MINUTES OF MEETING
JOPLIN AIRPORT BOARD MEETING
April 14, 2016

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 7:08 A.M.

Item 1:

Roll Call and Approval of Minutes from last meeting.

Board members in attendance included Bill Harding, Tim Forker, Mel Walbridge, Bob Loudermilk, and Kelli Norris. Randy Moore attended by phone and Maurice Clark was absent. Staff in attendance included Melissa Hunter and Steve Stockam.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Forker moved to approve the minutes from March's meeting. Mr. Walbridge seconded. All were in favor.

Welcome Kelli Norris, the newest airport board member. Mrs. Norris introduced herself as an employee of Mercy Hospital working in business development and physician relations. She stated that she achieved her private pilot's license 20 years ago along with her commercial helicopters license. She used to work for CD Aviation as well.

Item 2: Old Business

Construction Projects Update

Mr. Stockam addressed the board with information regarding the **Ramp Rehab** project update. He stated that the heavy paving on the ramp would be completed this week. The pour in front of the fire barn, Alpha Air and the west gate was most recent. Micro surfacing is all that is left. It must be 50 degrees or above in order to begin the micro surfacing. This will be divided into three sections so it doesn't block off Alpha Air and Mizzou from doing business. There will be some inconvenience for them for a few days. Mr. Stockam added that it would take 14 days for the micro surfacing to be completed. Mr. Stockam attended the State Aviation Meeting in Jefferson City last week. He stated that the micro surfacing firm was also in attendance. Joplin Regional Airport will be the first airport in Missouri to use this micro surfacing program. It will lay a 3/8 inch thick elastomeric aggregate seal which will retain its color better than the old method. Mr. Stockam will be alerting everyone through e-mail about the micro surfacing schedule. The ramp should be open later this week.

Mr. Stockam provided drawings to the board pertaining to the 1/8 runway extension. He stated that we have been back and forth with many options to extend the runway by 600ft. The option most recently discussed and recently submitted for approval will make the runway have two different lengths, and the surface lights would have to be changed. The NAV AIDS wiring would remain the same with this newest plan. The landing on 1/8 would be 6500ft. and the take-off would be 7500ft. We are currently restricted to 46 passengers rather than the 50 the plane could accommodate due to restricted runway length, this would resolve that issue. Mr. Stockam stated that we just submitted this idea and it is currently being evaluated by the FAA. He is hoping it is a viable solution. The cost of this project would be approximately 3 million dollars as compared to the previous solution which had a projected cost of 10 million

dollars. If this newest idea gets approved we may receive funding next summer. This is all preliminary draft information. Mr. Forker asked how this change affects the current environment assessment. Mr. Stockam answered that the environmental has been split in half with part of it for the B&N project and the other portion for the 1/8 extension. The B&N taxiway is still on schedule since the split off.

Next Mr. Stockam informs the board about the **B&N Taxiway** project. He states that we are waiting for the environmental assessment to be cleared. Bids have to happen, then we have to submit them to the FAA. They will not cut grant money until after July 1 this year and realistically we won't receive any grant money until August 1, 2016. By that time, we will have moved through most of this construction season. In the meantime, we will work on some smaller projects that need to be completed such as the perimeter road that needs to be cleared, some detention ponds need attention with some heavy dirt work to be done next year. This will be a 6.3 million dollar project that will take approximately 20 months to complete.

Mr. Loudermilk asked if we have received complaints from the flight control tower regarding the new LED lighting being too bright. Mr. Stockam stated that the new lighting just needed some adjustment. Mr. Stockam also stated that we will be looking to add some additional signage since we have had an issue with people taxiing onto the grass. Mr. Loudermilk stated that it looks bright over here from the towers point of view according to a photo shown at the last LRSAT meeting.

Mr. Harding had a question about the general aviation area being laid in sections. He asked how we are addressing the height in different sections coming together. Mr. Stockam stated that we plan to feather in the sections to match them up. Mr. Stockam added that the micro surface will hold its color better and that will help with winter snow and ice removal.

Mr. Stockam addressed the board about an issue addressed at the recent **LRSAT meeting**. He stated that there are a few items to submit to the FAA. As part of the B&N project we would like to discuss reusing the names of the taxiways and reviewing taxiway designations. Our taxiways are named Gulf and Hotel, the more logical names would be Alpha and Bravo. This will be an educational issue for those people who are used to flying Joplin, but a more logical change for those who are transient pilots. Mr. Stockam added that there has been an issue with 36 heading onto the ramp. The confusion results from the grassy islands. He suggests additional signs for coming and going. In addition to that, Mr. Stockam suggests adding wig wags, preferably at all holding locations, or at least all nonstandard geometry locations. Some pilots are blowing past the hold location because no wig wag is present as a reminder. Mr. Loudermilk asked how many runway incursions have there been on the north end. Mr. Stockam stated that there have been two in the last month.

Item 3: New Business

Mr. Stockam presented the board with a slide presentation of fuel usage comparisons from 2010 through 2015 concerning the FBO's, commercial not included. He presented graphs depicting the 100LL base line set in 2010-11 average with only one FBO. That was compared to the 2012 year with two FBO's in full operation, then 2015's numbers as well. Mr. Stockam contributes the spikes and lulls in the graph to changing weather conditions and wind. He added that Mizzou and Alpha sold almost the exact same amount of 100LL fuel last year. Mr. Harding added that the price of fuel probably didn't affect the amount of fuel sold over the last year. Mr. Stockam agreed that we have had the lowest fuel prices in a while. Next Mr.

Stockam presented a slide depicting the Jet A gallons sold. This amount has gone up 28% from 2012 to 2015. 2/3 of these sales came from Mizzou and 1/3 from Alpha. However, Alpha has the commercial sales offset. Lastly, Mr. Stockam presented a slide showing our flight operations. He notes that there is not many fluctuations with that number of 2600-2700 annually. The lack of increase with our ops is because the transient pilots aren't purchasing much fuel since they can' hold much. Mr. Stockam added that we have competitive fuel prices since we have two FBO's to keep prices low. However, we have no capacity to grow without additional hangar space. On the Jet A fuel slide it shows there is growth with the heavy planes purchasing more fuel. Alpha Air now has their 135 certificate. Mr. Stockam told the board that the Joplin Regional Airport is fulfilling our obligation to the community and it reflects in our fuel sales. We would like to bump up hangar capacity. There are a few hangar leasers that have lost their medicals and are no longer flying. With the new restrictions in the lease agreements it has begun to move them in the direction of selling their planes to free up usable hangar space. Mr. Stockam told the board that Senator Ron Richards is trying to secure funding to build more hangars. We should know in about 60 days if that funding comes through. Mr. Stockam would like the ability to advertise a larger capacity to service more residents in the Joplin area that are currently forced to house their planes in other community airports.

Item 4: Other Business

Mr. Stockam presented the board with a chart depicting the airport budget with the city and the transportation sales tax fund. Mr. Stockam stated that the general fund is an issue for the city, however the airport is not part of the general fund. The airport actually contributed $130,000 to the general fund last year for support services such as Human Resources. Mr. Stockam added that the airport receives a lot of grant money from FAA and MODOT. The local match shares come from the transportation sales tax fund. We spend a nickel to get a dollar of funding from outside our community. Federal and State dollars brought in have a huge impact on the community. This is a utility provided by Joplin.

If we kept our subsidy to the general fund our short fall would actually be only $100,000 per year. The reported $600,000 amount is simply not true. We are trying to educate the new council members to these numbers. Mr. Stockam addressed the board with information regarding revenues and expenses. The airports revenues have increased and subsidies continue to go down according to Mr. Stockam. He stated that he wanted the board to have a true understanding of what is going on. He added that the airport impacts the community positively to the tune of 22 million dollars annually. He gave an example of the Rt. 66 Raceway closing and how hugely it affected area retail stores, hotels and restaurants. Now the gaps have been filled with casinos. The Fourstate Softball is a similar example as well. Mr. Stockam stated that you don't think about an economic engine like the airport and how it positively affects the community. It is a big deal to make sure people understand the airports importance. Mr. Moore stated that it is important for the board members to understand the airport's importance but how do we get that word out to the public? Mr. Stockam answered that we will begin with the new members of the city council as well as the citizen's academy. Mr. Stockam added that a broad campaign regarding the budget issues is being held back by the city as they look at budgets across the board. He added that we must stay within the bounds of what the city wants us to do.

Mr. Forker stated that the FAA will be here for their annual audit in June.

Mr. Forker moved to adjourn the meeting.
Mr. Walbridge seconded. All were in favor.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:50AM.

Approved,

Melissa Hunter, Airport Clerk

Bob Loudermilk, Chairman of the Board