

MINUTES
AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
Wednesday, March 18, 2009
Fire Station 6, EMS Division, 2742 25th Street SE
6:00 PM

| Members Present | Members Absent | Guests |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Tim Hay | Mark Renaud | Ron Peters |
| Jim Harr | | Dennis Thompson |
| Kindra Jordan | | Ron Sterba |
| James Nafziger | | Jim Wall |
| Lt. Col. Todd Farmer | Staff Present | |
| Mary Ann Lebold | Alan Alexander | |
| | Kathy Sime | |
| | | |
| | Air Traffic Control Staff | |
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1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tim Hay called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Tim Hay – Here
 Mark Renaud – Absent
 Lt. Col. Todd Farmer – Here
 Kindra Jordan - Here
 Mary Ann Lebold - Here
 Jim Harr – Here
 James Nafziger – Here

The AAC welcomed Lt. Col Todd Farmer back from Iraq.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

James Nafziger **made a Motion** to approve the February 18, 2009 Minutes. Kindra Jordan **seconded the Motion** and the **Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

4. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

Ron Sterba stated that he met with Alan regarding drainage ditches and stimulus money. Ron asked if the Airport would receive any of the stimulus funding. Alan stated that the airport will not receive any funding from the proposed stimulus. The FAA did

not receive as much as they had hoped and all projects had to be “shovel ready”. Our project that was “shovel ready” was already set for entitlement funding and the stimulus funding can not replace entitlement funding.

Ron stated that a group of volunteers wants to paint “SALEM” on the ramp. Alan stated that our FAA inspector stated that we cannot have “non-standard” lettering on the taxiways and that particular area overlaps the taxiway. Alan stated that maintenance staff has tried removing the existing faded lettering and the area where the current lettering is due for crack sealing.

Ron Peters stated he appreciated the AAC in taking on the private fuel tank issues. Ron stated that there is “co-oping” of fueling on the airfield. Ron stated that the FBO works hard to bring good service to the airport. Tim stated that the commission needs to discuss this issue regarding co-oping of fuel tanks. Tim stated that he would like more information on the subject regarding other airports and their procedures. Tim asked Ron and Alan to research the issue. Alan stated that he did talk to the FAA about this issue and the FAA does not prohibit it nor do they accept it. They stay neutral on the issue. Alan stated that it is not a “wide practice” and it was addressed in the previous task force. Alan stated that this is the first experience he has had with this issue and he will do some research.

Jim Wall stated that he understood that there was stimulus money available regarding underground storage tanks. Alan stated that the project was for dealing with leaking tanks and as far as he is aware, there are no leaking tanks on the airfield and that would be something covered by DEQ.

5. REPORTS

a. Tower Chief Report

Cindy Ford was not available. Alan Alexander gave the following report: Traffic count for February 2009 was 3491 a decrease of 1734 operations under February 2008. Total 12 running month total through February 2009 was 52731. The busy day was 267 operations. Alan stated that February 2008 was the last month that Silver State had a presence in Salem so the traffic count will begin to even out with fewer decreasing total operations. Alan stated that Leading Edge and Graham Aviation have helped with the total operations but the operations are now normal. Leading Edge does not do a lot of training and is concentrating on commercial operations for the Salem area. James Nafziger asked what the effect of lower operations would have for funding. Alan stated that the operations do not have an effect on our funding, but it possibly could have an effect on the control tower operations. Alan stated that if the total operations stay above 50,000 then we should not have a problem.

b. Airport Noise Work Group

Alan state that an airport noise work group has been formed and met twice. They meet the first Wednesday of the month. The work group consists of representatives of

neighborhood associations and tenants on the airport. The work group is able to talk candidly about noise issues and concerns. Alan stated that last month Jim Graham provided some information that was helpful. Alan stated that some of the representatives brought questions from the neighborhood associations and that information will be shared. The purpose is to come up with workable solutions for realistic expectation.

Tim Hay asked Jim Graham his opinion regarding the noise work group. He said it would continue to work as long as it remains a small working group so they can discuss the real issues. Jim stated that the group can come up with some workable solutions as long as the group remains small. He stated that a lot of the information shared is a real education to most of the representatives. Jim Harr asked if there was a chance that the group would grow. Jim Graham stated that there was some discussion to include more representatives but he didn't think that would be a good idea. Alan stated that he asked each neighborhood association chair to elect one representative and one alternate. Alan stated that if the group gets too large it will take away from the effectiveness of the group. Alan stated that the public has the right to attend, but the agenda and discussion are set by the work group. Jim Graham stated that they are developing a "rapport" with the group and when the time comes to discuss difficult issues, it will work better since they do have that "rapport" and it makes for a productive work group. Jim Wall asked how many attend. Alan stated that there were 9 in attendance; four representatives from neighborhood associations, a representative from Leading Edge, Graham Aviation, air traffic control tower, the National Guard and city staff.

c. FAA Funding

Alan stated that the airport has been awarded \$1,000,000 to expand the terminal, enhance runway markings, complete pavement maintenance improvements as well other projects. Both runways will be fog sealed / crack sealed and runway markings will be done. The final phase in the south end hangar project will be completed.

There are deposits on some of the lots that are currently available. The remaining piece of that project will be to add one more taxiway. The new gate will be operational soon. The entitlement money for these projects was a result of our operations while having air service.

Ron Sterba asked if there would be any condo style hangars in the south end. Alan stated that most of the lots are 2,500 square feet (50' x 50') Alan stated that it is up to the individual who is building the hangar as to what they will build. The lots were first come first serve once they were all notified.

Alan stated that the FAA funding comes in six-month allocations. Alan stated that congress is hopefully going to pass a multi-year allocation for funding. Alan stated that rebuilding taxiway Charlie is a high priority. Jim Harr asked about the resurfacing project. Alan stated that one of the projects is resurfacing the ramp near the restaurant to make it stronger.

d. Terminal Expansion

Alan stated that he will keep the AAC informed of the status of the terminal improvements/expansion. The terminal will be expanded with new restrooms and it will be a multi-purpose terminal. The building will be extended to the north and additional parking with drainage in the parking lots. Replacing some of the existing features of the current terminal will also take place.

e. Hot August Flights

Alan stated that Hot August Flights will take place again at the airport. Ron Peters stated that there will be aircraft on display, a car show and a breakfast among other things. Several businesses are sponsoring the event. The event will be Saturday, August 1, 2009. They are looking for unique aircraft as well as additional sponsors. Jim Harr pointed out that it is the same weekend as Osh Kosh and Gwen Graham stated that they are having difficulty getting airport businesses to attend due to the conflict and they plan to change it next year so as not to compete.

f. Airport Communication Survey

Alan stated that a communication survey has been online for the past couple months. There were 70 responses. Alan stated that the survey is now being evaluated. Responses indicated that electronic communication is best as well as quarterly newsletters. The important issues were noise, airport construction, air service, events and the largest numbers of responses were from "concerned citizens".

Noise complaints were 14; 3 helicopter and 11 fixed wing from 5 different households. The helicopter complaints were from Valentines Day when Leading Edge did sweetheart rides.

g. Other Reports

Alan stated that the airport is still dealing with lease rate adjustments. Alan stated that Council did allow adjustments for the south hangar area upon recommendation of the AAC. The base rate was in 2004 and the adjustment period ran until July, 2008. The increase will be effective March 1, 2009 and on an average it will be \$60 per year or \$5.00 per month. Alan stated that the appraiser will take another look at the appraisal for the other hangars in questions and the issue should be back at Council later next month.

6. ITEMS FOR COMMISSION DISCUSSION

Jim Graham wanted to submit a letter to the AAC to report on their business. Graham Aviation has been working very diligently to build a business and flight school. Jim passed out a letter and it will be attached to the Minutes.

Jim stated that when they came 4 years ago, they started with one aircraft. They now have 4 aircraft with two of the four being brand new. Gwen is now a Certified Flight Instructor (CFI). Jim stated that that built a flight school to be the resource of choice. Jim stated that they have lived up to the rules as operators and they work hard to be good tenants. They hope to be a certified 141 flight school by this summer. They are having a career camp on Monday, March 23, 2009 for high school students. They are trying to promote the airport in a positive light. They are the only "Diamond flight school" is Oregon. They provide good, quality instruction. They do not cut corners and they have been established here now for 4 years.

Alan stated that he does appreciate the efforts Graham has done. Alan stated that they are always generous of their time and talent.

7. CHAIRS REPORT

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Tim Hay **adjourned the meeting** at 7:10 P.M.

Date Approved: _____

Tim Hay, Chair
Airport Advisory Commission

Transcribed by Kathy Sime / Audio Recorded
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