

The regular monthly meeting of the Gallatin Airport Authority was held March 8, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. in the Airport Conference Room. Board members present were John McKenna, Richard Roehm, Steve Williamson and Greg Metzger. Deborah Dietz was unable to attend the meeting. Also present were Ted Mathis, Airport Director, Brian Sprenger, Assistant Airport Director and Cherie Ferguson, Administrative Assistant.

The first agenda item was to review and approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 8, 2007. Greg Metzger moved to approve the minutes; Steve Williamson seconded the motion, which carried unopposed.

The second agenda item was the public comment period. There were no public comments.

The third agenda item was to continue consideration of the request by Sharon Lodge for a road easement across airport property to Airport Road. Ted Mathis said the board had addressed this issue briefly a few months ago at a meeting. Since then, he met with Sharon Lodge, her representatives and Joby Sabol, her counsel. He said he had made some comments that he felt were adequate for the easement and development of the subdivision. He hadn't heard from them.

Joby Sabol said Miss Lodge is a neighbor to the east and has Faith Mobile Home Court and a substantial amount of undeveloped ground extending west and north of the court. She would like Airport Road to be the access to her property but the Airport Authority owns a strip of land between them. She has agreed to the conditions proposed by Mr. Mathis, which includes placing an Avigation Easement on all her property, putting a notation of the proximity to the airport with the associated noise, etc. in her leases to her tenants, constructing a six-foot chain link fence between her property and adjacent airport property and paying \$1,000.00 for the access easement to her property.

Mr. Roehm moved approval of the request with the conditions outlined by the Airport Director and agreed to by Miss Lodge. Mr. Metzger seconded the motion and it carried without opposition.

The fourth agenda item was to consider the transfer of Aero Flight School, LLC Operating Agreement from Linda Marshall and Don Loyd to Warren Liebers, Paul Schuller and Lance Richards. Mr. Mathis said that Linda Marshall and Don Loyd have sold Aero Flight School but the name will remain the same under the new owners. He said the approval for change of ownership is required in the operating agreement. Mr. Metzger moved to approve the motion as presented and Mr. Roehm seconded the motion. The motion carried unopposed.

The fifth agenda item was to consider the request by Travis Buck and Justin Tribbitt to construct a 48' x 48' non-commercial hangar. Mr. Mathis said they would like a site with sewer and water and that the hangar would be north of Robert Shropshire's hangar. Mr. Roehm moved approval of the request. Mr. Metzger seconded the motion and it carried unopposed.

The sixth agenda item was a presentation by David Kack regarding the possibility of scheduled bus service to Gallatin Field. Richard Roehm ascertained that this is just informational and does not require action from the Board. David Kack said he represents Western Transportation Institute and they work in conjunction with two bus lines – Streamline and Skyline. He said they have had a number of requests from people wanting service to the airport. He explained that they have received local, state and federal funds. Streamline began on October 1, 2006 and has provided 50,000 rides to MSU students and other citizens in the Bozeman area. Skyline, from Bozeman to Big Sky, and the link between Bozeman and Big Sky began service on December 1, 2006. Skyline has provided 65,000

rides so far and the link 9,200 rides. He said future plans include service between Bozeman and Belgrade, if they get the necessary funding. Mr. Kack said as Bozeman and Belgrade continue to grow, the demand for services will continue to grow. He said they would probably need \$25,000 to \$30,000 in local funds to receive federal funds in order to provide services in Belgrade.

He said that Karst Stage operates Skyline and they also operate privately to Big Sky. Mr. Kack said they don't want to take all that business from them so they are sensitive to that. He believes people will still need to depend on taxi service at the airport as well. He thinks infrequent service might work for employees and students of the College of Technology.

John McKenna said the board needs to continue to receive updates as services continue and asked Mr. Kack to give them lead-time if they need to participate in funding in the future. Mr. Metzger said that he believes it is inevitable that there will be bus service; it is just a matter of timing and cost. Mr. McKenna said it would be great to have the service.

Mr. Metzger asked if there are unmet job opportunities at the airport that college students could fill. Mr. Mathis said we would have to talk to vendors in the building. He said the Airport Authority hires one or two college students as seasonal groundskeepers each year.

The seventh agenda item was the Master Plan project update – Scott Bell. Mr. Bell gave the board the first draft of chapter four and asked the board members to go through it and get their comments back to Mr. Mathis, Brian Sprenger or himself within 2 weeks. He said the draft is a summary of the last four months and was written by the architects from RS&H. It summarizes how they came up with the recommended alternatives and costs. Mr. Bell said the next chapter would deal with finances and breaking down the terminal project in

phases. The board asked him to include tick points so they know how far in advance they have to plan for the phases. If they need a certain area built by a certain time, they need to know when to start the bidding process, how soon they need to send building plans to the state and approximately how much money they will need for that portion of the project. Mr. Bell said that some master plans don't include the financial aspects but he believes it is the most important because it relates to trigger points.

The eighth agenda item was the report on passenger boardings and flight operations – Brian Sprenger. Mr. Sprenger reported that in February there were 707 air carrier operations, 776 air taxi, 1,514 general aviation itinerant and 10 military, for a total of 3,007 itinerant operations. Local GA operations were 1,450, for a total of 4,457 tower operations, down 14% from February a year ago. There were 326 landings of aircraft over 12,500 pounds, up 21.2% from last February.

Mr. Sprenger reported that passenger enplanements were 27,025, up 7.5%. Year-to-date enplanements are 54,241, up 4.8% for the first 2 months of the year.

Mr. Roehm asked how Big Sky Airlines could take flights away from Bozeman since they receive government subsidies. Mr. Sprenger said they aren't subsidized to fly into Bozeman. They receive subsidies for the eastern part of the state, such as Miles City. Mr. Roehm asked about the possibility of Allegiant Airlines flying into Bozeman. Mr. Sprenger said they may, but that there are more people who fly from Great Falls to Las Vegas so Great Falls will get service sooner than we will. He said they have a greater area to draw people from than Bozeman does.

Mr. Sprenger is going to Denver next Tuesday to meet with Frontier Airlines. Meg O'Leary from Big Sky and David Smith, president of the Bozeman Chamber of Commerce, will attend the meeting with him.

He also said that at the Montana Aviation Conference he attended last week, one of the things that was addressed was the fact that customs is short appropriations for 20 customs officers in the state. He said that Mr. Mathis will be meeting with customs officials in April. Mr. Sprenger said that Yellowstone Jetcenter in essence is appropriating money for a customs officer and facilities here and hopes that will make a difference.

The ninth agenda item was the Director's Report – Ted Mathis. Mr. Mathis said we have requested bids to replace our 13-year old carpet in Phase I of the terminal building. He said we hope to have the bids for our April meeting.

Mr. Mathis said we also have a request for proposals (RFP) out for our insurance, which is a 1-year contract, with two 1-year options if the service is satisfactory. Our current coverage will end in August this year.

Mr. Mathis said that customs representatives are coming down for a site inspection in early April. Mr. Sprenger and he will have a meeting in April with the Yellowstone Jetcenter folks as well.

Mr. Mathis said the interchange committee is still short \$15 million and the price for the interchange keeps increasing. They are pressing forward but are shooting at a moving target.

He said Airport Improvement Project (AIP) funding is fine this year but Congress is looking at reauthorization for the future. He said they see the need for airport improvements and additional capacities.

Regarding land acquisition, he said the appraisal is done on Donna Brents' property. He said after the appraisal was done on Carol Jerovac's property, we made her an offer but she wasn't interested.

Mr. Mathis said that we need to consider what we should do for snow removal equipment. Because the airport is so much busier, we need to be able to get a lot of equipment out on the airfield at once and our old broom doesn't keep up. He said a new Oshkosh Chassis equipped with a broom and air blower is \$500,000 so we need to decide if we want to get one of those or send our old fire truck broom back to M-B and have it upgraded with a larger broom and power unit.

Mr. Mathis believes Salt Lake Center will be using our radar by April 16th.

The tenth agenda item was to consider the bills and approve for payment. After review and discussion, Mr. Williamson moved to pay the bills and Mr. Metzger seconded the motion, which carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

John McKenna, Jr., Chair