

MINUTES OF MEETING
JOPLIN AIRPORT BOARD MEETING
March 11, 2021

The Airport Board met in the board room at the at the Joplin Regional Airport General Aviation Terminal Building. The meeting was brought to order at 6:58 A.M.

Item 1: Roll Call and Approval of Minutes from the last meeting.

Board members attending included Richard Russell, Mike Bentley, Fred Osborn, Bob Loudermilk, and Kelli Starkweather. Rob O'Brian and Randy Moore were absent. Staff present included Steve Stockam, Melissa Hunter, Lynden Lawson, and Brent Williams. Also attending was Brian Jones of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), Darryl Coit, Darlene Coit, Dianne Herman, and Steve Murray of the Freedom of Flight Museum, as well as Marcia Rulla, Paula Sill, Glenn Piacentini, Jason Flynn, Chad Johnson, and Gabe Mefford of Mizzou Aviation.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Russell voted to approve the January meeting minutes. Mr. Loudermilk seconded. All were in favor.

Item 2: Old Business

Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding the Reconstruction of Runway 18/36 which will begin in 60 days. That runway will be closed beginning May 6th for construction. Emery Sapp Inc. will install a mobile batch plant onsite which is being moved from Cape Girardeau to Joplin. They will also begin staging rock and gravel. On site staging will be by the main Commercial Terminal and on the South end according to Mr. Stockam. Mr. Stockam attended a zoom meeting with the Federal Aviation Administration regarding the second half of the construction grant which is expected to be fully funded in the amount of \$7 million dollars. Congress passed the bill yesterday and it should be signed by the President at the end of the week. Mr. Stockam stated that we should have plenty of time for the contractor to begin construction. We plan to hold the pre-construction meeting on April 8th in the General Aviation terminal at 10 AM. Mr. Stockam stated that we plan to close the airport for construction on July 23rd through August 2nd, but the airfield and airspace will remain active. He added that hospitals and military may still use the airport for helicopters, and there will be designated a place for landing and takeoffs. Mr. Bentley asked if the airport will be open for fuel operations. Mr. Stockam replied yes, we would be open for fuel but not for fixed wing activity. Mr. Russell asked if Emery Sapp would be completing the lighting for the construction project. Mr. Stockam replied that it would be a subcontractor. He added that we just finished the installation of the new LED ramp lights this week. The tower and pilots have checked the lights and agree that they appear to be aimed correctly.

Mr. Stockam informed the board about the Cares grant received previously in the amount of \$1.64 million to cover airport staffing. We expect to receive an additional grant in the same match of funding to have continued staff coverage for the next 48 months and some car rental agency assistance as well. He added that this will bridge the gap while we fully recover from Covid. The Cares grant will come in two sections he explained. The first to be received on April 5th and the 2nd to be issued thereafter. Mr. Stockam added that we did receive some damage from frozen pipes during the frost several weeks ago. There was minor damage to the T- hangars and the Commercial Terminal as well. The rest of the maintenance occurring around the airport is scheduled. Mr. Russell asked if the budget

would remain the same or if it will be cut due to the Cares grant. Mr. Stockam stated yes, it is a reimbursable grant which may affect the transportation sales tax fund. The airport will use less of the transportation sales tax funding which will leave more for other public works departments.

Mr. Stockam stated that the Department of Transportation made the announcement last week regarding airline service with it being awarded to SkyWest Airlines. Mr. Stockam has joined meetings with the Department of Transportation and SkyWest over the past week and the schedule is being prepared through United. An evaluation was done concerning where passengers are generated from according to Mr. Stockam. He stated that the eastbound passengers are 60% locally generated. It was decided the Chicago flight will be the early morning flight and return late in the evening. It was then decided that the afternoon midday turn flight would be to Denver around 1:00 PM or 2:00 PM. Mr. Stockam added that these hubs still have strange schedules due to Covid.

Mr. Stockam added that a third hub is already being discussed. They are looking for a Houston connection later this summer. We don't have a firm commitment yet, but a lot of discussion has been made. Mid to end of next week we will begin promoting and driving people to our website for booking through United and most of the ads are set for April 1st. The Department of Transportation (DOT) will extend the current hold order through the end of May to American Airlines. It is currently to expire at the end of this month. Mr. Stockam added that the DOT will be paying American Airlines for flights beginning December through the current date. Mr. Piacentini asked how many flights there will be with the new contract. Mr. Stockam replied there will be two per day same as before.

Item 3: New Business

Mr. Stockam stated that the FBO space will be made available through a request for bid procedure. The Alpha Air Center closed on January 1st and there are two classrooms on one side of the building that are still being used by the Health Department for Covid tracing. The Health Department plans on needing the space until the end of May. Mr. Stockam added that the Civil Air Patrol and the Freedom of Flight Museum both maintain space in the building as well. He added that it is his goal to get the Civil Air Patrol storage for an airplane that will be moved here from Springfield. Mr. Stockam commented that when we put the request for bids together, we will try to carve out space for these entities. He stated that they don't provide revenue, but they provide value because of their presence. Next, we heard from Darryl Coit of the Freedom of Flight Museum. He introduced his team members. He stated that during the shutdown from Covid beginning in April of 2020, the museum was closed and the 5K on the runway was cancelled. That reduced a lot of their funding they normally rely on for the museum. Despite that, Mr. Coit commented that they have put in more displays this year and they plan to have people in for tours beginning in May. Mr. Coit added that they went virtual for a while with segments offered on zoom that were prepared for teachers use at their discretion. Mr. Stockam added that all the artwork in the General Aviation classroom, across the hall and downstairs was put together by the Freedom of Flight Museum folks. Mr. Coit added that they are still wanting to make a 'people of note' wall on the General Aviation classroom west side wall. He has provided packets with information sheets brochures and business cards to all the board members.

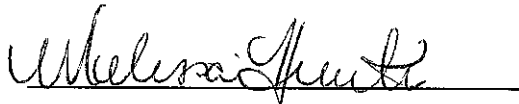
Next Mr. Brian Jones spoke on behalf of the Civil Air Patrol. He stated that the Civil Air Patrol is all volunteers and they would like to thank the board and the City of Joplin for their support. He added that he will represent Bob Cole, the squadron commander while he's speaking. People are moving into in the aviation community because of Covid. He said they currently have 10 on-boarding pilots currently. He would like to have the opportunity to represent Joplin in aerospace education. Mr. Stockam added that the Civil Air Patrol has a plane in Springfield, and they are considering bringing that to Joplin. Mizzou Aviation's pilot training program is growing, and the Civil Air Patrols plane would help them as well. Mr. Loudermilk asked if the plane was a 172 or a 182. Mr. Jones replied that both planes are a possibility, he added that the more pilots that are recruited into the program the better. Mr. Stockam stated that the drone program is growing tremendously as well. Mr. Jones stated that he works with Missouri Southern and offers drone courses. Drones are the next generation of aviation he stated. He added that there are two million registered unmanned systems in the United States. A huge majority of that number are private drones. All of those drones are sharing airspace and it is getting more and more populated according to Mr. Jones. Mr. Stockam noted that we had a drone crash on the airport last week. This is an issue we cannot ignore. We will need to make sure we meet the needs as they come. Mr. Stockam added that the Civil Air Patrol has their space in the basement and would like to establish an office space on the 1st floor to help establish the unit. He hopes to carve out some space for an office. Mr. Stockam plans on publishing a request for bidders in April allowing 60 days for publishing and 21 days response time. He hopes to have bids in by June 1st. Mr. Stockam added that the first truck of equipment is coming in today from SkyWest and they will be using the old Alpha space for storage and staging.

Mr. Piacentini questioned that Mizzou Aviation submitted a proposal to Mr. Stockam and asked if he would need to resend that proposal. Mr. Stockam stated that that proposal would be kept in confidence and that Mizzou and can resubmit when the request for bidders is published. Mr. Piacentini introduced Paula Sill as the new office manager and Marsha Rulla as the new Mizzou accountant.

Mr. Moore voted to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Bentley.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 am.

Approved,



Melissa Hunter, Airport Clerk



Kelli Starkweather, Chairman of the Board