

MINUTES of
AIRPORT BOARD MEETING
April 14, 2010
Aurora Room, 7:00 p.m.

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Jerry Godkin called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. **ROLL CALL:**

Members Present:

Laurie Berg	David Epstein (left at	Butch Laughlin
Tamara Cook (via	7:30 p.m.)	Scott Watts
phone)	Jerry Godkin	Steve Zimmerman

Staff/CBJ Present:

Jeannie Johnson, Airport Manager	Catherine Fritz, Airport Architect
Patricia deLaBruere, Deputy Airport Mgr.	Tom Carson, Carson Dorn
John Coleman, Airport Business Mgr.	

Public Present:

Mike Wilson, Coastal Helicopters	Renda Heimbigner, R&D Rentals
Pete Carlson, AOPA/AK Airmen's	Connie DePute, General Aviation
Dave Heimbigner, R&D Rentals	Laurie Craig, Public

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Steve Zimmerman moved, Butch Laughlin seconded, the adoption of the March 10, 2010, regular monthly meeting minutes. The motion passed by unanimous consent.*

IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Laurie Berg asked to add the eagle permit topic to the beginning of New Business. *Steve Zimmerman moved, Butch Laughlin seconded, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed by unanimous consent.*

V. **INTRODUCTION:** Chair Jerry Godkin introduced John Lovett, Lead Civil Engineer for Airport Division of FAA in Anchorage. Mr. Lovett said he is in Juneau to look at the construction activity for which the FAA has issued Airport Improvement grant. He was very impressed with what the Airport is doing. He said they are looking forward to seeing the dredging of the float pond begin.

VI. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Pete Carlson, AOPA/Alaska Airmen, said that the FAA will hold an FAA Safety Seminar in the Aurora Room on Saturday at Noon. This will be a major safety and educational initiative to improve general aviation safety. It will include loss of control, surface safety, owner-performed maintenance and risk management.

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VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. **Airport Rates and Fees Regulation** (Attachment #1): At the March 10, 2010, Airport Board meeting the Board accepted the recommendation from the Finance Committee to forward the proposed Rates and Fees Regulation through the public process. The regulation was advertised on March 17, 2010, and open for the required public comment period through April 8, 2010. During the public comment period, the Airport received no public comments. With Board approval, this will be before the Assembly at their April 26 meeting. *Steve Zimmerman moved, David Epstein seconded, to continue with the regulation process and forward the proposed Airport Rates and Fees Regulation (Attachment #1) to the Assembly for consideration at their April 26, 2010, Assembly meeting, for an effective date of July 1, 2010. The motion passed by unanimous consent.*

B. **Coastal Helicopters Request for 5-Year Lease Extension** (Attachment #2): Airport Manager Jeannie Johnson said that this item was discussed at the March 31, 2010, Operations Committee meeting. This was a request from Coastal Helicopters for a five-year extension, which would take their lease through June 30, 2016. The Operations Committee discussed this at the March 31 meeting and decided to accept the recommendation of management. She noted that Mr. Wilson tried to call into the Operations Committee meeting, but because of a telephone glitch, he was not able to get through. She asked the Board to allow Mr. Wilson the opportunity to discuss this item further. Ms. Johnson said the current lease expires on June 30, 2011. If the request is granted, the lease would expire on June 30, 2016, which will include the fact that if it is necessary to move Coastal Helicopters, the Airport will pay for the move. Ms. Johnson does not believe it is in the best interest of the Airport to make that agreement and suggested extending the lease to 2013. Mike Wilson, Coastal Helicopters, said initially there was no reason given why the lease was not extended. He now understands and appreciates it being put in writing. Butch Laughlin, Operations Committee Chair, said the Committee recommended the lease extension to 2013.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

A. **Eagle Permit:** Board Member Laurie Berg said she received a call from Laurie Ferguson Craig (with a subsequent letter from Ms. Craig (Attachment #5)) and requested a report from the Airport Manager. Airport Manager Jeannie Johnson said that Garrett Savory, the USDA Wildlife Biologist, said that there were two eagles placing sticks in a tree, which would eventually end up being a nest. He felt that it would be advisable to take the sticks out of the tree. He filled out a permit application for that, she signed it and sent it to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Anchorage. Unbeknownst to Ms. Johnson, the permit was issued, but other people knew it well before she did. A call was received on Monday morning from Lamar Riddle that the sticks had been removed, at which time she asked if there was a permit. The answer was yes and it was to remove the sticks. Then telephone calls were received from Board Members about this issue.

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Ms. Johnson said that a permit application has been submitted to remove an eagle's nest, which was recommended to the Airport by the USDA Wildlife Biologist Bill Wilmoth. This application was to take a particular nest on the airport for safety reasons. This permit has not been received. It was her understanding that the Board motion was that when she got that permit, she was to bring it back to the Board for further action by the Board. She thought that the recent permit was to remove sticks, not an eagle nest. The permit has been received in the mail.

Steve Zimmerman thought it would be good if the Board would get their feet under themselves with respect to how this will be handled in the future. The Board did pass a motion that if a permit was issued, any further specific action will be brought before the Board and approved with or without modification. He suggested having a joint meeting of the Operations Committee and the Wildlife Hazards Working Group with perhaps a couple eagle experts to talk this issue out so that the Board will know how to deal with the permit if it is received. Chair Godkin said that the members need to remember that safety is first and paramount. He asked the two committee chairs to schedule the joint meeting. Laurie Berg asked to have a copy of the permit given to the Board.

Laurie Ferguson Craig said she submitted a letter (Attachment #5) to the Board. She thanked Ms. Johnson for being sure the Airport dike trail was opened. They have enjoyed it very much. She donated a book, "The Mendenhall Wetlands, a Globally Recognized Important Bird Area," to Ms. Johnson and her staff. This book shows things that are happening on the other side of the trees that she sees on a regular basis. She originally became interested in this issue in 2000 when she saw some hazing that she thought was incorrect. Birds were flying into the air because of the hazing. She started recording every walk she has taken since 2000. She has also documented what the birds have done. She assumed that the permit that was issued on Thursday was the sort of thing that the Airport Board wanted to be consulted about and she thought the community would want some sort of input about what was going to happen. She concurred with Steve Zimmerman about the joint meeting. Ms. Johnson said that when the permit is received from the first application, it will be brought before the Board before anything further is done. Board Member Tam Cook asked who removed the sticks. Ms. Johnson replied that an arborist was hired by the Airport. She said she will approve any future work by arborists at the airport.

B. Airport Manager's Report:

1. Follow Up Report on Emergency ARFF Access Road Maintenance Requirement from FAA Certification Inspection of 12/7/2009. The original deadline of April 1 to make the EVAR accessible by the largest piece of fire fighting equipment – Unit A-1 – has been extended to June 1, 2010. The Airport has been working with the Fire Department on reaching that goal. There remain

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some very tight spots on the road and the road bed is not what it needs to be. Some older informational signs are also in the way for the ARFF truck. She would like to have them refurbished and moved back.

2. New Wildlife Biologist at Juneau International Airport. The new USDA Wildlife Biologist's name is Nicholas "Nick" Borchert and he should be on the job on April 26. He did the wildlife hazard assessments at Dutch Harbor/Unalaska, King Salmon and Naknek. He has worked at Anchorage International Airport, Elmendorf Air Force Base, as well as Colorado, Oregon and Idaho. He brings a good background to the airport. We look forward to having him on board.

3. Spring Clean up of Airport. The Terminal Maintenance people are trying to get the sand away from the building and talking to people about items stored next to the building.

4. Capstone (ADSB) in Some Field Maintenance Vehicles. ADSB is Automatic Dependent Surveillance Broadcast. Five ADSB units have been installed in the Field Maintenance vehicles. These units tell where things are on the ground on a runway. Juneau and Philadelphia are the only two sites in the United States that were chosen. The data will be entered into a national report. This is another example of the challenges that are faced in Juneau. A lot of aircraft are already equipped with ADSB.

5. Tom Carson has been very busy and does an excellent job covering all of the bases. It is really appreciated.

6. Engineer's Report (Attachment #3). Tom Carson reported that the majority of the month was focused with activities on the west end. The contractor wanted to have the perimeter dike wall complete so that when the dredge arrives, there is some place to put the material. The secondary reason is to have the EVAR completed. The new EVAR is available for trail walking with great views. As part of that, the contractor was also excavating the flood plane and the stream bed for the new Duck Creek location. There was a large quantity of unsuitable material in the excavation and it was placed on the outside of the dike wall. That work is basically complete. The Duck Creek streambed is being worked on now.

The heavy equipment has been moved to the east end. The Maplesden Way has been realigned so that it is straight. As part of that work, the water, power and communications are being relocated into the new Maplesden Way. It is now basically at grade and will be paved. The utilities will then be extended out to the new ASOS facility. In an effort to minimize truck traffic along the float plane

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pond, a haul road was built across the northeast development area. This road will support fully loaded 20-yard trucks. Miller Construction is focusing on hauling rock five days a week for 12 hours a day. This will continue until June 5, if necessary. Relocation of a slough will take the flow from the north side of the runway, between the runway and Miller's Pond, to Sunny Point. The RSA will be extended and the current slough will be filled. Work on the southeast lateral RSA extension has begun. This will widen the runway on the south side from the pond to the end of the extended runway. Hauling of rock will continue in the Fall.

7. Architect's Report (Attachment #4). Ms. Johnson said Catherine Fritz has kept the terminal project together. TSA's baggage screening needs to go down and so this will mean hand screening by moving it into the lobby. Under Ms. Fritz recommendation, the schedule was delayed due to the end of the Legislature.

Ms. Fritz noted that there are only six months left. She has been working on the project for 3+ years. It is now moving fast. It is going smoothly overall. There is a very clear procedural process for making changes and people are abiding by it. There is a lot of teamwork. The contractors are doing a good job. Half of the heat pumps are operating. The structural steel is about done. There have been complicating factors, such as the steel manufacturer going out of business. The structural engineer is now looking at a different way to frame up the large vestibule at the main entry because the last two columns will take a major effort to bring to the site. The bag claim device is operating. The plaster ceiling is 80% complete. The toilet rooms on the second floor will open on Friday, which means the existing toilet rooms will close. The JCVB area will be occupied by the end of the month, as will the escalator and the stairway.

The two items that will require cooperation from both Airport staff and the public is the TSA bag screening room. The bags will be taken to the TSA by the passenger beginning sometime between April 26 and April 28. The second area is the exit lane closure that takes you out of the secured area. The exit lane will be demolished and relocated in a different place eventually. In the meantime, it will be in a temporary location with temporary staff working part-time. This will begin on April 26 for eight to ten weeks. The Art Committee will be meeting on April 26 for a final concept review of the artists sculpture design. The advertising RFP has been received and it is being evaluated.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. **Finance Committee:** Ms. deLaBruere said that the Assembly Finance Committee will have the Airport do their presentation on Wednesday, April 28, starting at 5:30 p.m. This included a request for \$164,000 in marine passenger fees. Ms. Johnson said there is

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one Assembly member that is not happy with the Airport receiving the marine passenger fees. She will contact this person to discuss it further.

B. **Operations Committee:** Operations Committee Chair Butch Laughlin said that the Committee discussed Coastal Helicopters' lease. Tom Carson and others discussed the new haul road.

XI. **ASSEMBLY LIAISON COMMENTS:** None.

XII. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

XIII. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** None.

XIV. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Jeannie Johnson announced that the next Board meeting would be picture night for Board members. She thanked John Lovett for all of his help. He has helped the Airport out a lot.

XV. **TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next regular Airport Board meeting will be held on May 12, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aurora Room.

XVI. **ADJOURN:** *Butch Laughlin moved, Steve Zimmerman seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:15 p.m.*