

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**JOPLIN AIRPORT BOARD MEETING**  
**August 12, 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 Bob Loudermilk, Kelli Starkweather, Rob O'Brian, Randy Moore and Richard Russell. Fred Osborn and Mike Bentley were absent. Staff present included Steve Stockam and Melissa Hunter. Also attending was Kris Zebert a hangar tenant.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. O' Brian voted to approve the July meeting minutes. Mr. Louderback seconded. All were in favor.

**Item 2: Old Business**

Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding the construction progress on Runway 18-36 and added that the ten-day closure went well. The runway closed at 8:06PM a few minutes late due to a ground stop delay in Denver. He added that crews and trucks were ready as soon as the plane lifted off and the tower closed the runway. They began laying base rock on Friday and ran 45 dump trucks non-stop until the rock was in place. He added that it was fortunate we only needed to go down about 30" in certain areas. The first concrete pour was on Sunday and lasted about 18 hours. They rolled 200 tons of concrete per hour which was one truck every three minutes. It was an 18" thick monolithic pour according to Mr. Stockam. Crews coordinated from Crawford, Murphy and Tilly, Allgeier Martin and Emery Sapp with workers brought in from all over the state. It was incredibly involved, he added. At the same time, they milled the old 13/31 runway and asphalted back to the intersection. Mr. Stockam stated that he was extremely impressed with Emery Sapp giving him an hourly schedule and updates every 6 hours. By Friday afternoon crews had partially seeded and painted 13/31 at the intersection beyond the safety area. The runway is now 22" higher than it was previously so dirt was brought in and staged for a grading. Mr. Stockam showed displayed photos to the board showing various stages of construction during the closure. Mr. Stockam stated that the next closure will not be an airfield closure, but a ten-day closure of Charlie taxiway to begin Monday morning. Mr. Stockam displayed a video of the first commercial plane landing on the runway since opening. Mr. Russell asked if there were any issues with planes not aware of the closure. Mr. Stockam stated that there was one local tenant who taxied out to and asked for clearance before he was told the airfield was closed. There was one other plane that flew over and asked for clearance to land which was not granted and they flew elsewhere. Mr. Stockam added that there will be one more small closure to tie in some small items. Mr. Loudermilk asked what quarry we were getting rocks from. Mr. Stockam stated that they are coming from Pryor OK, Joplin and Willard. He added that we were unable to get them all locally as we would have used all available rock in the Joplin area to do so. Mr. Stockam stated that the project is 100%

funded and will be 14.5 million once complete. That will include design, construction observation, inspections and testing as well. The closure was completed 36 hours (about 1 and a half days) ahead of schedule. Ms. Starkweather asked when the project will be fully completed. Mr. Stockam stated the ending date is November 1, but the paving should be completed by the end of September. In October they will complete painting, seeding, lighting, and grading items. Mr. Russell suggested that the press be asked to make a story once complete. Mr. Stockam stated that KOAM did a bit during the closure.

Next, Mr. Stockam told the board about other maintenance items that were happening in the terminal building during the closure. All the LED lighting was upgraded in the sterile area. Carpeting was installed on jet bridge one, car rental agencies and the FAA base building. However, it has not been completed in the sterile area or behind the ticket counters yet. The high windows were sealed, and a lot of HVAC work was completed. The chiller repair will be held off until cooler weather. Liberty began updating electrical at the GA terminal. There is a shortage of stripping paint so we will have to hold off on painting our parking areas.

Mr. Stockam spoke to the board regarding the July traffic report. With the airline only operating 2 weeks out of the month our numbers look good. He added that it is interesting to see how the airline industry has changed. In the past, the summer schedule was prepared in January and few changes were made to it after it was provided. Currently, the schedule is more fluid and receiving more modifications according to need. We recently flipped the times of the Denver and Houston flights to avoid delays from Denver afternoon storms. There are some additional flights on the schedule in September as United has planes coming available from other areas. The current schedule is good for about a month, he added. We are not hearing a lot about businesses shutting down. United expects a 10 to 15 percent drop of leisure travel and business travel to pick up after Labor Day. Looking at the holiday season, they may drop additional flights in if they are booking with good numbers and there is a need. Mr. Stockam stated that United has an aggressive fall schedule. People are not advance booking these days. Mr. Russell asked if fuel prices are affecting plane tickets. Mr. Stockam stated that they are not yet, but if it keeps going up it may. Mr. O'Brian commented that he has been hearing some positive comments from JLN travelers being happy with the United service options.

### **Item 3: New Business**

Mr. Stockam provided the board with a copy of the proposed GA terminal lease agreement with Mizzou Aviation. Mr. Adolphsen asked for a 20-year agreement in his proposal. The FAA likes everything to be broken down by 5 years so that is how it is shown on the lease. Mr. Moore asked if both Mizzou and the airport had options at the 5-year point. Mr. Stockam replied yes. Mr. O'Brian stated that the increase is \$0.02 every five years. Mr. Stockam stated that the restaurant's gross sales are written in as well. Mr. Russell asked if there was any discussion on what type of restaurant Mr. Adolphsen was seeking. Mr. Stockam replied that he does not think Mr. Adolphsen has firmed that up yet. Mr. Moore commented that he assumes Mr. Adolphsen will take a partner. Ms. Starkweather asked if Mizzou could still negotiate the lease. Mr. Stockam replied that he made some office space available to Mizzou earlier this month, but they were having COVID trouble and had not opted to move in yet. He plans to present the lease to the City Council on the first Monday in September.

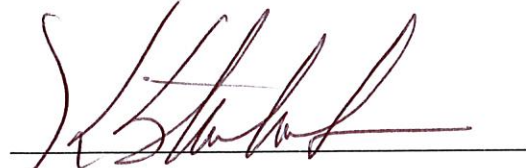
Mr. Stockam added that the current work session was held and the ADA accessibility to the GA terminal appeared to be passed through that point in the budget process.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 am.

Approved,



Melissa Hunter, Airport Clerk



Kelli Starkweather, Chairman of the Board