



Bentonville Municipal Airport  
Advisory Board Meeting  
Tuesday, October 1, 2020 @ 2:30 pm  
*Virtual Webinar via Zoom*

MINUTES

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance – Dr. Richard Ham, Chairman  
Chairman Richard ham called the meeting to order and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition of New & Re-Appointed Members: Mark Slaughter and Michael Frost  
Chairman Ham welcomed newly appointed Board member, Mark Slaughter.

Dr. Ham and the Admin. Asst. mentioned that the board has not appointed a Vice-Chair or Secretary for the Board since Rick Simmons and Chris Faulhaber have rotated off the Board. Chairman Ham suggested that we wait until all Board members attend before we do this. All agreed. *This will appear on the November agenda.*

Present at the meeting: Richard Ham – Chairman, Dennis Cherry, Charles Chadwick, Beverly Shepherd, Admin. Asst., Dennis Birge, Chad Cox, Chris Maestri, Will Gunselman, Michael Ames

Absent: Mike Frost, Lisa Kelley, Aubrey Patterson, Dan Weese, Adam White

**Old Business**

1. Approval of Minutes from September 3, 2020

Dennis Cherry made a motion to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Mark Slaughter gave a second. Motion passed.

2. Update from Robin Fields and “Maverick”

Robin said that in the last month there have been fewer geese around the airport. He said that today, for the first time this week, at around 7:30 am there were approximately 40 geese at the airport. They flushed them out, and when he came back at 11:00 am, there were just 5 geese on the lake. Robin said that fewer and fewer geese have been showing up. He also said that Maverick’s skills were coming along. He felt their bond was stronger and Maverick is starting to listen to him more, and learning what Robin wants from him. Robin is pleased with his progress.

3. Improvements for Hangar Access for Public Use (Recurring Item)  
A. Report from Sub-Committee – Fuel Affordability

Mr. Chadwick reported that he is still in discussions with a private investor, and with Game Composites regarding the Through the Fence Agreement, but has nothing firm as of yet. He said the discussions were positive. Chad Cox said that they had a couple of meeting with Chuck, Dennis and the Mayor. He said his team was taking the feedback received and trying to fill that as best they can. Chad said he is working on getting pricing for the open T-Hangar format, and will get that to Mr. Chadwick as soon as he has it. Mr. Chadwick also gave Mark Slaughter a brief summary of how we got to this point.

Regarding fuel affordability, they are trying to put a self-fueled system back on the field. Mr. Chadwick said he is trying to get quotes for this. Mr. Chadwick hopes with an FAA grant, the ADA, and the FBO's contribution, this can happen, but we are waiting on cost figures from Will Gunselman so Adam White and Chris Maestri can present it to the FAA.

Regarding the moving of the dirt mound, Dennis Birge said that nothing much has happened. Little dirt has moved recently. The contract with Chev's Trucking will terminate at the end of October. However, Mr. Birge wanted to talk to Chev's representative and see if they still want the dirt and intend to move it. It might be that we could extend the contract if they do. On the other hand, we might see if we can get others interested in moving it. Mr. Chadwick gave a brief update to Mr. Slaughter about the dirt mound. Mr. Chadwick said that he has three individuals wanting to build T-hangars, but for them to move the dirt themselves would cost approximately \$30,000.00, and they do not care for that.

**New Business**

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

Chris Maestri appeared for Garver with updates on the current project.

**East Taxiway Extension to the South (FAA Grant)**

Chris said they decided to delay the construction of this project until the spring because the threshold will be displaced when construction starts. They wanted to wait to have a guarantee of good weather when they do start. The updated period to start construction is April of 2021.

**Access Tunnel**

The City has received a letter from the FAA regarding their requests regarding the tunnel. The City is in the process of reviewing the letter back to the FAA and letting them know of what we would like to see happen. Dennis is going over the letter now and has a couple of minor changes to make. He is hoping to get that sent out today or tomorrow.

**East Hangar Construction**

Garver reported that the owner is back online to continue this project. They do have some design adjustments that they would like to make before they move forward with a Pre-Construction. They are getting all the approvals from the City before they get going with the construction. As a reminder, this hangar will go on the east side of the airfield where the G-Hangar is currently. Chad Cox spoke and said that they may be able to go a little further east. Chuck said that he does not think that will cause any problem at all.

2. City of Bentonville - *Updates, Charles Chadwick, Airport Manager*

Mr. Chadwick covered his items previously in this document.

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

Chad Cox gave a report on fuel sales from last year to this year. In September of 2019, we sold 18,600 gallons, and this year in September, we sold just a little below 26,000 gallons. This is quite an increase from last year. He said that this week has been maybe their best week ever for fuel sales because of people coming through.

Chad also brought up the fact that people have remarked about the high traffic at our airport. He thought it might be good to add to the Chart Supplement the fact that there is “extensive” training in the area. The board discussed what language to use. Dr. Ham thinks there is a digital form we can use to request this. Dennis said he could check with Kathy Franklin about this and report to the board. Dr. Ham said that he would like to wait on this another month to check into this further. Dennis Cherry agreed. Mr. Chadwick also thinks that we need to check further into this, and then taking some action on this. He will check with Chad and people from the pilot community about the language and times, from the student piloting standpoint. Mark Slaughter recommended possibly using the word “intermittent” in the language rather than “extensive”, as it seems this is more of a periodic problem. No formal motion made. *This item will appear on the November agenda.*

Mr. Chadwick mentioned that he had been getting some noise complaints through city emails and phone calls. They concerns are from three different individuals, but one, in particular. He suspects it is from the Game Composites’ planes, and there was a complaint about a helicopter flying low and causing noise. He asked Chad if he could put something over at the FBO and start passing it around to the pilot community that if they could depart straight out and get their altitude, and try to take care of some of the noise abatement concerns, he would appreciate it. He would like to let these citizens know we are discussing it and take care of it through communication with the pilot community. Chad took some of the blame as he flies over the town with a rather noisy helicopter. He will communicate this at the FBO and the flight school. They will try to vary their patterns as much as possible.

**Other Business**

1. Schedule November, 2020, AAB Meeting  
*Proposed Meeting Day: Thursday, November 5, 2020 @ 1:00 pm*

Dr. Ham mentioned that he might have a conflict with the 1:00 pm time on November 5, 2020 because of a class he is teaching a class at Bentonville High School. All other members are good with the November 5, 2020 date and time. We may have to change the time, but that has yet to be determined.

2. Motion to Adjourn

New member, Mark Slaughter, made his first motion as a board member, to adjourn. Dennis Cherry gave a second. Motion passed.

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