

Minutes of the City/County Joint Airport Board meeting November 22, 2011.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kerry LaDuke, Chairman
Don Wilson
Dennis Skattum
Ray Sundling
George Denton
Jerri Miller, Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Russ Ferguson, JoAnne Ferguson, Bill Chapman, Loretta Chapman, Jim Durgan and Mark Westenshaw of CTA Engineering

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon by Chairman LaDuke. Minutes of the October 25, 2011 meeting were approved as mailed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The majority of our project is completed. The exception is the final paint, which will not be done until spring. The FAA has agreed to participate in a temporary paint job so we will not have to assume total financial responsibility for it. The weather is just too cold to provide a good dry at this time.

Jerri reported that the funding from Montana Aeronautics Board has come in to the County Treasurer. Two checks, each for \$77,500 were received and constitute the grant and loan as provided for in our application. Between the Treasurers' Office and Finance Office, our payment process seems to be working quite well with everyone taking great care to make sure the work is done as required by the FAA. Jerri said this has been the smoothest payment process ever and thanked everyone for their hard work.

Kerry has been in contact with the FAA regarding the extra electrical work as well as removal of the generator and upgrading requirements needed to bring the electrical up to code. The FAA has agreed to participate, and the facilities office has agreed to release the meter to us. This meter controls the runway lights and beacon. The beacon is always on and can be activated by a mic click.

Austin Timm and Bridger Outdoor Design has signed their lease and paid the first and second month's rent as well as a \$550 deposit. The locks on the doors have been changed, with copies going to Yellowstone Air Service and to Jerri as well as the Bridger folks.

NEW BUSINESS: The updated CIP will be due in Helena by February 1, 2012. The topic will remain on the agenda until the project is complete. One thing everyone seems to want to see included in it is an income generating hangar which can also house our snow removal equipment which is also included in the CIP.

Jim Durgan met with Emergency Services folks from the hospital regarding a situation that occurred on November 5th with a Life Flight trying to land at Mission Field. The aircraft was unable to land and had to divert to Bozeman. This added approximately 2-3 hours onto the flight and could have become a serious problem. There was nobody at Mission Field able to plow the runway and the flight personnel did not feel it safe to land without plowing being done. Jim assured the hospital folks that we do have a procedure in place as well as a call out list for folks to plow. The Board assured him that we would do everything possible to see this situation does not happen again.

MAINTENANCE REPORT: Russ stated that all of the repairs have been done to the plow and it should be ready for use. The snow that we have received so far has been very minimal, and so far, we have not had to call anyone out.

GARDINER REPORT: Still no agreement with the Park Service about crack sealing, but Jim assured the Board the subject is still on the table.

Mark Westenshaw with CTA attended the meeting to discuss the Gardiner Transfer Facility on the drawing board at this time. Currently, several sites are being looked at. Jerri encouraged both Mark and the County Commissioners to be very careful in determining whose land is where within the planned construction. Forest Service, Park Service State and County land as well as our AAA can create issues for this construction. Both our special use permit with the Forest Service and our Right-of-way with the State are specific to the land being used for airport purposes, and each entity would have to approve any deviation from those permits.

The idea of fencing at Gardiner has been discussed; however the general consensus is that it would inhibit the natural migration patterns of both elk and bison. That discussion will be shelved for now.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS: Nothing new.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Nothing

The claims were audited for payment. Under the terms of our Joint Resolution, the Board can choose to only hold 10 monthly meetings in one year. Because we have not missed any meetings yet this year, the Board decided to not hold a regular meeting in December. Therefore, the next meeting will be January 24, 2012 at Mission Field.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Submitted this 24th day of January, 2012.

Kerry LaDuke, Chairman

Jerri Miller, Secretary