

Minutes of Meeting
Advisory Board Interview
January 7, 2020
3:00 p.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Chris Fillios, Commissioner Leslie Duncan and Commissioner Bill Brooks met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Airport Director Steven Kjergaard and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present was Kootenai County Resident Aaron Salzer.

- A. **Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.
- B. **Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. **Business (Discussion Item):**

Airport Advisory Board Applicant Interview: Aaron Salzer

Chairman Fillios invited Kootenai County Resident Aaron Salzer to tell them about himself.

Mr. Salzer reported that he had been in aviation for about twenty years. He said he started out in Winnemucca, Nevada on the board for an air ambulance service for Humboldt County, after which he served on the Winnemucca airport advisory board.

He stated he moved to Kootenai County in 2002 and has been operating out of the Coeur d'Alene Airport for about eighteen years. He said he works for Universal Funding Corporation currently, flying their Lear Jet, but before that he worked for Idaho Forest Industries and for Marshall Chesrown at Black Rock. He remarked that his experience in corporate aviation would be an asset because that point of view was not always well represented in the airport communities.

Mr. Salzer added that he was also a flight instructor.

Commissioner Leslie Duncan asked the first question from the interview sheet.

- **What skills and experience in group dynamics would you bring to the Airport Advisory Board that would make you an effective member?**

Mr. Salzer replied that he had served in a number of leadership roles both in his prior military service and as president and vice president of the air ambulance board. He said he was a good listener who was used to taking part in brainstorming sessions and making sure all ideas were heard.

Chairman Fillios asked about his military experience.

Mr. Salzar replied that he had been in the Navy for a couple of years, building bombs.

Commissioner Bill Brooks asked the next question from the interview sheet.

- **What do you see as the fundamental role of the Airport Advisory Board?**

Mr. Salzer responded that he saw the Advisory Board serving as a go-between for the airport's customers and its management. He said the board's work should leave the staff free to run the business by attending to the needs of the clients.

Commissioner Brooks asked how he would manage his schedule with his employer, since he could be called at any time to fly, including when meetings were scheduled.

Mr. Salzer said he had looked back over the past five years to see how often his work would have prevented him from attending Advisory Board meetings and found that he would have only missed two. He added that he could almost always be reached by phone or email.

Chairman Fillios skipped the next question on the interview sheet, since the information had already been presented.

- **What is your aviation experience?**

Chairman Fillios proceeded to the next question on the interview sheet.

- **Describe your community involvement.**

Mr. Salzer said he was not involved with any community groups at this time. In the past, he commented that he had taken underprivileged children flying. He stated his company often received phone calls from local high school students who are interested in becoming pilots and he is always happy to offer his time to them.

- **The airport has what may become a yearly event, The Air Expo. What role(s) could you take in the planning, set-up and execution of the event?**

Mr. Salzer remarked that he felt the Airport had done a good job over the years with the static displays of big jets. He suggested that more promotion could be done to attract local flight schools to the event and that he would be willing to talk to community members and request additional airplanes for display.

Chairman Fillios asked Mr. Salzer if he had any questions for them.

Mr. Salzer asked whether the BOCC had a five year plan intended to promote growth at the Airport.

Chairman Fillios stated he felt the Airport was a key ingredient to economic growth for the County. He said the BOCC does not have a five year plan itself, but the Airport does.

Airport Director Steven Kjergaard reported that they do have a CIP (Capital Investment Plan) that describes their intentions for the next five years.

Chairman Fillios remarked that Commissioner Brooks had recommended the creation of a general citizen’s advisory committee to look at issues across all aspects of Kootenai County. He pointed out that a local planning group did exist: KMPO (Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization) but most of their work was related to infrastructure and roads. He indicated that, if such a committee were created, it could benefit the Airport and many other areas.

Mr. Salzer exited the meeting at 3:21 p.m.

Commissioner Duncan moved that the Board enter into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206(1)(a) and (b). Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Ginorio called the roll:

Commissioner Brooks: Aye

Commissioner Duncan: Aye

Chairman Fillios: Aye

The motion carried.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 3:21 p.m.

Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206(1)(a) to consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent (Closed Session – Discussion)
Decisions/Direction (Open Session – Action Item)

Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206(1)(b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent (Closed Session – Discussion)

Decisions/Direction (Open Session – Action Item)

The Board exited Executive Session at 3:32 p.m.

Commissioner Duncan moved that the Board exit Executive Session, with the appointments for the Airport Advisory Board to be brought forth for ratification in a Business Meeting, reducing the nine member Airport Advisory Board to seven members, those members to be: Alex Birch, Joan Genter, Aaron Salzer, Sholeh Patrick, Greg Gfeller, Brett Boyer and Mark Vehr. Commissioner Bill Brooks seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Ginorio called the roll:

Commissioner Brooks: Aye

Commissioner Duncan: Aye

Chairman Fillios: Aye

The motion carried.

- D. Public Comment (Discussion):** This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County-related issue. Idaho Law prohibits Board action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance. Comments related to future public hearings should be held for that public hearing. There was no public comment.

E. Adjournment (Action): Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk
