

MINUTES of
AIRPORT BOARD MEETING
October 13, 2010
Aurora Room, 7:00 p.m.

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Jerry Godkin called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. **ROLL CALL:**

Members Present:

Laurie Berg	David Epstein	Scott Watts
Tam Cook*	Jerry Godkin	Steve Zimmerman
*By Telephone	Butch Laughlin	

Staff/CBJ Present:

Jeannie Johnson, Airport Manager	Tom Carson, Carson Dorn
Patty deLaBruere, Deputy Airport Mgr.	Merrill Sanford, CBJ Assembly
Pam Chapin, Admin. Assistant	Keith Walker, CCF/R
Jean Conneen, Airport Architect	

Public Present:

Scott Frickey, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Svc.	Nick Borchert, Wildlife Services
Larry DePute, General Aviation	Bob Jacobsen, Wings Airways
Laurie Craig, Public	Mike Wilson, Coastal Helicopters

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Steve Zimmerman moved, Butch Laughlin seconded, the adoption of the September 8, 2010, regular monthly meeting minutes. The motion passed by unanimous consent.*

IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Airport Manager Jeannie Johnson said that Item A under Unfinished Business, the Eagle Nest Permit was received earlier in the day and the expiration date seems problematic. She asked that action be deferred until the November meeting. *Steve Zimmerman moved, David Epstein seconded, to approve the agenda as noted. The motion passed by unanimous consent.*

V. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

VI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. **USFWS Eagle Nest Permit** (Attachment #1): A copy of the (Attachment #4) was received earlier in the day. A meeting with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) personnel, Airport Board Chair Jerry Godkin, JNU USDA Wildlife Biologist Nick Borchert, and Airport Manager Jeannie Johnson was held on September 28. As a result of this meeting, there will be no mitigation requirement. It is the desire of USFWS to have the ability to study the results of elimination of the nesting site. USFWS has suggested tagging one of the eagles of this pair so their movement can be tracked. JNU is in agreement with the value of having this data and has agreed to cooperate with USFWS by

AIRPORT BOARD MEETING

October 13, 2010

Page 2

providing them access to the Airport, making data collected by the JNU USDA Wildlife Biologist available to USFWS, as well as USDA Wildlife Biologist's time to assist. The Airport Manager has also agreed to work toward securing funding from various entities.

USDA Wildlife Biologist Nick Borchert said discussions have occurred with the Wildlife Hazards Working Group (WHWG), Ms. Johnson, other members of the USDA Wildlife group, and everyone is in agreement to tag the pair of eagles and monitor them by satellite. The study design is in its infant stage. The ultimate question is not whether to take the nest, but when to take it. The expiration date of the permit (March 31, 2011) is problematic, as tagging will require the pair to be present on the nest. The nest would then be removed once the pair is captured and tagged. The expiration date is in the middle of nesting season and a request has been made to adjust the date.

Laurie Craig said the pair of eagles are in the area all the time. They are not sitting on the nest. She will be happy to provide a drawing of their territory. Their night roost is unknown. She said it is remarkable that no other birds have tried to nest to the east of this pair. She noted she is opposed to disturbing the birds and thought there might be more creative ways to keep them from being a hazard.

The Wildlife Hazards Working Group (WHWG) Chair Steve Zimmerman said the group could not come up with a consensus. The question that was asked was, "Is it safer to have a territorial and habituated pair of eagles in the area or is safer to have no eagles at all?" This question has not been answered. The group was in support of gathering data if the permit was issued and acted upon. One idea was that everyone should cooperate on a study with three elements: an evaluation of the nesting population around the area, tagging with satellite transmitters on the nesting pair (or at least one of the pair), and a control group of a pair of birds that would have a patch on their forewing to track an undisturbed pair.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. **Airport Board Mini Retreat:** Chair Jerry Godkin said this item is brought before the Board for discussion at the November meeting. If the group does not think it is needed, that will work, too.

B. **Airport Manager's Report:**

1. Alaska Aviation System Plan Economic Study: Alaska DOT has funded an economic impact study of 11 airports in Alaska. Nine of those airports are DOT airports and DOT chose two municipal airports – Juneau and Wasilla. This will be a great opportunity for the airport to have some hard data about what kind of an economic generator it really is. This is being done by a company called Northern Economics. A questionnaire will be sent to the Airport's business leaseholders

AIRPORT BOARD MEETING

October 13, 2010

Page 3

with a letter from DOT and Ms. Johnson. This study will be done between now and April. Northern Economics has volunteered to do a presentation to the Board or community at the end of the study. She thanked Becky Cronkhite with DOT who ensured JNU was included.

2. Republic Parking Awarded Parking Lot Concession: Republic Parking was awarded the parking lot concession and will begin November 1. This was awarded through an RFP process. She thanked Pak's for the good job they have done for the Airport. She noted that Republic had the concession before Pak. Republic also manages Anchorage and Fairbanks.

3. SREF Design Review Meeting, October 27, Requesting Special Airport Board Meeting: There will be a design review of the Snow Removal Equipment Facility on Wednesday, October 27, in the new community room. It has been requested that an Airport Board meeting be held at the end of the process. This will be a great opportunity to have the designers in Juneau, for the Board to have an opportunity to listen and for them to get the Board's feedback. Steve Zimmerman, Laurie Berg, and Jerry Godkin noted they will be out of town.

4. Update on Airport Special Projects Officer Position: Sixty-four applications were received for this position. There are quite a few from out of town. As a result of Ms. Berg's questions at the last meeting, the range of the position was reviewed and found that it was in error. It is now at Range 16.

5. Wheels Rolling Emergency Drill, September 18, 2010: Ms. Johnson thanked Patty deLaBruere for all of the work she did on this drill. She said that the drill was a success. It was Ms. Johnson's first live drill, but she learned that the agencies (Fire, Police, Red Cross, volunteer agencies) really know what they are doing. Deputy Airport Manager Patty deLaBruere said staff members and Board members participated and volunteered time to this drill. Between 150 and 200 people participated in the event, including responders and participants. Everyone learned a lot. She thanked everyone for their help in the drill and during the planning meetings.

6. Annual Snow Operations and Safety Meeting, November 2, 2010: Ms. deLaBruere said this meeting is to train the seasonal operators in radio operations, procedures on the runway for day and night operations, Tower operations, Flight Service, and Alaska Airlines. This gets everyone together to retrain once a year. This will also discuss the Matrix reports and includes information on security at the airport.

AIRPORT BOARD MEETING

October 13, 2010

Page 4

7. Airport Engineer Report (Attachment #2): Tom Carson reported that the contractor operated a successful dredge operation from the west end of the pond to the west end RSA and some to the northwest area (although most of this material was moved by mobile end-dump trucks). Around the end of September, the contractor started reorienting the operation for sending dredge material to the northeast development area. The contractor delivered 8,200 yards of dredge material to the west end and 3,300 yards to the northwest development area. They also delivered approximately 20,000 mechanically excavated and trucked material. The majority of this material went to the southeast RSA.

North Pacific Erectors was on the site to assemble a three-piece galvanized pedestrian bridge into a single bridge and set it into place. The bridge will go into operation this week. Duck Creek is scheduled to begin to flow again on October 14.

The Airport is working with the FAA to make sure the temporary above-ground electrical cable to the RVR will be made permanent. All work in the northeast area and anything associated with the new ASOS will be done and permanent before the snow flies.

As of the end of September, the contractor has received \$12.5 million out of the \$28.6 million contract, which is 42% of the contract and represents almost a 12% increase. Getting the trucks to haul material has been a good improvement. There have been eight change orders to date.

During September, staff heard that AIC had committed to use B70 trucks and a 385 CAT excavator to finish the job. Airport Manager Johnson said that they told AIC that the project was bid as a dredge operation. Other people had also bid this job. She was concerned that if the City just stood back and let this go ahead, it might put the City at some risk. Therefore, she negotiated change order eight as an almost \$.5 million credit to allow the mechanical piece to go forward.

AIC has been given permission to steepen the first 1,000 feet of the west end and the entire west finger, which reduced change order number five. Mr. Carson noted that the superintendent with AIC has been replaced. AIC would like to use the excavator around the edge of the pond to steepen the sides. In order to do that, AIC has proposed lowering the pond by five feet, which will make it easier for the excavator to operate. There is a series of criteria AIC needs to meet before the pond may be lowered. More discussions will be held before this will occur.

AIRPORT BOARD MEETING

October 13, 2010

Page 5

Assembly Member Merrill Sanford pointed out that the Airport could be paying \$475,000 more to AIC. He thanked Ms. Johnson for staying on top of it and getting a credit.

8. Airport Architect Report (Attachment #3): Jeannie Conneen, Engineer and Architect Assistant, said a lot of progress has been made during the last month. The largest part of the changes was moving TSA screening into their new space. The glazing (windows) in this area will be installed within the next couple of weeks. The rental car parking lot has been paved and scribed. The contractor has requested use of the area until the end of the contract. Substantial completion is scheduled for October 21, but may be pushed to October 25. Replacement carpet has arrived, along with an additional 4,000 square feet of carpet bonus. This may be enough to cover the area in front of the Alaska Airlines ticket counter. Alaska Airlines will be upgrading their counters to the new two-step process. The new ceiling for the departure lounge has been ordered and should arrive in mid-November. The departure lounge exit lane should be open tomorrow.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. **Wildlife Hazards Working Group:** Committee Chair Steve Zimmerman said the last meeting was held September 22 and the next meeting needs to be held sometime between November 11 and December 17. Four issues were covered: a report by Nick Borchert on wildlife hazing activities; an update on where the eagle nest permit is at; a discussion on how to design the study to determine the effects of nest removal; and an update and discussion on the revegetation that will go on around the airport when the RSA project is done.

Mr. Zimmerman said the report on wildlife hazing activities ranged from May 1 through September 15. The number of hazing events were by species guilds. Along with other statistics, it was noted that the new road around the float pond is beneficial because hazing efforts can now be done closer than before. The construction work has made the entire area less attractive to birds. Tower attractants have been removed. The landing lights to the west of the runway continue to be a problem. It has been suggested that anti-perching devices should be installed. Tom Carson noted that he held a meeting with Jim Marcey with the FAA to discuss this issue.

During the report by Mr. Borchert, it was noted that the construction noise has not affected the eagles or the chick. On May 27, the eagles changed their posture, which probably indicated the egg had hatched and by August 20, the bird was out of the nest, with the last sighting on August 24.

AIRPORT BOARD MEETING

October 13, 2010

Page 6

When the eagle nest removal permit was discussed at this meeting, mitigation was an item yet to be decided. Scott Frickey said that D.C. has said they will be very lenient with airports as far as mitigation because they do not want to put peoples lives at risk. In discussing the eagle study, Scott Frickey said it is not known what will happen when the eagles are moved out and that is part of this study.

It was also noted at the meeting that Mr. Borchert has two Chesapeake dogs that help with bird harassment.

B. **Operations Committee:** None.

C. **Finance Committee:** None.

IX. **ASSEMBLY LIAISON COMMENTS:** Assembly Liaison Merrill Sanford said the Assembly Public Works Committee finalized and passed the Board's proposal for the \$2,300,000 grant, with one more Assembly meeting before it is fully approved.

X. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

XI. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

A. David Epstein said he will need to call into the Board meeting for the next two meetings.

B. Chair Jerry Godkin thanked Patty deLaBruere, Jerry Mahle and all the agencies that participated in the wheels rolling exercise. He said it is a big undertaking, with a lot of planning ahead of time and post exercise. Mr. Wahto from FAA Anchorage attended the post meeting and thought it was a successful event. Chair Godkin thanked all participants.

XII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None.

XIII. **TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:**

A. A special Airport Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 27, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the new Airport community room on the second floor.

B. The next regular Airport Board meeting will be held on November 10, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aurora Room.

XIV. **ADJOURN:** *Butch Laughlin moved, Steve Zimmerman seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:30 p.m.*