

MINUTES OF MEETING
JOPLIN AIRPORT BOARD MEETING
June 11, 2020

The Airport Board met in the Second Floor Board 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, Richard Russell, Fred Osborn, Kelli Starkweather and Rob O'Brian. Randy Moore attended via phone. Mike Bentley was absent. Staff present included Steve Stockam and Melissa Hunter.

Approval of Minutes:

All were in favor of approving the minutes from May's meeting.

Item 2: Old Business

First Ms. Starkweather welcomed Mr. Osborn to the board and introductions were made.

Mr. Stockam addressed airport projects. He mentioned the grants and contracts for the **General Aviation Entrance Road Relocation Project** have been taken to council, approved and executed. He displayed a draft plan to the board depicting where the old road would be removed, and the new road would be constructed. Even though the entire intersection has been designed, we are currently only constructing everything north of the highway according to Mr. Stockam. The south side of the highway and signal would be left for a later project. The signal will be extremely important to getting trucks in and out of the training facility because there is no break in traffic from the roundabout. This is the beginning of the redevelopment of the General Aviation (GA) side of the airport making space for more T-Hangars and Commercial Development according to Mr. Stockam. Ms. Starkweather asked if the observation area would be removed. Mr. Stockam stated that they plan to leave an area available for future development of an observation park. Mr. O'Brian asked about access to the GA side of the airport during construction. Mr. Stockam replied that there will always be at least one lane open except during a possible overnight paving. In that case, access would be allowed through another way and tenants would be notified. Mr. Osborn asked about the construction timeline and contractor. Mr. Stockam replied that we plan to begin the project around July 4th and it will be a 90-day project with Hutchens construction as the contractor.

Bids were opened for the **Reconstruct Runway 18/36 Project** which came in below engineering estimates. Emery Sapp was the low bidder for both asphalt and concrete with the concrete bid being only \$600,000 more than the asphalt bid. Mr. Stockam met with the Federal Aviation Administration regarding our options, and the FAA has decided to go with concrete

which will be great for the airport he stated. Mr. Loudermilk asked if Emery Sapp had completed a similar project for another airport. Mr. Stockam replied that they have just completed a project for Cape Girardeau MO. Mr. Stockam has asked the Federal Aviation Administration to hold off on issuing the grant. There is a chance for additional funding if we wait until this fall and the project will not be starting until next year. Mr. Russell asked who would be replacing the runway lights. Mr. Stockam answered that it will be Ewing Signal as a sub-contractor. We will be one of the first airports in the area to get LED runway lighting stated Mr. Stockam.

Next Mr. Stockam spoke to the board about air service numbers. We are down to one flight per day through the end of June but in July we will jump to three flights per day. Mr. Stockam stated that advanced booking numbers are looking good with 25-30 passengers already booked per flight for the first few days of the new schedule. He added that American Airlines is concentrating on DFW, Charlotte and Los Angeles and not so much in Chicago since Covid 19. They are looking at less than 100 flights per day into Chicago versus their previous 270 per day. He added that we are projecting a recovery period of 24 to 30 months at best guess. Beginning in October, the international markets are supposed to be opening. However, they are not expecting the convention market to open until next year Mr. Stockam stated. There are areas in the northeast that are still very restrictive. Mr. Osborn stated that this will affect the real estate markets as companies discover the cost savings in employees working from home. Mr. Stockam stated that we will continue to support American Airlines in building a strong Dallas market. Mr. O'Brian commented that United Airlines had a large international market and that may be why they are now hurting from the shutdown. Mr. Stockam added that we are now running close to a 68% to 70% load factor.

Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding the CARES Act Grant funding the airport received. We plan to use the airport payroll to keep things simple. The grant should cover the airport for approximately 28 months which is 60% of the airport budget. This will help the airport be more prepared to act when American Airlines adds more flights back into the schedule. Mr. Osborn agreed that you can't put value on experience staff. Mr. Stockam stated that it costs the airport approximately \$2000 to \$2500 to put an ARFF employee through training and our police officers must be POST trained and City trained as well. Mr. Loudermilk commented that the entrance road is looking good. Mr. Stockam stated that our airport police officers have taken up mowing of the entrance road to help the operations staff. Mr. Stockam commented that our janitorial staff has done well to keep up with the additional cleaning as well.

Item 3: New Business

We started our annual budget process in April, and we have our final meeting next week with the finance department. We will not get our first revenue numbers in until July then we will have a better picture of what is going on in the community. Mr. Stockam added that most of the airport revenue is not based on number of passengers, so our overall projections will not be far off. Mr. Russell asked how the General Aviation side of the airport is doing. Mr. Stockam stated that things were picking up over there around mid-April and overall jumped back to

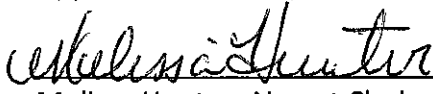
normal around May. He added that people may have found more time to fly since they were not working.

The Downtown Alliance and Chamber of Commerce is working on rebranding the City for a more cohesive look through all the city departments. Mr. Stockam stated that our airport logo is now 12 years old. While we want to be cohesive with the City, we still want to stand apart as well. Mr. Osborn commented that this will not be an inexpensive change. Mr. Stockam agreed that it will take years to evolve the old logo off vehicles etc. Mr. Stockam will bring the suggested changes to the board as they are decided.

There will be an LRSAT (Local Runway Safety Action Team) meeting held on June 24th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm in the General Aviation Community Room and the board is invited to attend. Mrs. Hunter will send an invitation via e-mail.

Mr. O'Brian voted to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Loudermilk 2nd.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:50am.

Approved,



Melissa Hunter, Airport Clerk



Kelli Starkweather, Chairman of the Board

