



Bentonville Municipal Airport
Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, January 10, 2018 – 1:00 pm
Community Development Building
305 SW “A” Street
Bentonville, AR 72712

MINUTES

Present at the meeting were only two official members: Chairman, Richard Ham, Secretary, Chris Faulhaber, and, Ex Officio member, Octavio Sanchez. There was not a quorum. There were no items voted upon; however, Chairman Ham, after conferring with Charles Chadwick, indicated that we would go ahead with the meeting for informational purposes and updates with discussion only, and the Committee would not be voting on any issue that might present itself.

Others present at the meeting: Charles Chadwick, Airport Manager, Beverly Shepherd, Administrative Assistant, Ellen Norvell, City Engineer, Adam White, Garver, Dave Powell, Chad Cox, Brian Baldwin, Paul Suarez, Chip Givens, Czarina Sanchez (Octavio Sanchez’ daughter)

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

Chairman Ham called the meeting to order on this 10th day of January 2019, with the Pledge of Allegiance

Old Business

1. Approval of Minutes from December, 2018, Meeting

The approval of the Minutes from the December 6, 2018, is deferred to the February 4, 2019, meeting.

2. Sub-Committee Report: Geese on Runway

Chad Cox mentioned that a “152” plane had been damaged by a bird strike (geese) to the wing. Mr. Cox mentioned there are more birds on the lake now than he has ever witnessed. There was discussion regarding this on-going problem, and solutions, with Dr. Ham saying we need to continue to figure out what to do. Mr. Cox mentioned that he had contacted an instructor to report to us on Falconry at this meeting, but he did not appear. Chad had heard that it could be up to five (5) years before this method could be set in place. This might be a great long-term solution, but right now, that is not going work. He placed great emphasis on the fact that we need to take action quickly, whether it is depredation or some other method. He wanted it noted in the minutes that great emphasis be placed on taking care of this geese problem forthwith!! Dr. Ham concurred.

Mr. Chadwick suggested the AAB get busy with working on procedures for a policy for dealing with the geese. Mr. Sanchez agreed and noted that permitting, hiring, cost, and City Council approval would be part of the process. Mr. Chadwick mentioned we might need to bring in the Police and/or Parks to help deal with the situation, and that a Special-Called Meeting of the AAB could be necessary. Mr. Sanchez said he feels the City Council would approve a program to move forward with dealing with the geese. Mr. Chadwick asked Dr. Ham that as he takes this matter up the chain of command to get a policy in place, if Dr. Ham would be willing to oversee it. Dr. Ham agreed.

New Business

1. City of Bentonville, Charles Chadwick, Airport Manager

Mr. Chadwick asked Adam White to put up some pictures on the screen so the Board could see the damage that happened to the Southeast gate of the airport off 28th Street. On New Year’s Eve, a car ran through a gate. The Police Department arrested the individual that caused the damage two to three hours after the incident, and the individual admitted that he had been drinking. The gate, just replaced from the last incident a couple of months previously, had not yet had the motorized portion installed. The cost of the damage this time about \$3,000. The last incident cost

was \$8,000. The individual also damaged the new electrical shed in this incident. He was not wearing seatbelts, and the airbag deployed.

Mr. Chadwick stated we might want to put up more signs that are reflective, and/or markings, since this is the second time for an accident that damaged a gate in about as many months. Mr. Chadwick had talked to Dennis Birge about this previously.

Mr. Dave Powell also mentioned another area of a new building that might need some signs, markings, and/or rip-rap to help.

Mr. Chadwick mentioned that he was going to meet with Chad about airport security very soon. More activity is starting to come in the east side of airport property, where people might not need to be.

2. Engineering and Construction, *Adam White, Garver Engineers*

Adam White appeared before the Board with a handout of the status of the programs that are going on right now. The handout is attached hereto, and made a part of these minutes.

On the Game Composite Taxiway involved a little strip of land to the new hangar site. Mr. Sanchez asked if that strip of land would be included in the Land Transfer to the City. Mr. White indicated that it would.

We have been in communication with Kathy Franklin on the CIP, and the biggest comment there was is your five-year plan that you reviewed back in October. For that meeting there was a request from a board member if we could get some money for the perimeter road on the back end of the CIP. The FAA confirmed that although you could use entitlement funds for that, the \$150,000 a year, you would not get discretionary money for it. You could do it under entitlement funding, but you cannot get a million dollars of discretionary money to do that work. Therefore, we have to think up funds to do that. We can look at that next year.

Regarding future projects, Mr. White indicated that the State's grant season is July 1st to June 30th, so we have about 6 more months of looking at grants. The State income has been good, averaging about a

million dollars a month. They want to push out more grants, so, if we want to do get a State Grant to do another project, there is a possibility to do that. However, we need to act on it soon if we do are some possibilities of projects that we might want to act on soon if we want to get a State grant, you might want to consider acting on it soon since we just have until June, 2019. A couple of possibilities would be refurbishing signs, reflective signs, pappies and REILS for Runway 18-36. There are possibilities of and ADA 50/50 grant, 90/10, and/or ADA 80/20 grant. We would just need to make sure we have money to do our part with the grant. If we want to do any of this, Mr. White and Mr. Chadwick would get with the City to start on this.

3. Summit Aviation/FBO – *Brad Elliott, Summit Aviation/FBO*

Brad Elliott appeared and said that the Fuel Flowage Report for 2018 showed 150,000 gallons out in 2018, as opposed to 155,000 gallons the year previous. We had some displacement of threshold, which might account for some of the loss. They are staying busy with the ramp, tie-downs installed, and that has slowed things a little. Chad showed a few aerial shots of the airport to show some of the improvements. Chad mentioned that there was a woman they later determined to live close to the airport, came onto airport property and was trying to punch in codes to enter the hangar. The police came and questioned her. No real crime was committed - she did not break any laws, did not break any locks getting in, and did not enter any hangars. He thought there might have been some mental health issues in this case. Mr. Cox has been talking with Mr. Chadwick about maybe installing mechanical code locks on the main gates. In addition, they will look at areas that people might be able to squeeze through and see if we can beef up security.

Mr. Elliott mentioned Chip Givens, who was at the meeting, is looking at a frequency change. They are having a lot of air traffic, and want to change Bentonville's frequency. There are apparently several different airports in the area using the same frequency. The cost for a change in frequency is \$95.00. He is making a recommendation to put this on the agenda for next month in doing this. Looking at his reports, he is expecting more traffic in the spring with the new building, and marketing that they are doing.

At their CFI meeting, they had 29 students, but they had 5 more people sign up within the next few days. Chad said that it is just “silly” how many people want to learn to fly. Brad said they added a new plane to the flight school. It is a 172 and very nice. They are also looking to add more hangars in the near future.

At this point, Mr. Dave Powell asked to give an update on the grass strip. He has received the thirty-30” plates for the runway edge markers and will be installing them soon. He will have some dirt and sand brought in to level the strip, and, hopefully, have that done by February. In addition, they have the end caps that they are going to paint blue identifying the entrances and exits for the runway. The plates are all ordered and coming and should be here soon.

The Bentonville School Ignite program kids started their first week working with the airport to develop new curriculum. There are eight (8) of them and they work about 4 hours each, three times a week. The goal is to have that done in May and will start new programs in the high school.

4. Mechanical Locks on Gates – *Chad Cox/Charles Chadwick*

Chad will get with Mr. Chadwick later. He requests that it be added to next month’s agenda.

Other Business

- 1. Paul J. Suarez, 702 NE Green Creek Road, Bentonville, AR, Home Phone: (571) 455-6094, Business Phone: (479) 277-9614, Suarez.PaulJ@yahoo.com**

Mr. Suarez presented himself this date as a volunteer and applicant to sit on the Airport Authority Board. Mr. Suarez submitted his application to the AAB Administrative Assistant about 4 months ago. He came today to present his qualifications to the Board should there ever be a vacancy. His application and resume are attached to these minutes and made a part hereof.

Mr. Chadwick and Dr. Ham explained to Mr. Suarez that when the Board has a vacancy, it is up to the Mayor to appoint someone to the AAB, and

then approved through City Council. He was told that his application would be kept on file, and, if he had not heard anything within six months, to please re-apply, and to do so every six months afterward. If he does here of a potential opening, please make us aware of it, so he does not slip through the cracks. If, he would like to add anything to his resume, he is welcome to turn that in to the Administrative Assistant. She will keep his resume on file with her minute notes.

2. Schedule February AAB Meeting

The next meeting date is Thursday, February 7, 2019, at 1:00 pm.

3. Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn at 2:20 pm. Motion approved.

###