MINUTES OF MEETING
JOPLIN AIRPORT BOARD MEETING
September 8, 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 7:03 A.M.

Item 1:

Roll Call and Approval of Minutes from last meeting.

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

Approval of Minutes:

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

Item 2: Old Business

Construction Projects Update

Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding the **B & N Taxiway,** soon to be renamed the **C & F Taxiway**. He stated the grant should be issued next week. All grants are to be signed and turned in by September 16, 2016 and, there is no way we can meet that deadline according to Mr. Stockam. September 20th is the next council meeting. However, we don't know if the FAA will accept the paperwork late. We won't know if they will accept the paperwork late until after they issue the grant. Mr. Stockam said it is a logistics issue which is aggravating with the Federal Government waiting until the 11th hour and requesting them to be signed and turned in in 24 hours.

Mr. Stockam informed the board about the items he is planning on taking to council. He listed the Federal Grant Acceptance on the B & N Taxiway, APAC contract, CMT construction observation contract and the $75,000 Air Service Grant. After approval, Mr. Stockam plans on sitting down with APAC to see what can be started this fall and winter. Perhaps a drainage pond can be removed, as well as drainage on the other side of the airport and the perimeter road. At this stage we are not closing any runways. 13/31 will have to be closed for 90 days at some point. At that time, we will go ahead and crack seal with sand as the asphalt is okay. The company who put in the grip flex offered to test some on the runway. Mr. Stockam stated that he likes the grip flex but probably not for runways.

Next Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding the new hangar project. He stated that we are still waiting on a one million dollar grant offer. Mr. Stockam recently spoke with MO Dot as the clock is ticking on this two phase project. Mr. Stockam inquired if we could get a grant to begin the design. He stated that MO Dot agreed which will be approximately 120 to 130 thousand dollar design grant in the next 30 to 60 days. Mr. Stockam added that the Environmental was approved, but the archeological site by Hwy 171 they were concerned with, we skirted around. Mr. Moore asked what the historical significance is of the archeological site. Mr. Stockam answered there was a hangar on the site in the 1930's-1950 and it's just a box that needs to be checked off. He added that there will also be a signal study for the signaled

intersection on Dennis Weaver Drive. It takes MO Dot 90-120 days to complete a signal study so we need to get the clock started. Mr. Loudermilk commented that he knows of one person who shown concern with adding a traffic signal, but he didn't understand the reasoning. Mr. Stockam stated that obviously the man has never tried to leave Dennis Weaver Drive during rush hour going left. There is no break in traffic due to the roundabout. Mr. Stockam added that the St. Louis Street signal is a timed signal and the Dennis Weaver signal will be a sensor.

Mr. Stockam addressed the board concerning the **GA Ramp Rehab Project** and the **Hangar Rehab Project**. He stated the projects are closing up and there is a mountain of paperwork to be processed. Mr. Forker and Mr. Moore suggested we try to schedule a meeting with the city council and cancel it if the B&N grant paperwork doesn't come through in time. Mr. Stockam stated he looked into doing that but the council is already so busy with budget meetings at this time. We can't get a commitment from the FAA on what day the grant will come through. The local FAA guys understand our time constraints but they are also at the mercy of the Federal Government, according to Mr. Stockam.

Mr. Stockam discussed changes that will be made to the **Master Plan**. Originally the Master Plan showed moving MALS rail and NAVAIDS and the plan has now changed. The FAA said it doesn't reflect our new plan properly. Mr. Stockam said the biggest lead time item is the airspace. It does require us to airspace both ends of the runway on 36 and 18 even though changes are only on one end. Hopefully, late around October to the first of November we will get approval on the reimbursable agreement to move NAVAIDS with the FAA. Mr. Stockam stated it has been 45 days since we requested a meeting, it will be scheduled in the next 60 days. We don't know what timeline there will be on that. CMT has scoped this project and has an idea what kind of equipment we need. Mr. Stockam stated that we are on schedule for everything we have submitted, there are no issues. The Environmental Assessment will cover the project as the impact will be much less than we originally planned.

Item 3: New Business

Mr. Stockam stated that we are in the middle of the **budget** process. On the off Monday's the city council is doing budget workshops. They will look at each individual department's budget and the pay wage issue is front and center. The Police and Fire departments have both made presentations as they are having massive problems. Mr. Stockam added that long ago people wanted to work in Joplin, it is the opposite now. Everyone is leaving for other cities that pay more. Mr. Moore asked what the delay in raises was. Mr. Stockam answered that the city is trying to find the money to do the raises. The council has approved a 3% across the board raise which is just a Band-Aid. Mr. Stockam gave the example that Peter Kauffman the Airport Operations Supervisor, could make $10,000 more per year in other nearby cities. Mr. Stockam added that the airport money comes from the transportation sales tax fund which doesn't affect raises. The General fund is where they need money and most of the employees are with parks, police and fire. All departments have been asked to reduce budgets, but our budget won't help since our funding comes from another fund. Mr. Stockam added that we are a part of the city so we will do everything we can to help. He added that he plans to attend the budget meeting Monday night. Mr. Stockam told the board about budget slides previously shown to council depicting an expense line item in our budget for depreciation at a cost of 1.3 million dollars. Mr. Stockam has argued that it shouldn't be an expense line item. The depreciated items were already expensed to the airport when they

were originally purchased, by listing them as a line item once again it is essentially charging us for them twice. He advised the board they may hear discussions regarding this on Monday. The item must be depreciated as a non-cash asset. The budget will look much better if the depreciation is taken out according to Mr. Stockam. Mr. Harding stated he heard news of the airport operating budget operating at a loss of 1.5 million which is not true since finance is falsely reporting the information. Mr. Stockam sent information downtown explaining the situation since pie charts were handed to council showing depreciation in 60% of budget. Mr. Walbridge stated that just means it's not worth what it used to be. Mr. Stockam stated we must still account for the asset, but not a cash value asset. Mr. Moore stated when you evaluate a company, you take depreciation out. Mr. Stockam was at an FAA conference in Kansas City and sat down with several other airports, they all agree with Mr. Stockam's idea. Additionally, a Springfield airport accountant prepared some information for us as we need to get this cleaned up. Our airport budget is not being properly depicted to anyone. Mr. Clark asked if there was a council person with an accounting background. Mr. Stockam stated that Councilman Stanley had accounting background. Mr. Clark stated that we just need to convince the finance director and the city manager and they would present it to council. Mr. Stockam stated that is where the problem lies.

Item 4: Other Business

Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding a planned **tenant appreciation day**. He stated since we recently changed hangar leases and remodeled, pulling planes out we wanted to show our appreciation for the cooperation on behalf of the tenants. On Friday October 14th, we would like to do an appreciation luncheon by the T-Hangars under a tent. We plan to grill hamburgers and hot dogs. Mr. Stockam would like to put up boards showing our taxiway projects and interface with the tenants. Mr. Walbridge asked what time the luncheon would be. Mr. Stockam stated it would be from approximately 11am to 2pm. Mr. Stockam asked if Friday or Saturday would be the best day. It was agreed that Friday would be the best as Saturday is usually family time. Mr. Clark asked what kind of expense that would be. Mr. Stockam stated it would cost around $500.00 as he would cook food from Sam's to save money. Mr. Loudermilk jokingly asked if this was a black tie event. Mr. Stockam stated it would be 'come as you are' casual. The event will be at the end of the A hangar in the grass under a tent just in case of weather. Mr. Walbridge asked how the board members were supposed to get in. Mr. Stockam replied that he would post staff at the gate to allow people in. Ms. Norris asked if we have tables and chairs. Mr. Stockam replied that we would borrow picnic tables from the parks department.

Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding the remaining **outstanding lease charges**. He stated that the new lease agreements allow us to better monitor the accounts. The city manager has turned the accounts over to us so we can monitor who is behind on their payments. We started out with six delinquent tenants. Steve stated that some were paying annually in arears while others were looking for the city to accept online payments. There are 3 former tenants who have left with a total of 6 to 7 thousand dollars. We are working with the city attorney and the leasers have been notified that if not paid we will be filing small claims. Other leasers stated there was confusion with accounting doing a poor job of accurately posting payments. We want to work with the leasers. We are not throwing people out but we will look into charging late penalties. Mr. Moore commented that he personally had issues with his

lease payments not being applied properly. Mr. Stockam stated that Mrs. Hunter has been looking into the errors and trying to work with everyone. The ones we are most concerned with are the ones leaving the airport with huge bills and since we were not monitoring the situation this was happening. In large, the tenants are all great. Mr. Clark asked if the late leasers are paying their fuel bills. Mr. Stockam stated that would be an FBO concern and some people do get behind. Mr. Clark stated that if we don't try to collect, we won't get paid. Mr. Moore commented that gas prices are comparable to Miami since we have had two FBO's so people shouldn't be trying to import fuel from Miami which used to be a problem.

Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding the airline situation. He attended a forum last week and will be moderating a forum tomorrow regarding the pilot shortage. He stated that US domestic airline added less than .05 capacity last year simply because they don't have crews. American Airlines has been upfront with us on it. We have monitored and every time they opened a new route they closed another one. Southwest is also doing the same thing according to Mr. Stockam. Mr. Stockam has written letters and had discussions with senators and congressmen regarding the situation. He added that the amount of new pilots coming in doesn't match the amount of pilots leaving. They are advocating about 1500 hours for captains. It is a huge commitment for two years to generate that kind of hours. The CMSU pilot program is looking to allow pilots to use sim time to count for some of the 1500 hours. We are looking to make some stepped changes at different levels. Four regional carriers will be represented at the conference Mr. Stockam plans on attending. Mr. Moore made statements comparing Joplin Regional Airport to another market in Kalispell near Great Falls Minnesota. He stated that Joplin has a population of over 200,000 people where Kalispell has around 90,000. Kalispell has four airlines with ten destinations and a lot of their planes are leaving half empty. Allegiant, Alaskan, United and Delta are the airlines. Mr. Moore suggested it would be great if the airlines would look into distributing their flights to other airports such as Joplin as it seems uneven.

Mr. Stockam said next month, the FAA will issue the next round of EAS contracts. American Airlines is not interested in the EAS program for Joplin any longer. That will be our opportunity to say something. Mr. Stockam has already had some discussions with folks in Washington as to what will happen. He stated, if we have a demand or need we may need to go somewhere to fulfill the need. Our air service consultant thinks American Airlines is waiting until the EAS goes off to put another flight in. We were the lowest subsidized program under the EAS program this year. Mr. Moore stated maybe we need to get the government to help us. Mr. Forker stated that the EAS program comes out in October, but won't be effective until February. Mr. Moore added if American Airlines won't do the EAS and won't commit, maybe we should try to go with Delta. Mr. Walbridge asked if Kalispell was close to any other airports. Mr. Stockam asked if Kalispell's market was leisure or business. Mr. Moore replied that it is mostly leisure. Mr. Clark asked if our planes are still running at capacity. Mr. Stockam answered that they are.

Mr. Walbridge moved to adjourn the meeting.
Mr. Forker seconded. All were in favor.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:10AM.

Approved,

Melissa Hunter, Airport Clerk

Bob Loudermilk, Chairman of the Board