



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Airport Board July 17, 2018

I. Call to Order / Attendance

A regular meeting of the Airport Board was called to order at 8:30 AM, Tuesday, July 17, 2018, at the Central Colorado Regional Airport, 27960 County Road 319, Buena Vista, Colorado by Chair Dennis Heap. Additional Board Members present were Vice-Chair Tom Warren, Mal Sillars, Taylor Albrecht, and Mark Muller. Also in attendance were Airport Manager Jack Wyles, Deputy Town Clerk Melanie Jacobs, Trustee David Volpe, and community member Bob Dimmitt.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Heap led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Approval of Minutes – June 19, 2018

Albrecht motioned for approval of the June 19, 2018 minutes. Sillars seconded. **Motion #1** passed unanimously.

V. Reports

A. Operations

Wyles noted that July has seen a large jump in fuel sales as well as airport operations, due to the wildfire staging activity that began at CCRA in late June. He believes this month's numbers will contribute significantly towards closing the gap that currently exists between 2017's year-to-date totals and 2018's.

Agusta (now Leonardo) cancelled its planned summer testing at CCRA. They have a crew staged out of Leadville at the present time, however, and will fly down to Buena Vista to test on a daily basis.

Wyles informed the Board that the Trustees had approved some new airport fees at their July 10, 2018 meeting, to include flowage fees and tether fees. All firefighting equipment at the airport is now paying appropriate daily fees. CCRA is also receiving \$200 per day for incidentals related to Weston Pass firefighting efforts.

The HAATS barbeque is still scheduled for August 3. They will fly in six helicopters for the event.

Wyles' current punch list priorities are putting in asphalt skirting for the SRE building and the B hangars, and replacing/rewiring the outside lighting on the executive hangar as needed.

B. Financial

Wyles stated that he has been spending money on various repairs but taken as a whole the budget numbers look pretty good. He is starting work on the 2019 airport budget at the present time. Heap expressed concern that given year-to-date trends, the airport could end 2018 with a deficit rather than a surplus, as originally projected.

VI. Old Business

A. Bell Helicopter Testing

Wyles let Board members know that Bell delayed too long in arranging for local accommodations for its staff, and had to cancel its planned testing when no lodging could be found.

B. Airport Fly-in and Open House

Wyles stated that concerns about this year's active fire season have interfered with efforts to set a firm date for an Open House. He does not want to schedule such an event and then have to cancel it. Heap would like to make sure that a fly-in will be added to the calendar in 2019 if it cannot be accommodated this year.

C. Marketing Plan

Heap noted that the Marketing Subcommittee had completed a rough draft of a new Marketing Plan, which it will submit to the Airport Board for approval at its August meeting. He remarked that the plan calls on CCRA to join a number of aviation organizations, and for Airport Manager Wyles or designated Board members to attend certain important conferences.

Muller suggested that CCRA designate its own Airport Owners and Pilots Association representative, rather than sharing one with the Salida airport as is currently the case, and that the airport register for an AirNav account. He believes that reviews posted on the AirNav website are valuable marketing tools. Albrecht suggested that the ForeFlight app could be used for the same purpose.

D. Facebook

No discussion.

E. US Forest Service Forward Basing Helicopters

Wyles indicated that firefighting crews and equipment first arrived at CCRA on June 28 and their presence has been ongoing ever since. With the Weston Pass fire now under control, he expects this activity to taper off though that could change depending upon fire season developments. A total of fifteen different aircraft related to Weston Pass firefighting efforts have been based at CCRA since that fire started.

VII. New Business

A. New Board Member Consideration: Bob Dimmitt

Dimmitt introduced himself, explaining that most of his background is in maintenance/construction and that he initially became interested in CCRA because his son-in-law is a pilot.

Albrecht moved to recommend that the Board of Trustees approve Bob Dimmitt as an alternate member of the Airport Advisory Board. Muller seconded and **Motion #2** passed without dissent.

B. Elect Board Secretary

Albrecht was asked if he would accept the position of Airport Advisory Board Secretary and he indicated that he would be pleased to serve in that role. Muller nominated him for the position and Warren seconded. **Motion #3** passed unanimously.

C. Snow Equipment Plan

Wyles stated that the airport is in possession of two snow plows and one tractor with a snow blower. This equipment has been sufficient to date, but one of the plows is showing its age and the Town will need to acquire a new piece of equipment in the near future. He will include a corresponding line item in the 2019 budget. Wyles would prefer to obtain a ¾ ton pickup with a blade on the front, as such a vehicle could safely plow within some of the more constricted areas of the airport without risk of accident.

Heap asked about the airport's lack of deicing capability. Wyles noted that concerns about icing have been addressed in the past primarily by storing aircraft in the executive hangar, as CCRA has never owned deicing equipment. He indicated that he receives a few inquiries each winter about deicing and feels that the cost to purchase and maintain this type of equipment would be high in comparison to its actual use. Environmental regulations regarding runoff would add additional expense and complication to any endeavor to provide this service.

D. Ron Southard Buyout Update

Wyles informed the Board that another draft of the proposed lease agreement had recently gone back to the condo associations for further review and emendation. Roger Bloomfield believes that the requisite 67% of association members will approve the final document. Wyles now hopes to have the paperwork completed by the end of August. In response to questions from Board members, Wyles stated that the buyout price was \$110,000 and the lease will run past 2033, the year in which the leases currently in effect are set to expire.

E. Wildland Air Ops Update

Already discussed.

VIII. Other Business

Heap remarked that a drone cage had been set up in a hangar at the Salida airport during the recent fly-in held there. He suggested that the cage be erected at CCRA during its Open House.

Sillars asked about the status of getting the airport fence moved to encompass the Grindle property and the Carpenter hangar, and Wyles replied that he is working on obtaining a cost estimate for the project. He will add the expense to the capital budget plan and anticipates the labor will take two years to complete.

Wyles noted that the Carpenter hangar, particularly the doors, is in need of repair. The Jones hangar is still up for sale.

IX. Adjournment

Heap noted that there was no further business to come before the Board. Sillars motioned to adjourn and was seconded by Albrecht. **Motion #4** carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:27 AM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



CHAIR DENNIS HEAP



DEPUTY TOWN CLERK MELANIE JACOBS