

MINUTES
AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
Wednesday, September 17, 2008
Fire Station 6, EMS Division, 2742 25th Street SE
6:00 PM

Members Present	Members Absent	Guests
Tim Hay	James Nafziger	Jim / Gwen Graham
Jim Harr		Dale Johnson
Kindra Jordan		Brad Fraley
Mary Ann Lebold		Ron Peters
Major Mark Ulvin	Staff Present	Gilbert Purdy
Mark Renaud	Alan Alexander	C.S. Thomas
	Kathy Sime	Ben Parker
	Vickie Woods	David Cole
		Dennis Thompson
		Patrick / Rachael Hall
	Guests Continued	Jared Jones
	Cynthia Brown	Jim Hall
	Janice Munsey	Alan Wynn
	Bill Burwell	Gary Branham
	Jim Wall	John Barringer
	Eric Reed	Ron Sterba
	Dan Reid	Bob Tinnell

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 – Here
 Major Mark Ulvin – Here
 Kindra Jordan - Here
 Mary Ann Lebold - Here
 Jim Harr – Here
 James Nafziger – Absent

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jim Harr made a Motion to approve the August 20, 2008 Minutes. Mark Renaud seconded the Motion and the Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

4. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

Ron Peters encouraged the commission to review the application of Leading Edge to bring new business to the airport. New business supports businesses already on the airport as well as other institutions in town. The infrastructure of the airport is supported by new business.

Ron Peters asked the Commission if they would be interested in the equipment being used by SkyWest after they leave the airport. Ron stated that their business would be able to use some of the equipment to service casino flights. Alan stated that the equipment is new and it may be quite expensive.

Ron Sterba stated that he is in support of the new business that is coming before the commission to ask for an operating license.

Ron Sterba spoke to the commission about the wildlife, especially geese that are attracted to the Airport. He suggested getting rid of the drainage ditches and installing pipe. Alan stated that the ditches are part of the storm water retention system.

Ron stated that he wrote a letter to the editor with regard to trash pickup. Ron read the letter that he wrote.

Steve Thomas asked if another airline is going to serve our airport once SkyWest leaves. Tim Hay stated that the City continues to do what they can to attract more air carriers, but after October 9th, there will be no commercial air service in Salem.

5. REPORTS

a. Tower Chief Report

Cindy Ford gave the following report: Traffic count for August 2008 was 5,043 a decrease of 6297 operations under August 2007. Total 12 month total through August 2008 was 71,233. The busy day was 264 operations. Cindy stated some of the drop in operations could be from the weather, the decrease in helicopter operations or the economy. Cindy stated that operations in September have increased. Cindy reported two bird strikes by military aircraft.

b. Airline Update

Alan Alexander gave the following report: The total number of passenger departures for the month of August 2008 was 2033. The total number of passenger arrivals for the month of August 2008 was 2015 for a total passenger count of 4048.

Alan stated that the passenger loads are strong with 85% load rates. The station manager stated that Salem's operations are higher than many of their markets. Service will end on October 9, 2008.

c. Leading Edge Application

Alan Alexander stated that the commissioners received a copy of the current application. He stated that the Statesman Journal has followed this subject and reporting on the issues surrounding the application and the process. Leading Edge is wishing to offer the following services: helicopter flight training, charter services, sightseeing flights, fire fighting, search and rescue support, law enforcement support and aerial crane service, although the focus would be on training at our airport. They plan to base two R22 training helicopters as well as one R44.

Chapter 9, section 9.138 outlines the elements that should be considered when reviewing the application. Alan stated that there are four areas to be considered and they are as follows:

History of management and personal ability to conduct services of an operation. The company has been in operation for approximately 20 years. The company is certified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Financial status. Leading Edge previously provided financial information and the City determined it met the required needs.

Applicant to secure location, etc. Alan reviewed their certificates and they met all qualifications. Alan stated that all certifications are current and Leading Edge provides adequate personnel and adequate training equipment.

Meet the Leasing policies in 9.112. Leading Edge has an agreement with Salem Air Center to lease space. Leading Edge will provide the instructors, the equipment and the personnel.

Alan stated that there are 12 items additional criteria for the evaluation of applicants and all have been addressed. Alan stated that Leading Edge has agreed to work with the Air Traffic Control Tower, Airport Administration and the community. They will use a noise abatement program and will train all pilots in the Fly Neighborly Program. They plan to meet with Neighborhood Associations and they will provide phone numbers to the Airport Manager and the Neighborhood Associations.

Alan stated that the application outlines the elements and policies in the Fly Neighborly Program. Leading Edge has shown a willingness to go beyond the normal requirements.

Alan stated that if the Airport Advisory Commission recommends a license be issued, the application will be part of their license and Leading Edge will be held accountable for all issues.

Mark Renaud **made a motion** to approve the application as presented. Jim Harr **seconded the Motion**. The **Motion passed with a unanimous vote**.

d. Other Reports

Alan Alexander gave the following reports.

Xtraair has operated a few flights out of Salem Airport to Wendover, Nevada. Alan stated that the ability to continue the flights is in doubt due to the loss of commercial air service. The security and screening of the October flight will be done by TSA. Alan stated that the flights are popular.

The construction for a new taxiway to access 12 additional hangar sites has begun. The project will use FAA funds. Water lines are being extended for fire protection and a new access gate will be installed.

George Wainwright was in attendance to talk to the AAC regarding their proposed hangar. Mr. Wainwright stated that his company proposes to have a self-fueling tank as part of their new development. City Council previously put a moratorium on new tanks. City Council requested a task force be formed to address the issue. The task force met three times and is still reviewing new material. Colson Enterprises needs a decision about the issue so they can begin construction. The proposed hangar meets all the setback requirements and the tank will be under the ramp in front of their hangar.

Alan stated that three members of the commission serve on the task force. The AAC needs to discuss the issue of location and if the AAC approves the proposed location, the task force can review and discuss the AAC's recommendation at the meeting scheduled for September 18, 2008.

Jim Harr **made a motion** to approve the location of the tank provided the task force moves forward. Mark Renaud **seconded the Motion**. The **Motion passed with a unanimous vote**.

Alan gave an update on LTC Todd Farmer.

6. ITEMS FOR COMMISSION DISCUSSION

Tim Hay spoke about the letters he sent last month on behalf of the AAC. One letter was sent to the Planning Commission and he received a response from the National Air Transportation Association in regard to his letter. Tim read the letter to the commission and the letter is attached to the Minutes.

The second letter he wrote was to TSA and Tim read the response to the letter from TSA. A copy of the letter is attached to the Minutes.

7. CHAIRS REPORT

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Tim Hay **adjourned the meeting** at 6:45 P.M.

Date Approved: _____

Tim Hay, Chair
Airport Advisory Commission

Transcribed by Kathy Sime / Audio Recorded
DRAFT