



Glenwood Springs City Airport Board
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 18, 2019
7:30 a.m. – Glenwood Springs Municipal Airport Office

1. Attendance:

Commissioners present: Gregg Rippy, Rich Backe, David Brown, Alan Arnold
City Staff present: Amy Helm, Airport Manager; Tanya Allen, Transportation Manager

2. Acceptance of June Minutes

The Board approved the June minutes without changes or additions.

3. Expo Planning

Planning was largely on track for the August 17 event. The group discussed a handful of outstanding issues including security, transportation, communication, and volunteer assignments. Remote parking would be offered at Sopris Elementary, with shuttles and a marked walking path to the Expo. A volunteer meeting would be held that morning and would include the security guards if possible.

The Airport Manager noted that a break in flight activity was being planned for somewhere around 12:00 or 1:00 pm. This would allow the pilots to rest as well as accommodate potential activities like a National Guard Flyover or possible hoist demo.

4. 2020 Budget Prep

The Transportation Manager asked for the Board's input regarding larger capital or maintenance needs that should be included in the 2020 budget request. The group agreed that crack sealing and pavement repair were essential and needed to be included. The Airport Manager noted that there was a State grant program that would reimburse for a percentage of material costs, potentially bringing down the cost of the project. Other needs such as a new credit card pedestal or Jet A tank were better left until future budget cycles and/or until CDOT grant funding was available. Mr. Rippy noted that he had presented these priorities to Council as part of the Airport's 5-year plan at the recent Council strategic planning session.

All agreed that additional hours should be added for the Airport Manager.

The Board briefly discussed whether to raise usage rates and fees. They asked the Transportation Manager to prepare a rate/fee history for consideration at the August meeting. Mr. Backe suggested a fuel price increase could also be considered. Mr. Rippy suggested a survey of area fuel prices be done prior to making a decision.

5. Airport Manager's Report

The Cessna pancake breakfast was a big hit. Approximately 30 airplanes attended the event, including pilots from all over the U.S. and even Germany. Attendees were impressed with the Airport and local hospitality.

The drone seminar was also successful, although attendance was lower than anticipated, Approximately 12 people attended. Attendees were very enthusiastic about the event and the Rifle Center for Excellence is considering holding another drone event in the future.

The Airport Manager said she received a second complaint from local resident Jeff Palmer regarding planes flying low over the four mile area. Following the previous complaint she had sent some information regarding local flight patterns and regulations to Mr. Palmer and invited him for a visit. He had not yet replied to this invitation. In addition, she had prepared new maps indicating noise-sensitive areas for distribution to pilots unfamiliar with the area. These would be placed on the website once they were in electronic form. The Airport Manager said she planned to extend another invitation to Mr. Palmer to discuss the issue with local pilots familiar with the approach to the Airport.

5. Other Business

Mr. Backe stressed the importance of having a Council liaison present at the Airport Board meetings.

Mr. Rippy welcomed Mr. Arnold to the Board and asked whether the group would like to elect a new Chair and alternate. The group agreed that Mr. Rippy should continue to serve as Chair, with Mr. Backe as alternate.

Mr. Rippy updated the group on the Airport Area Scenario Planning study. The consultant (GG+A) planned to return in early August to meet with the project steering group. They planned to present a more in depth economic analysis of the three scenarios presented at the prior public meeting. A Council work session and second public meeting would follow, with the schedule still to be determined. The Transportation Manager said she did not anticipate results of the study would be available early enough to be factored into 2020 budget planning.

6. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 am.