

MINUTES OF MEETING
JOPLIN AIRPORT BOARD MEETING
January 11, 2018

The Airport Board met on the Second Floor in the Conference Room at the Joplin Regional Airport Terminal Building. The meeting was brought to order at 7:01 A.M.

Item 1:

Roll Call and Approval of Minutes from the last meeting.

Board members in attendance included Bill Harding, Maurice Clark, Richard Russell, Kelli Norris and Mel Walbridge. Mike Bentley and Tim Forker were absent. Staff in attendance included Melissa Hunter and Steve Stockam.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Harding moved to approve the minutes from December's meeting. Mr. Russell seconded. All were in favor.

Item 2: Old Business

Mr. Stockam updated the board regarding ongoing projects. He stated that we don't have any major projects this year. We are looking toward doing a future overlay or strengthening project. We are currently checking the PRN#'s and visited with Crawford Murphy and Tilly about it. We decided to move the evaluation out until after the next freeze/thaw cycle in the spring or summer of 2018. A full year will have passed at that point using the larger aircraft. We can only evaluate every three years and we will have more viable data than we have now, and it will provide us with a better outlook.

Mr. Stockam added that we are working on some maintenance projects around the airport. We had two signs bases poured yesterday and the remaining work on them may be held up today due to incoming weather. That should get finished up in the next few weeks. We may have to go to council for a budget adjustment. Finance closed some purchase orders that we had requested to remain open at the end of the fiscal year. It will not be new money, but should have been carried over from last year. He added that the GA terminal classroom is almost ready. We have ordered a pull-down projector screen and some additional round tables. Mr. Stockam stated that he is doing preliminary work to re-name the room. Ms. Norris asked how many people the classroom will hold. Mr. Stockam stated that it will hold up to 70 in a theater style and 40 in a classroom style. He added that the Regional Public Works Association is to meet and give a presentation and luncheon in the room next month. Ms. Norris suggested that we provide the room information to the Chamber of Commerce for them to print in their newsletter. Mr. Stockam stated that we plan on doing that when we release the naming of the room. Mr. Russell asked what the room fee is. Mr. Stockam stated that we plan on charging \$50.00 per day with discounts for multi days. Mr. Russell asked who is responsible for cleaning that space. Mr. Stockam replied that our staff cleans the classroom and restrooms of that building. The Alpha Air Center is responsible for the rest of the building. Mr. Harding commented that Alpha Air Center keeps their space up nicely. Mr. Clark asked where they plan on putting the pilot testing machines. Mr. Stockam answered that they may

be put in the room adjacent to the classroom for now. Ms. Norris asked if there was a chance that American Airlines could increase the plane size again. Mr. Stockam stated that they could change to a 100-passenger plane but it wasn't likely, and if so, that plane would not weigh much more than the current plane. He added that there are two casino charters coming in February. Ms. Norris commented that we need to make sure we are looking forward for what is to come. Mr. Russell asked if we are back to the larger plane since we had the smaller plane over the holiday. Mr. Stockam stated that we started back with the larger plane this week. Mr. Clark asked if black ice was an issue earlier in the week. Mr. Stockam replied that the bigger problem for us was fog.

Mr. Stockam informed the board about some repair work in Jet Bridge #2. There are two drive motors on the jet bridge which are both bad beyond repair. We have put out for quotes coming in around \$10,000.00. We will need to present that to council for approval. The possibility of another aircraft will affect our staffing needs as well, he added. We may have to do some adjustments when the final schedule arrives from American Airlines. Will it be 3 weeks, 4 weeks? We just don't know. Mr. Stockam stated that TSA will have to add another shift to service the additional evening flight and so will we. It would work out better for us if the flight came in mid-morning. We have contacted American Airlines with our concerns but we haven't gotten any response so far which is frustrating according to Mr. Stockam. Mr. Russell stated that it could be a gate issue in Dallas. Mr. Stockam agreed, but since they won't respond, we just don't know. Mr. Clark asked about when the crack seal will be complete. Mr. Stockam answered that it will be complete this spring.

Item 3: New Business

Item 4: Other Business

Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding the upcoming FAA inspection scheduled for January 23rd. He doesn't foresee any issues regarding this inspection. He added that we also had a pop up TSA inspection yesterday. Everything seems to be good from that standpoint. Mr. Harding asked if the FAA inspection would be on the grounds and not the airspace. Mr. Stockam answered yes, they will inspect the signs, runways, fueling and grounds.

Mr. Stockam presented the board with slides from the previous five years of air traffic at the Joplin Regional Airport. The first slide was our passenger count which has increased by 27% he stated. Next, he presented the passenger per departure numbers and the total jet operations. The jet operations were lower in 2016 and 2013 which Mr. Stockam stated was probably due to construction happening with runway closures. Ms. Norris asked if we have a plan to increase air traffic at the Joplin Regional Airport and if we have people asking to put larger hangars in at the airport. Mr. Stockam replied that we have had some interest at times for installing private hangars but it always seems to fall through in the end. He added that Asbell/Alpha has purchased the remaining time on the Sunflower hangar lease. Gary Hall's jet was on a buyback program. Mr. Clark asked if someone were to build a hangar, would they lease the land. Mr. Stockam replied that they would lease the land and the hangar ownership would revert to the airport after 25 years. Ms. Norris asked if we have had any progress with building new hangar buildings. Mr. Stockam stated that he has considered building public/private ownership hangars but there simply isn't enough return on investment. The existing hangars set a precedence for fees we can charge. Mr. Russell asked if there was any

chance of American Airlines building a maintenance facility. Mr. Stockam answered that they have large maintenance facility's already existing at other airports so that was not likely. The next slide was cargo which is on an upswing. Mr. Stockam stated that more pets are being sent on commercial airlines. However, with FedEx and UPS shipping overnights, the need for cargo shipments on commercial airlines has decreased. Our total operations are down slightly which was upsetting originally. People are going to bigger aircraft and consolidating their travel. You don't see as many small planes as before. CD Aviation has moved to a larger plane that would make more stops. Also, construction and weather will affect this number. Our ability to get enough active planes and additional hangars would help. The commercial travel is going up and the general aviation seems to be going down. He added that student pilots would affect this number as well. Private pilots could have avoided Joplin last year due to the runway closures and construction problems. Pittsburg was closed for 60 days last year so there was some plane shuffling going on due to that as well. Mr. Russell asked if funding was the issue with building more hangar buildings. Mr. Stockam stated that the city won't go into debt to build anything. Also, with all the storm repair going on, airplane hangars have been a very low priority. We were hoping to get state funding but Senator Ron Richards recently stated that the money simply isn't there this year. The state is short funding for our schools which would be a hard argument for hangar buildings now. Mr. Stockam stated that he would try again with our positive atmosphere and the uptick on commercial side.

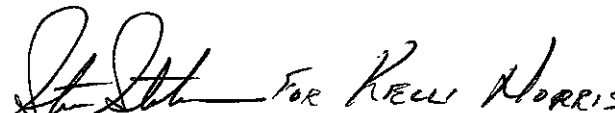
Mr. Stockam reminded the board that we will be at the Joplin Business Expo and sharing a booth with Alpha Air Center on January 23rd and 24th at the Downstream Casino. We would love to be able to inform customers about a third flight so hopefully we can get information from American Airlines before that date.

Mr. Russell asked if we are still looking toward getting an eastbound flight. Mr. Stockam stated that he will leave no stone unturned. He is talking with American Airlines as well as other carriers.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 am.
Motioned by Ms. Norris, seconded by Mr. Harding.

Approved,

Melissa Hunter, Airport Clerk


Kelli Norris, Chairman of the Board

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