

The regular monthly meeting of the Gallatin Airport Authority was held October 11, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. in the Airport Conference Room. Board members present were John McKenna, Richard Roehm, Steve Williamson, Greg Metzger and Kevin Kelleher. Also present were Ted Mathis, Airport Director, Brian Sprenger, Assistant Airport Director and Cherie Ferguson, Administrative Assistant.

The first agenda item was to review and approve the minutes of the regular meeting held September 13, 2007. John McKenna moved to accept the minutes as mailed, Greg Metzger seconded the motion and it passed unopposed. The minutes are approved.

The second agenda item was the public comment period. There were no public comments.

The third agenda item was to consider the request by All Valley Cab, Inc. to transfer their commercial ground transportation operating agreement to Greater Valley Taxi. Ted Mathis said that Vance Vanderpan owns Greater Valley Taxi, purchased the right to pick up passengers at the airport, bought some newer cars and is improving the service. Mr. Mathis recommended that the board approve the request.

Mr. McKenna said there has been quite a lot of turnover for this right and asked Mr. Mathis why. Mr. Mathis said that the Public Service Commission approves the areas the companies can serve. He said several companies have cherry picked the services and that this right allows the operator to go to West Yellowstone, Bucks T-4 and Mammoth, but they can't go to Big Sky. Mr. Mathis said that the previous owner was reluctant to raise the tariff but Mr. Vanderpan has requested and received permission to do so. Mr. Mathis said he hopes Mr. Vanderpan will be successful.

Mr. McKenna moved to approve the request by All Valley Cab to transfer their commercial ground transportation operating agreement to Greater Valley Taxi. Mr. Metzger seconded the motion and the decision was unanimous to approve it.

The fourth agenda item was the Master Plan project update – Scott Bell. Mr. Bell said that his plan was to give the Board the draft copy of the land use planning portion of the Master Plan but he has been working nights on the concrete apron project and doesn't have the draft ready yet. He said he has about 10 pages to complete. He said he has to be here at night to make sure the contractor or its employees don't go into the SIDA areas and to inspect the contractor's work to make sure it meets all the specifications. The excavation in the safety areas has been done at night, as well as the lighting. Working at night has minimized the interruptions to the flying public and allowed the work to be done with less down time due to aircraft activity. Mr. Bell said the contractor bid the project based on unit prices and has two crews so overtime shouldn't be an issue for us.

Mr. Bell said he wanted Mr. Mathis, Brian Sprenger, the Board and himself to be happy with the draft before meeting with the Belgrade Planning Board, the Belgrade City Council and the Gallatin County Commissioners.

Mr. Sprenger said this is the largest project that has been done on the airport since Phase II of the terminal. There is a concrete shortage and the concrete hasn't been available until the evening. It has stretched Mr. Bell's staff pretty thin for them to have someone out here at nights, as it wasn't originally anticipated.

The fifth agenda item was the report on passenger boardings and flight operations – Brian Sprenger. Mr. Sprenger reported that in September 2007, there were 7,562 tower operations; up 0.7% over the record set in the previous September. There were 653 air carrier operations, 935 air taxi, 3,184 general aviation (GA) itinerant and 28 military, for a

total of 4,800 itinerant operations. Local GA operations were 2,762. There were 293 landings of aircraft weighing 12,500 pounds or more, up 26.3% from last September.

Mr. Sprenger reported that passenger enplanements were 28,852, up 5.6% from September a year ago. Year to date of is up 5.3%, to 264,233 passengers.

Richard Roehm asked why the GA operations are showing a weakness and Mr. Sprenger said part of the reason is that last year was a strong year. Also, the cost of fuel is having an impact. Recreational operations are impacted first.

Mr. Roehm asked about the performance of the control tower operators because of the increased numbers. Mr. Sprenger deferred to Mr. Mathis.

The sixth agenda item was the Director's Report – Ted Mathis. In response to Mr. Roehm's question, Mr. Mathis said we have had considerable turnover but we have had two civilian controllers transfer in from Idaho Falls and Fairbanks. He said he believes we may keep them and the people we have now. He said the gentleman from Fairbanks transferred here because the FAA has reduced their wages and contractors are looking better.

Mr. Mathis reported that we are still working on a tower display. The FAA is still working on the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The FAA says the software for the ARTS 1E is being upgraded and the equipment won't be available until next fall. Mr. McKenna asked if there is a secondary choice. Mr. Mathis said Raytheon makes a product called STARS LIGHT, but the FAA recommends the Lockheed-Martin ARTS 1E.

Mr. Mathis said JTL is putting their resources toward the apron project because most of their road work is done. They plan to prime the project within the next two days, do the test strip paving on Saturday and begin paving in earnest on Monday. They are working 24 hours a day. It is none too soon as we will have 8 aircraft overnight on the ramp at times in February.

Mr. Mathis also reported that we have mailed out the specifications for the new broom truck and plan to open bids at the November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. He said Tim Linn is retiring and he, Paul Schneider and Mr. Sprenger have been interviewing applicants. There has been a good response to the ads and there have been a number of good applicants.

Mr. Roehm asked if anyone from our organization applied and Mr. Mathis said three of our employees did and there were 32 applications from outside.

Steve Williamson asked about the construction on Airport Road and Mr. Mathis said it is the waterline going to the new subdivisions. He said EPIC Development is working on Airport Road and Dry Creek Road so they can get the work done on county property before the November 15<sup>th</sup> cut-off date. They can work on airport property all winter if they need to.

The seventh agenda item was to consider the bills and approve for payment. Mr. Williamson said the new carpet looks very nice. After review and discussion, Mr. McKenna moved to pay the bills and Mr. Williamson seconded the motion. It was a unanimous decision to pay the bills.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

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Richard R. Roehm, Chairman