



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

1. Attendance:

Commissioners present: Gregg Rippy, David Brown, Rich Backe
Council Members present: Jonathan Godes
City Staff present: Amy Helm, Airport Manager; Tanya Allen, Transportation Manager
Guests present: Nathaniel Crawford

2. Acceptance of August Minutes

The Board approved the August minutes without changes or additions.

3. Historical Status for Airport

Mr. Brown suggested looking into designated historical status for the Airport. Prior research by Dick Weinberg and others suggests it may be one of the oldest general aviation airports in the U.S... The Transportation Manager suggested reaching out to the Frontier Historical Society to discuss the issue.

4. Aviation Expo

Once again the event was a big success. Over 600 people attended, with no safety incidents or complaints from Airport neighbors. Unfortunately pilots did have to stop flying earlier than planned due to changing weather conditions, and a number of people waiting had their money refunded. The event raised over \$6,000 in merchandise sales and donations. Flight donations were earmarked for the Young Eagles program with other funds going to the Friends fund, which subsidized the event. Over 35 students signed up for the Young Eagles program at the Expo. The first Young Eagles rally day was being planned for October.

The parking/shuttle arrangement worked very well and should be replicated for future events. Vendors were also pleased with the turnout and interested in attending further events. As in past years interest in flights far exceeded the number available. More flights could be accommodated if additional pilots could be recruited for future events.

5. Fuel Pump Issues

The fuel pump was once again down intermittently from 8/26 to 9/10. Dave Sarno and an electrician came out three times to try and fix the system with no success. Eaton from Grand Junction came on 9/10 and replaced the pulsar and the system has been working since. There were some lost fuel sales due to the issue but all fuel pumped was accounted for during the outages.

6. Hard Landing Incident

On Sunday 8/25 a Cirrus SR-22 had a “hard landing” on the runway. The pilot stalled the aircraft on approach, causing damage to the nose gear and prop assembly. There were no injuries to any of the passengers but the landing did cause minor runway damage. The Airport Manager was following up with the FAA, City Clerk, and pilot’s insurance company to deal with the issue. The Airport Manager said she did not notify the Police due to the minor nature of the incident. The Transportation Manager and Airport Manager planned to develop an SOP for any future events of this type.

This was a clear case of pilot error and the pilot’s insurance company would pay expenses associated with the event. Mr. Rippy provided an estimate for the cost of runway repair, estimated at approximately \$1,000. This would be submitted together with other relevant documents as part of the City’s insurance claim.

6. Manager’s Report

One Young Eagles meeting had already taken place. A second was scheduled for this evening. The first rally day scheduled for October 19. Approximately 40 students were signed up with 10 pilots willing to give rides.

Holy Cross was in the process of installing a solar array. A drone operator was planning to film the installation. The Airport Manager said she had provided him with guidance and safety information to minimize safety impacts to the Airport.

7. Sky Diving Operations

Nathaniel Crawford, currently based in Breckenridge, shared his interest in bringing a skydiving operation to the Airport. He highlighted his past experience in tourism related businesses and recent investments in skydiving related training and equipment. The Board asked a number of questions related to his experience, company, equipment, and operating needs. After this discussion the Board expressed support for Mr. Crawford bringing his operation to the Airport provided he and the Airport Manager could identify an appropriate operating space.

8. Other Business

The Airport Area Planning Study was nearing its conclusion, with a Council presentation scheduled for 10/3. Gruen, Gruen + Associates had not yet submitted a revised draft that incorporated edits requested at the last steering group meeting. Mr. Godes recommended these edits be reviewed to ensure comments from the steering group were appropriately reflected prior to any discussion with Council.

9. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 am.