



Airport Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday October 13, 2011
Kelso City Council Chambers
203 South Pacific Kelso WA 98626

Those present were as follows:

Airport Board:

Darold Dietz, Port of Longview
David Futcher, City of Kelso
Ken Botero, City of Longview
Jerry Sorrell, Cowlitz County

Staff:

Dan Johnson, Airport Operations Manager
Becky Hill, Department Assistant
George Hext, Project Manager
Don Bell, Assistant Airport Director

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm by Chairman Darold Dietz.
- 2. Approval of Minutes:-** September 8, 2011 – Motion made by Board Member Futcher, motion second by Board Member Sorrell, motion passed.
- 3. Acknowledgement of Vouchers:-**September 2011- motion made by Board Member Futcher motion second by Board Member Sorrell, motion passed.
- 4. Public Comments:** Don Bell-had a problem with a strobe that went out, replaced the circuit board for \$700.00. Just this week and other one failed. My electrician friend, Dave Jacobs is coming out at no charge to the city to troubleshoot the strobe to see if it is the same circuit board issue. Maybe able to rebuild the circuit board for \$350.00 and have a spare in reserve.

Jail crew was out, cut, then chipped up the trees by Burlington Northern property. We also had the use of a truck that was donated by John Leber at Swanson Bark and Wood. We also took all of the larger trunks to Swanson's as they were too big to go into the chipper. We have completed about 80% of the chipping on the SW side of the airport.

George Hext-Project Manager- The acquisition of properties to the north of the airport has begun. Letters were sent out "Certified-Return Receipt Requested" as we need to have a proper paper trail in case we have to go imminent domain in the future. It is important to have the proper paper trail. A couple of the other projects are beginning to start up, so we will see more progress in the next year.

George gave a BIG thank you to the board and advised them that he called the media today. Took the prerogative of not checking with the board first to ask them to send someone over to the board meeting because he wanted them to let the community know what you (the board) have done under very difficult circumstances. Gave compliments to the board for doing a stand up job and sticking with it and not one of them standing up and taking credit and for that he commends them.

5. Airport Manager –Just a couple of things- has talked to Jack Riplinger at Burlington Northern and have paperwork signed by Police Chief and Fire Chief and he will be sending up his Police Chief to meet with me as well. This is for the gates at Talley Way and the golf course. They are talking about putting in both gates which is different than before when it was if we put up one gate, they would put in the other one.. One of the desires that he envisions is to encompass the entire airport with fencing.

We have about 3 or 4 more hours of chipping to finish. Public Works Superintendent, Randy Johnson advised that we could use the county's 12" chipper at a cost of about \$20.00 per hour. Not sure if the county will provide and operate or instruct him how to use.

Have 6 hangars available for rent at present.

George Hext would like to advertise in a Vancouver paper about our hangars at a cost of about \$100.00 for the advertisement. He stated that renting out one hangar would pay for the advertisement.

Also we were talking to Mary Vargas, FAA, about the possibility of getting these gates put in, Dan stated his desire to have the airport completely fenced. Mary, just smiled, and said we'll see. George took that as a very positive note on her part and ventures to say if we sent FAA a letter saying the gates are in place, we will see some discretionary funds for the fencing.

Don Bell - comment stating now that the trees are gone, it is more important than ever to get those gates in as it is much easier now to enter the airport on the west side with them gone.

Board Member Botero-Asked for clarification-We have a budget item that George asked for \$100 to advertise in a Vancouver paper, isn't that in your airport budget? This is an advisory board and we cannot legally tell you to go ahead and spend that money. (several people talking at once).

Board Member Jerry Sorrell commented that he thought Dan could do that purchase.

Board Member Sorrell-Amy Fisher at the Daily News has been very helpful over the years in showing the airport as a valuable asset, there is history there. If she could be made a contact on this, she is already knowledgeable on the airport.

Board Member Fletcher-has a question about the security gates. I know you have started running with the security gate and we were warned about what will happen when we turn the gates on, is that you have been seeing, happy, upset, just ok or no big deal?

Airport Manager Johnson-Have not heard any complaints. After they were switched on they worked well for a few days and then one stopped working. These were installed about 4 years ago and after all that, one of the circuit boards is bad and needs replaced. The gate by Clary's hangar is just a lock and they want the lock like the ones we have, it would be an expense for Clary. So now all gates are secured except one and that is the man gate by the FBO building. It has a malfunctioning lock keypad that needs to be replaced as it fills with water and then freezes in cold weather. The lock is the exact same lock as the gate by my office on the other side of the airport.

Discussion followed about the CIP.

Board Member Sorrell-has questions/suggestions about meeting that Dan and George had with FAA.

1. Obstruction Survey-about funding and when it is going to occur?
2. Designated stop way extension and funding-Is it designated run way extension and is it being funded with FAA funds in lieu of using state or county funds?

This is what I feel is really important and am basing this on our history of working with FAA. Sometimes things that we assume they are going to do, once it gets to different level in FAA in Seattle, Renton,. Sometimes others have a slightly different opinion and then it comes back, "well we can if you do this" or "well we really didn't mean this and that sort of thing. What needs to be done and my request is that a follow up letter be written and sent to Mary Vargas, saying we understand at this meeting with Dan and George, this outcome. Would you please reply and confirm that we may take to our board and our respective councils/commissioners that this is really true, because if it is, then this CIP that is prepared maybe needs to be re-examined as to when certain things happen and whose money it happens with.

Board Member Futcher -asked if we should hold off on CIP until we hear back from FAA?

Board Member Sorrell- Yes! Wants to bring this up again-it looks like this is just FAA money. Brought new info about FAA wanting to pay for the runway extension and where it fits in here. Line item #6 is Obstruction Survey showing it at 2013 but didn't I hear 2012? Have a question for George- We knew that early on, the idea of extending the runway was around \$600,000, then it grew to \$700,000 and then a consultant looked at it and now it is at \$1.2 million, were these numbers crunched when you had the meeting with FAA, are they willing to say if that is what it will cost and we will pay it? George Hext replied I got the impression from Don Barclay that he exposed those numbers to FAA. He will confirm that information for the board.

Board Member Sorrell-Is DOT willing to become the 5th partner of the entities at the airport? Are they willing to become a funding participant with respect to Operation and Maintenance and not just special projects? They see this airport in the long range as the regional airport, are they offering to come and bring some money to the table for it?

No complaints on animals so far this month. George informed the board that both he and Dan Johnson are now Certified Wildlife Control Agents. We went through an 8 hour training session.

Board Member Sorrell-George and Don are volunteers. Don has done 50 years of volunteer work at the airport and Dan is out shopping for the best deals and co-coordinating with others. We heard him mention John Leber and others donating equipment and bringing out things to the airport. There is almost an undetermined value of in kind services by volunteers and community people that bring up tens of thousands of dollars to this airport annually that otherwise would have to be bought and paid out of a budget. That has some value that is a gift to us as a community gift.

Discussion followed about wetland banking.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:42 pm. Next meeting November 10, 2011 at Kelso City Hall.



Becky Hill, Recording Secretary



Darold Dietz, Chairman