



SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON REGIONAL AIRPORT

Airport Board Meeting
Thursday February 11, 2010

Those present were as follows:

Airport Board:

Gerald Malella, City of Kelso
Ken Botero, City of Longview
George Raiter, Cowlitz County
Darold Dietz, Port of Longview

Staff:

David Sypher, Public Works Director
Becky Hill, Department Assistant
Brian Butterfield, Finance Director
Denny Wise, Airport Manager
Don Bell, Assistant Airport Director
Denny Richards, City Manager

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Chairperson Ken Botero.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** February 11, 2010 – Motion made by Board Member Malella, motion second by Board Member Dietz, motion passed.
3. **Acknowledgment of Vouchers-** Motion made by Board Member Malella, motion second by Board Member Dietz, motion passed.
4. **Public Comments** –Denny Wise-Kelso Aviation told the Advisory Board about an article that appeared in the paper or radio regarding a video that Cowlitz County is putting together about recreation opportunities in the area that will be linked to multiple websites. One section will be on business and transportation in the region. They will be putting together various committees for input on what to put on the video, so if any of you are on one of the committees that you would mention the airport as one of the four legs of transportations in the region.
5. **FBO Written Report** –No changes from the last report. It is winter time and the down economy, business is very slow. Denny shared with the board that he did attend the hearing on HB3176 after our last meeting. Not a whole lot was able to be said about aviation or the tax part of that bill. The House Finance Committee had two bills they were considering on that day and had set aside 4 hours for public hearings. The first two and a half hours dealt with the Enyman proposition leaving the rest of the time for the other bill. On the main floor there were roughly 400 people as well as overflow rooms that were packed also. About 3or 4 aviation people got to speak. Not sure what impact that may have had and that both portions of the bill for aviation are still alive. Also stated that HB 3176 had 14 total tax measures in it so there were groups from all areas wanting to speak. The house bill has been modified and it is now Substitute HB 3191 and has been slightly changed. One area that has changed was the 10% that use to go to WSDOT Aviation Division that used to help us with our matching grants is now going to the general fund, that has been restored and there is a provision about home built aircraft and how they are going to evaluate them for the ½ of 1 % tax. WSDOT Aviation will not have to spend all their energy on collecting

taxes and will be able to focus on airports. Denny asked the board to continue to make the contacts with the representatives and people that they know to help this along. Denny asked the board if they received any feedback comments from their contacts. Board Member Dietz stated he got no feedback but did contact some people. Denny stated Council of Governments sent something out and got feedback from Mr. Hatfield. We continue to send stuff out as well as the pilots. Pilot groups got together after the meeting to strategize about these issues. There were state, local pilot associations and national pilot groups as well.

Chairman Botero asked if Denny had contacted the Chamber of Commerce and/or the EDC about this? Denny said he had contacted Rick Winsman first and told him about it and he was unaware of HB 3176 until Denny contacted him and he found out there were other things of interest so Mr. Winsman put out legislative alerts.

- 6. Airport Manager Report** –We still have a geese and small bird problem. There was a bird strike at the airport with no damage to the aircraft just a little mess to clean up. Foster Farm jet was coming in yesterday and hit a seagull and killed it. Price of the silt fence is \$31.00 per 100 feet. Could not find a price on the air cannon (portable) but there is a propane one available and Denny is not sure that is what we want to use.

The lights have been approved by the FAA . While they were here we had two noise complaints and Denny advised them that it was the FAA and they were setting lights. There are also trees that are blocking paths for PAPI lights. The trees belong to Burlington Northern. The city is working with the railroad and even has some volunteers lined up if necessary. (Don Bell gave comments from the audience that were inaudible) Contractor doing repairs on the EAA hangar is about finished with the repairs. Contractor will start on the fuel tank repairs in about a week. This is for the monitoring system and we can still pump fuel. Hangar contractor still advising he is going to move forward with the next set of T-Hangars.

Jerry and I will be working on putting together a grant for the .09 money or Economic Development dollars and will be focused on the stop way which is the runway extension. Deadline for this grant is March 19th so we will be putting that together for the county. Board member Raiter advised Denny to also contact county staff.

Life Flight appears to be in a competition with Salmon Creek and St. John Hospitals. The hospital schedules meetings but they never occur. (Don Bell made comments from the middle of the audience that were inaudible).

Hangar status-no changes.

- 7. Public Works Director Report** – David gave his written report to the board.

Master Plan Update-Jerry Sorrell gave a brief summary where we currently are with the Master Plan. There currently are 40 pages of information and 10 pages of spreadsheets to go over. We need to see a good product before we set a date for the governance conference. The consultant gave a recommendation that a port jurisdiction is most fitting for an airport like this according to structure of state law.

David talked briefly about the .09 Grant program and Jerry Sorrell was hired to write the report and he will be doing approximately 8 hours of time which will be funded from the Airport fund for this grant.

Chairman Botero asked about the proposed Ordinance. David Sypher read the Rescission Agreement which explains the original intent and agreement. It is anticipated that Longview, Port of Longview and Cowlitz County will continue to contribute to the financial needs of Kelso in the operation, maintenance and capital expenses of said airport, at least until such time as the present indebtedness resulting from capital improvements to said airport has been paid. This debt will be paid off in 2015. David also advised the board that the City Manager has authority over all departments within the City of Kelso.

In regards to the Master Plan, we want to get all information out to the TAC and the entities and we will need to have as many meetings as possible to complete the plan. We also would like to have the airport added to all brochures for advertising of all types of transportation.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Becky Hill, Recording Secretary

Ken Botero, Chairman