MINUTES OF MEETING
JOPLIN AIRPORT BOARD MEETING
January 12, 2017

The Airport Board met on the Second Floor in the Conference Room at the Joplin Regional Airport Terminal Building. The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 A.M.

Item 1:

Roll Call and Approval of Minutes from last meeting.

Board members in attendance included Bill Harding, Tim Forker, Mel Walbridge, Maurice Clark, Randy Moore and Kelli Norris.
Bob Loudermilk was absent.
Staff in attendance included Melissa Hunter and Steve Stockam.
Guests in attendance were Shannon Hoffman from the Alpha Air Center and Michael Mead from Midwest Air Traffic Control.

Approval of Minutes:

There were no minutes from the December meeting as it was a less formal Holiday celebration.

Item 2: Old Business

Mr. Stockam told the board he has been in contact with the contractor and the FAA about the new project. We plan on kicking off the project around April 15th. There will be a pre-construction meeting two weeks prior to that. The project will be multi-phase as we will have to shut down parts of the airport and timing will be critical. Mr. Stockam stated that the FAA tech ops have been reviewing the plan. The FAA is requiring lights and runway equipment to be shut down during the closures rather than a notam issued. A problem arises because the equipment then has to be recertified before it can be used again. We will be working over the next few weeks to get a plan in place for the timing of closures and recertification's to keep things running smoothly.

Next Mr. Stockam addresses the board regarding ongoing maintenance issues around the airport. TSA requires us to continue clearing fencing. We are still working on a light conversion to LED on the B and C hangars. There will also be some equipment changes. We did switch out the plow and mower already.

Additionally, Mr. Stockam explains some changes with the notam system as far as reporting snow and ice. He stated that when values fall to the 50's and 60's it doesn't affect pilots much because that is just wet pavement. However, when values are in the 30's and 40's it is more important. Mr. Stockam has asked the FAA to fine tune the numbers so they are more specific for the pilots. One condition report is 4 notams, one for each runway. This is done every hour and ends up being a lot of e-mails.

Mr. Stockam informed the board about discussions with the FAA and consultants regarding the Trump administration. There may be infrastructure funding available for shovel ready projects. We will try to be ready in increase our chances of being able to compete with other airports for some funding of the new hangars and entrance road. Otherwise that project may be set back another year.

Item 3: New Business

Next Mr. Stockam told the board about the FAA annual inspection that happened this week on Monday and Tuesday. The inspection went well overall. We are having challenges meeting some documentation requirements such as maintenance records on generators etc. These documentation requirements come from issues that have developed at other airports. There were some rutted areas created from plowing at the last snow event. There are also some runways issues that we have limped around because they are going to be torn out soon. We hate to spend money repairing things that will be torn out in April. He added that we are preparing for the TSA inspection in the beginning of March.

Mr. Stockam stated that we are scheduling our contractor meeting along with the LRSAT meeting in March when the FAA will already be here. There is funding that comes from things brought up at the LRSAT meetings so that is important. There may be some issues come from the new multi-phased construction project. The LRSAT meeting will be scheduled around March 23rd as well as a safety meeting.

Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding the upcoming city council meeting. There will be an amendment to the budget for $35000 for an equipment purchase. We need a water cabinet to service the new larger aircraft from American Airlines. There are many regulations to installing a water cabinet and it will cost around $11000.00. Also we are getting funding for a new GPU to be mounted under the existing boarding bridge. This will make the boarding bridge serviceable to the new aircraft. That will run around $20000.00. We will be sending out an announcement about the new larger airplanes which begins Feb 15th for the CRJ700 and April 3rd for the CRJ900. The 900 will seat 76 passengers. We are excited about the new first class seating that will be available. It is time to make this public information. We will not be participating in the Business Expo this year since the venue has changed. It will be on the 24th and 25th at the Downstream Casino. Alpha Air Center and Mizzou Aviation will be there however.

Item 4: Other Business

Mr. Clark asked if we have had any incursions. Mr. Stockam stated that we haven't had any regarding vehicles or pedestrians. There was one with a plane on New Year's Eve. It is our first since the construction project.

Mr. Clark asked if we have had any recent wildlife issues. Mr. Stockam stated that the hunting program has helped tremendously. We are having eagle problems. They are nesting to the North and hunting here. We recently received our permit to scare them off. Turkey and coyotes are always an issue. As a part of the new construction project we will be removing a pond and a marshy area which is currently an attractant. This will clean up some of the issues we currently have.

Mr. Stockam informed the board regarding a change in hands of the Hertz car rental business. He stated it is not public knowledge at this time but Bob Ballard is selling his business to another Hertz car rental company operating out of Arkansas. There will be an agreement being taken to the city council for approval.

Mr. Stockam added that we will complete the final phase of the GA terminal roof. There will be a meeting with the police and fire department as they plan to move to their new building in a few months. We will need to determine what to do with the space they currently occupy in the GA terminal.

Mr. Stockam added, in this budget year we plan on re-roofing the Mizzou Hangar and next year they will get new paint to match all the other buildings in the GA area. There are three new planes on the airfield and Leggett is changing out its planes as well. We will be moving towards putting in a stop light and new entrance road as well as a new hangar building. The request for funds is being resubmitted. This May there will be another fun run as well as the Alpha Air Center air show already scheduled for this fall. We will be busy this year.

Mr. Stockam stated that next month we will review all the annual monthly reports and go through last year's numbers.

Additionally, Mr. Stockam spoke about his sadness of losing John Brown. His development of Mizzou was a stabilizing force on the airport for years. He was still active even though he was retired. He asked that Mr. Brown's wife Candy and family be kept in prayers.

Mr. Stockam stated that we may have a parking problem with the upcoming aircraft increase. The casino flight is due in next week as well. He stated that the overflow parking lot will not be large enough and we will need to rock a new expansion. Mr. Moore asked if American Airlines was planning on moving to one flight per day on the weekends. Mr. Stockam answered that they have not changed the schedule to reflect that at this time.

Ms. Norris stated she had a client fly into Joplin recently who had an issue with American Airlines. It was stated to the client that the 2pm flight from Joplin was a test flight that won't fly if it's not filled. The client was advised by American Airlines not to book a flight and they instead drove the client to Springfield for their return flight. There was a discussion in the room regarding these statements. Mrs. Hoffman stated she had heard a similar story. Mr. Stockam stated that he would look into it this morning as that client was misinformed.

Approved,

Melissa Hunter, Airport Clerk

Bob Loudermilk, Chairman of the Board