MINUTES OF MEETING
JOPLIN AIRPORT BOARD MEETING
April 8, 2021

The Airport Board met in the board room at the at the Joplin Regional Airport Commercial Aviation 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 attending included Richard Russell, Mike Bentley, Fred Osborn, Bob Loudermilk, Kelli Starkweather, Rob O’Brian and Randy Moore. Staff present included Steve Stockam and Melissa Hunter. Also attending was Shannon Hoffman from Olsson Associates.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Russell voted to approve the March meeting minutes. Mr. Osborn seconded. All were in favor.

Item 2: Old Business

Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding the upcoming Reconstruction of Runway 18-36. He stated that we have a pre-construction meeting later in the morning and there it will be decided where the batch plant will be built. There are two options available, one being by the terminal building and the other being nearer the General Aviation entrance. He added that we received a notification that the last half of the grant is on its way to us from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). We have a short date to ratify grants, so we plan on having the documentation ready for City Council on April 19th. Mr. Stockam added that we will also be presenting the Crawford Murphy and Tilly (CMT) Observation Agreement and the SkyWest Operational Agreement that day as well. This will finalize the last part of the construction program. We plan to close runway 18-36 on May 6th. In the meantime, prep work including re-painting runway 13-31 will be conducted as it will be our only runway during the closure. Mr. Stockam stated that there will be no local match share for this portion of the project as it will be 100% funded and we anticipate completion of the project on October 1, 2021.

Mr. Stockam addressed a contractual agreement with the FAA regarding the navigational aids (NAVAIDS) on the airport. There are some Pilot Assisted Path Indicators (PAPI’s) that are under review as they were recently found to be located in the incorrect position. While these PAPI’s haven’t been moved in many years, any changes that were made were completed by the FAA. In that case, according to Mr. Stockam, the FAA will cover the cost of relocating them to the correct location. However, since that change is being made, the runway will need to be flight checked before it can be used through Instrument Flight Rules (IFR). That means planes must use Visual Flight Rules (VFR) until the NAVAIDS can be certified. He added that it is known to take between 1 and 90 days to get a flight check completed. We will still have full use of runway 13-31 during that time. Ms. Starkweather asked what items will not be covered by the grant in the runway project. Mr. Stockam replied that we have already paid some local match share to CMT for the construction observation agreement and there are a few roads that will be moved that will incur some additional costs. However, taking care of this during the closure is the best time for this maintenance to be performed he added. Mr. Moore asked if the NAVAIDS would be NOTAMed as out of service. Mr. Stockam stated that they would, and that means the airline will not be able to use them. Mr. Osborn asked how many yards of concrete would be
included in this project. Mr. Stockam answered that there will be over 100,000 cubic yards. Currently
the runway is 22” thick and it will be taken to 42” thick upon project completion for greater strength
and capacity.

Item 3: New Business

Next, Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding the United advertising. He explained
that we had already ordered billboard art to be created when we were notified of the third
Houston flight. We were able to halt production in some cases to have Houston included but
there will be some boards that have to be re-done or where a sticker will be added. There was
a full-page ad in the Joplin Globe last week as well as radio and television ads going through
June 1. Toby Teeter with the Joplin Chamber of Commerce will coordinate with SkyWest
regarding advertising on social media outlets. They plan on running some reverse ads in other
City’s that you can travel to Joplin from Denver, Chicago, and Houston as well. We will have a
booth at the upcoming business expo in May at the Downstream Casino. He added that tickets
were available for purchase as of Tuesday April 6th.

Mr. Stockam stated that we have not received an official schedule from American
Airline’s for the month of May. Currently, it appears like we will have one flight per day after
7:00pm in the evening. However, that was before the FAA issued a statement. We have not
received official word on what American Airlines will do.

Mr. Stockam stated that the SkyWest property folks have been in contact with the
American Airlines property folks. SkyWest is hoping to purchase a lot of the furnishings from
AA to make the move more streamlined. However, SkyWest will require new wiring to be ran
within the terminal building and they are working on completing that now. SkyWest will look to
add digital boards in several places which will require electrical to be ran. It is a logistics issue
added Mr. Stockam. We are working with SkyWest to verify the ramp parking positions and
they will begin using the administration office classroom for staff training beginning April 15th.

Mr. Russell asked if there is a chance that American Airlines will continue their route
with Dallas along with the United service. Mr. Stockam replied that there is little chance for
that at this point. Mr. Stockam added that he will continue to speak at different organizations
over the next few months to get the word out regarding the changes. He has had a mixed bag
of comments, some happy and some not. He commented that United Airlines stated they have
seen a significant uptick in interest through Joplin on their end. Our inaugural flight will
probably be the 11:00AM flight in from Chicago. We plan to have the water cannons but will
have a more subdued party inside due to COVID restrictions. The redcoats from the Chamber,
along with all the board members are invited to attend.

Mr. Stockam noted that lighting struck the building a few weeks ago and we are still
working through repairs. One of which is the HVAC system to the terminal building.

Mr. O’Brian voted to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Moore.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 am.
Approved,
Melissa Hunter, Airport Clerk

Kelli Starkweather, Chairman of the Board