



Bentonville Municipal Airport  
Advisory Board Meeting  
Tuesday, July 2, 2020, at 1:00 pm  
*Virtual Webinar via Zoom*

**MINUTES**

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance – Dr. Richard Ham, Chairman

Members Present and Absent: See Attached List

**Old Business**

1. Approval of Minutes from June 4, 2020

Motion to approve the Minutes from the June 4, 2020 meeting by Dennis Cherry. Second by Rick Simmons. No discussion. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

2. Improvements for Hangar Access for Public Use (Recurring Item)

Charles Chadwick gave a report of the meeting the sub-committee had on this matter. He said it was a good meeting and they did practice social distancing. He mentioned that Chad Cox wants to be on the committee and he would like to accommodate him and anyone else who wants to serve. They will probably have to make the next meeting via Zoom in order to social distance.

He got hold of James Smith, the manager at the Springdale Airport, who gave him some numbers information about the hangars that they have on their field. He would like to try and get the same type of information from the Rogers Airport. Mr. Chadwick wants to put a total package of information together to pass on to the Board as soon as possible. One of the main goals of the committee was to find some donation money, or rather, someone that was willing or interested in donating to the airfield to build hangars, and then make them affordable hangars for the public.

Mr. Chadwick also talked with Jerry Chism who said that some ADA might be available later, but it is not available right now. In that regard, the city would still have to come up with roughly \$385,000, and the ADA portion would be roughly \$650,000.00. Mike Frost brought up that they talked about municipal bonds.

Ham said they had checked into the Arkansas Public/Private Partnership Act, but local municipalities could not participate. He said that Lisa may have some other ideas, but they are mostly philanthropic at this point.

Mr. Chadwick said this is a work in progress and the committee will meet again soon. Dr. Ham thanked the committee for their work on this.

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Dan Weese reported on the dirt at the airport we have contracted to move. He said they have hauled out a few loads of dirt. He said it was really more of topsoil out there right now. He looked into other ideas to get it hauled off, but it was going to cost around \$200,000.00. Mr. Weese said our best resource is still to have the contractor haul it off, and the contractor still indicates that he is going to use it. The deadline is in October.

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Dennis Birge reported on Robin Fields and Maverick. He said we might want to have Robin in for a meeting to get a better idea of how things are going. He said they recently got Robin a data form to fill out on the computer, which will then transfer to a spreadsheet. They did this to keep up with productivity of handling the birds so they could look back next year to see how they have done. Another reason for keeping track is to see how the dog was reacting and if there is any issues with the dog, and report that to *Fly Away Geese* for help with retraining the dog. There have been no issues yet.

Robin has been very active with dealing with the geese and especially during the time when they were trying to nest. In the last few weeks, he has not seen many out there. They are in the molting stage right now, so they are staying put. Dennis says that he thinks we are making good progress, but next year we should be able to look back at the spreadsheet data and see what progress we have made. As far as the dog, Robin reports to Dennis that Maverick is still a young pup, but has gotten a lot better at obeying his commands, and that he is coming along fine.

## **New Business**

1. Engineering and Construction, *Adam White, Garver Engineers*
  - A. *Update on Current Projects*

Adam White gave the floor to Chris Maestri to give an update on the current projects at the airport.

### EAST TAXIWAY EXTENTION TO THE SOUTH

This is the FAA design grant currently going on. We are in the process of closing this out, as we got approval last week to move forward with the grant application for the construction portion of this project. We sent that grant application in to the FAA earlier this week. They expect to have a grant offer sent out early next week to execute with the City. Once we get that information back from them, we can move forward with getting a construction contract executed with TriStar and the City, and move forward with the typical construction things. He is showing early November to get started with construction.

## EAST TAXIWAY EXTENSION & RUNWAY 18 TURNAROUND TO THE NORTH

This is the privately funded project on the north end of the airfield. They expect to finish construction the middle of July. There is a little electrical work to do, base finish-up, and asphalt paving, and they will be done out there.

Chuck asked if they could take their NOTAMS off for the shortening of the runway. Chris said the NOTAMS were extended to July 15<sup>th</sup>, and should not be extended again. If they are, he will let us know. We will get our displaced threshold back then. They will remove the barricades, the yellow chevron taken off the runway, and it should be back to normal.

## PEDESTRIAN TUNNEL UNDER THE RUNWAY

Chris reports that they met with the FAA last week to get a status update. He is expecting some information from them sometime next week, so we can start moving forward with this project. Adam said that the FAA did not really provide much information to us during the conference, and was more of just a status update. The FAA did say they thought they had everything to move forward and were complimentary to everyone about getting them what they needed. The FAA did not rule out the fact they may have more questions, but it looked like they had what they needed. Pending the response from the FAA, we could get started as early as September get this project done by the end of the year.

## GAME COMPOSITES HANGAR FACILITY

This is the project to the south of the current Game Composites facility. This project is still on hold per the owner.

## GAME COMPOSITES SHOP

This is another privately funded project over in the same area but to the North. He has on the attached project sheet the end of July for a conceptual meeting with the City, but that date is pending because of some negotiations with the owner regarding the Through the Fence Agreement. Mr. Chadwick said that he and Michael Ames have started negotiations on this now, and thanked Michael for getting in touch with him.

## EAST HANGAR CONSTRUCTION

This project is also a privately funded project and is on hold per the owner's request.

Mr. Chadwick commented that Kathy Franklin sent a nice email to him talking about the great shape the proposal was in that Adam 2.0 (Chris Maestri) sent in. She was very complimentary of the project work he had done on it from a documentation standpoint.

### *2. City of Bentonville, Charles Chadwick, Airport Manager*

Mr. Chadwick reported that the City Council did approve unanimously the extension of the CPS Ventures Lease Agreement. Mr. Chadwick had brought this before the board and asked that their decision making time be extended October 31<sup>st</sup> or October 1<sup>st</sup> to January 1<sup>st</sup>. Because of this, the city will receive another \$2000.00 because of that. They have already paid the initial \$4000.00 to the city on this. We are now working under the Amended Lease Agreement that gives them until January 1, 2021.

3. Summit Aviation/FBO/Turf Runway/Tailwind – *Chad Cox, Summit Aviation/FBO*  
A. *Updates on FBO, Flight School, and OZ1 Flying Club*

Chad Cox appeared and reported that the Fieldhouse had shut down because of Covid-19 from about mid-March until May 4<sup>th</sup>. They cordoned off certain areas, and you had to wear a mask. Since that time, they have opened up the Fieldhouse again, and taken down the barriers. They felt that science has vetted out that the Corona Virus seems to spread through water droplets, that being people breathing, talking, coughing, sneezing, etc. So, today, they are making the move to put up signs that to enter the building a mask is required, and opening up the areas that had been cordoned off. He said they are putting up a vinyl sign that says, “Welcome Friend, Mask Required”. They just want people to know they are wanted and welcome, but that they want them to stay healthy and happy.

He commented on what the board had talked about earlier in keeping flying economical. He reported that they had planes that rented for \$89.00 an hour with fuel. Hangars are full because we try to keep our hangar rents affordable. Chad said we are sacrificing bringing in more income, because we choose to not charge some of the fees other airports do. They want our airport to be the most welcoming and friendly airport above others.

Chad appreciates the work Dennis, and others, have done in communicating with the FAA in getting the tunnel opened up.

Within the Flight School, Chad reported that they typically have about 25 flights a day. They want to try very hard to keep up this pace and work toward the goals they have set for themselves. He praised the instructors and pilots he works with. In the flight school they have recorded 8780 hours this year so far. Last year they had a total of 5500.

Chad also reported that they had invested in some sound damping on the Exhibit Hangar. It had a 4.5 second echo, and now it has a 1.5 second echo. He wanted us to keep this in mind to use for one of our meetings, and for any event renting. He also reported fuel sales for 2019 were 17,234 gallons. As of June this year, they are at 19,196 gallons.

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Rick Simmons commented that his last month as a board member would be September. He was hoping that we could go out and find someone to fill his position starting with the October 2020, meeting. Dr. Ham thanked him and asked that we start the process of finding someone.

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Dennis Birge thanked everyone for being flexible to having another Zoom meeting. He explained that we could have met in person at the Community Center, but with only a few of us going to be there, it was going to be a lot of work to get it set up. We decided to go back to the Zoom meeting since it seemed to be working well. In the future, he can still get that room if we want to have an in-person meeting, but we will just keep that conversation going for now. Dr. Ham commented that it would be good if we could maybe do that in the future.

## **Other Business**

1. Schedule August, 2020, AAB Meeting

*Proposed Meeting Day: Thursday, August 6, @ 1:00 pm*

Dr. Ham asked if the board members were okay with the August 6, 2020, meeting at 1:00 pm. All present members agreed that it was. The date is set.

2. Motion to Adjourn

Motion by Rick Simmons to adjourn. Michael Frost gave a second. All approved. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:44:51.

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