

MINUTES of  
AIRPORT BOARD MEETING  
June 6, 2013  
Alaska Room, 6:00 p.m.

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Jerry Godkin called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. **ROLL CALL:**

Members Present:

David Epstein	Butch Laughlin	Ron Swanson
Jerry Godkin	Mal Menzies	Steve Zimmerman
Joe Heueisen*		*via phone

Staff/CBJ Present:

Patty deLaBruere, Airport Manager	Marc Cheatham, Airport Spec. Proj. Officer
John Coleman, Airport Business Mgr.	Weylin L. Riddle, Airport Sr. Equip. Op.
Ken Nichols, Airport Engineer	Mark Lykins, Airport Sr. Equip. Operator
Pam Chapin, Administrative Assistant	Robert Dilg, Airport Maint. Mech. III
Ralph Sanford, Airfield Safety Officer	Walter Sinclair, Airport Bldg. Maint. Tech.
Brennon Thomas, Airport Laborer	Clesson S. Napiha'a, Airport Custodian
Joe Olson, Airport Laborer	Keith Walker, CCF/R
Zach Riste, Airport Equipment Operator	

Public Present:

Patricia Hampton, Public	Morgan Nichols, Public
Tom Chapin, Public	Ken Nestler, Tenant
Matthew Shaw, Alaska Airlines	Brad Jacobson, JDA
Ella Rogers, Glacier Restaurant	

III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** No changes were made to the agenda.

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. **Airport Manager Discussion:** *David Epstein moved, Steve Zimmerman seconded, hiring Patty deLaBruere as the new Airport Manager at Juneau International Airport. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.* Chair Godkin said the hiring process has been nice and short. He thought with the 15 years of experience, the Board need not look any further than they did from within. He said there are a lot of the people at the meeting that are very supportive of the Board's position to do that. He said Ms. deLaBruere is everything they've ever wanted and they look forward to a long lasting relationship. He thanked Patty for all she has done and what she continues to do. This will be a good adventure. He said that Ms. deLaBruere is one to research things and look at the big picture and get staff involved and buy-in from everyone. She has already been very communicative. Board Member Butch Laughlin asked how Ms. deLaBruere will delegate

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her other duties, like TSA. Ms. deLaBruere said there are still issues to work out with that. She noted that both John Coleman and Marc Cheatham have been working on not only badging but also the regulatory items, as well. She will sit down with staff to find out what the best approach is for that. She thanked everyone for their support.

**B. Wildlife Hazards Working Group Discussion:** Chair Godkin said that this item will be discussed at next week's meeting, but Mr. Zimmerman will not be at that meeting. He gave Mr. Zimmerman an opportunity to give an overview of the committee and his successes with it. Then the Board can decide at next week's meeting what the Board's desires are with the Wildlife Hazards Working Group (WHWG). Board Member Steve Zimmerman said the WHWG is an advisory group to the Airport Board. The chair of the WHWG is a member of the Airport Board and then there are five people appointed by the Board to be the actual group that provides the advice. He said that so far some of Juneau's finest naturalists – Bob Armstrong and Richard Carstensen, Frank Rue, Jack Hodges, Laurie Craig – who have a lot of experience at the airport look at it from a little different point of view than a tenant or pilot might. There is also a pilot in the group – Eric Eriksen – who provides some balance to the group. This group provides a good community interface. It is a good discussion group for some public concerns. Mr. Zimmerman said that Mr. Godkin had suggested one of the five remaining WHWG members appoint a point-person among themselves to interact with the Board as the group continues. Frank Rue was elected by the attending four members. He said Mr. Rue is tentatively positive about being the point person.

A lot of issues have been covered, including the design of the fingers on the float plane pond, concerns with geese flying across the runway during hunting season, issues regarding seagulls and eagles, how to deal with Duck Creek and keeping the salmon carcasses from piling up there. Some insightful comments have come from the members. A report is given by Nick Borchert at every meeting. Last year there were only two bird strikes at the airport. He thought the hazards program run by Mr. Borchert is running well. They know where the birds will be. This year there are a lot of eagles and geese, particularly geese because it is so cold in the interior.

Chair Godkin asked if the current members that are serving are willing to continue to serve. He asked if the Board would have a hard time soliciting a new member. Mr. Zimmerman said that Frank Rue as a point person is a good choice. He said Bob Armstrong did say that he would be resigning soon. The rest of the group is happy to stay. He thought Mr. Rue probably knows people that might be appointed to the membership. The group provides a good community interface and there are members of the community that are good biologists and researchers who spend a lot of time on the wetlands. He thought the Board would be able to find one of those people.

Board Member David Epstein asked Mr. Zimmerman if it would be bad if the group was disbanded. Mr. Zimmerman said the group has 20 to 30 years of experience and they have seen it all. They provide good advice when situations come up. He thought it was good

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scientifically and to provide a good fundamental biological basis for decision making. He thought a lot would be lost in terms of community interaction. The amount of information that the group can provide is irreplaceable.

Board Member Ron Swanson said he was Chair of the Board when the committee was formed and he appointed the members. He still supports it. He thought any advice they could get is often helpful. The Board does not have to agree with it, but it is helpful. Some of the things the Board might do might turn out to be a bad idea and the group would know why.

Chair Godkin asked the Airport Manager to put this on next week's meeting agenda under Unfinished Business.

VI. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

VII. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

A. Joe Heuseisen commended Steve Zimmerman on a great job. The Board will miss him. He also extended the same to Butch Laughlin.

B. Ron Swanson asked about the applicants for the Airport Board. Chair Godkin said there are about four or five applicants on the list. Assembly Member Jesse Kiehl had called Mr. Godkin to ask if there could be two separate meetings as there had been so many applications for Docks & Harbors. He thought this had been rescheduled for the first week in July for the Airport Board applicants.

C. Mal Menzies said that people had talked to him about the bird bath on the walkway that is on the east end of the terminal building going into public parking. He suggested chaining off the walkway and opening up the next chain or the chain to the east as the walkway. This would be a simple solution to keep people's feet dry.

D. Chair Godkin thanked Mr. Zimmerman and Mr. Laughlin for their time served to the City & Borough and to the Juneau Airport Board, to the tenants and the users of the airport. It has been much appreciated for him to work with both of them and he hates to see them go. The Board hasn't always had a lot of applicants and has had to beat the bush to get applicants in the past. He thanked them both.

E. Steve Zimmerman said it had been an honor and a privilege to serve with the group. It has worked well and is a congenial group that deals with some tough issues. He said he would look back on this as one of the highlights of his life in Juneau.

F. Butch Laughlin said he had been glad to be involved in the last six years of the Runway Safety Area (RSA) project and the terminal remodel. He said it had been a thrill to be involved. He said he had operated/flown off the airport since 1984. He appreciated being on the Board. He has too many things going on now and his life is moving in a

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different direction. He felt if he could not be at every meeting, he should not be on the Board. Calling in is good but he felt a person needed to be at the meeting with all of the facts. He said he enjoyed Mr. Godkin's leadership and working with everyone on the Board and with Patty and the crew.

G. Mr. Zimmerman said if a quorum was needed for the July meeting, he may be available. Mr. Laughlin said he, too, would be available for the July meeting. Ms. deLaBruere said that in the past, a person serves on the Board until a replacement has been appointed. Mr. Laughlin said he would call in for the July meeting.

VIII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None.

IX. **TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next regular Airport Board meeting will be held on June 12, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. in the Alaska Room.

X. **EXEUTIVE SESSION:** None.

XI. **ADJOURN:** *Butch Laughlin moved, Steve Zimmerman seconded, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:32 p.m.*