

Minutes of Meeting
Airport & Airport Advisory Board Meeting
July 26, 2021
9:00 a.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Chris Fillios and Commissioner Leslie Duncan met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Airport Director Steven Kjergaard, BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present was Airport Advisory Board Chair Greg Gfeller. Commissioner Bill Brooks was excused.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business (Discussion):**

Temporary Tower/Operations

Airport Director Steven Kjergaard reported that the Airport currently had a temporary tower in place. He stated that they were experiencing about 370 operations per day, which made them busier than the Spokane Airport. He noted that this level of business made a permanent tower a necessity, but that there were issues in getting funding from the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration), as he had explained in previous meetings.

Mr. Kjergaard said he was working on collecting information and contacts to enable him to petition the FAA for a tower. He stated that this had become a safety issue. He discussed issues that could arise when depending on a temporary tower and confirmed that the temporary tower was in place now only due to the Forest Services' needs during the fire season. He predicted it could take six to seven years to get a permanent tower approved. He added that he might need to request approval for consultant fees in the future, as he explored the question.

Airport Advisory Board Chair Greg Gfeller confirmed that the temporary tower's staff was constantly busy, directing traffic.

Commissioner Duncan asked whether a tower would be staffed during the off season.

Mr. Kjergaard confirmed it would be staffed year round. In response to Commissioner Duncan's follow-up question, he said that the County's expense would be limited to possibly buying some more land. He said that the FAA would pay for the actual structure and staff.

The Commissioners encouraged Mr. Kjergaard to continue his efforts.

Gulfstream/D-1A Utility Bid Results

Mr. Kjergaard provided a copy of the information given to the tenants for the Gulfstream Road and Utility Extension Project. He said that Avondale Water District had agreed to pay for the upsizing of the water volume. He said the tenants had been sent information on the D-1A as well.

In response to a question from Commissioner Duncan, Mr. Kjergaard confirmed that none of the changes extended to the area where the new snow removal equipment building/admin building would be located. He said that area had already been provided with its requirements.

Mr. Gfeller stated that the Airport Advisory Board had not met last month, so there were no minutes to review.

Mr. Kjergaard commented that the Pilot’s Association had posted a notice on their website stating they planned to disband, “for lack of officers.” He said he would inquire further to see if this went through.

Mr. Kjergaard provided additional information on the timeline of the project, when payment would be required. He confirmed that this project was completely separate from the SRE (Snow Removal Equipment)/Administrative Building project. He assured the Commissioners that he would keep them posted on the progress of that project and the grants that would be used to fund it.

D. Public Comment: 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 were no public comments.

E. Adjournment (Action): Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk
