Washington DC is consumed with Iraq and impeachment proceedings.

Monday is our annual FAA inspection. They have been active through the construction project, so we don't anticipate major issues. The inspection takes two days to complete. There will be an LRSAT meeting in March and a TSA inspection in April.

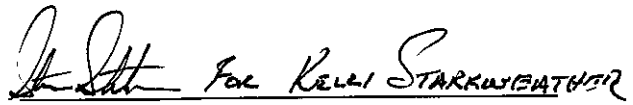
Mr. Stockam added that Victor Sly is our newest airport police officer working part time on the weekends.

Mr. O'Brian moved to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Mr. Loudermilk. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 am.

Approved,



Melissa Hunter, Airport Clerk



Kelli Starkweather, Chairman of the Board