



Glenwood Springs City Airport Board
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 18th, 2016
7:30 a.m. – Community Development Conference Room

1. Attendance, Introductions:

Commissioners present: Gregg Rippey, Richard Backe, David Brown

City Staff present: Tanya Allen, Transportation Manager; Dick Weinberg, Airport Manager

City Council Representative present: Todd Leahy

2. Acceptance of June and July Minutes

The June and July meeting minutes were accepted without changes or amendments.

3. South Bridge Update

The Transportation Manager reported that there have been no changes to the preferred alignment since the last Board meeting. She said the City Engineer was planning to meet with Holy Cross Energy on 9/23 to gain approval to cross their property. Obtaining this permission was the last remaining step in finalizing the Environmental Assessment (EA). While significant funding obstacles remain before South Bridge can proceed to construction, finalizing the EA would effectively end the routing debate. Any master planning effort undertaken by the Airport Board should incorporate this planned alignment.

5. Airport Code Update

The Transportation Manager has requested additional feedback on the proposed Airport Code from the City lawyer but has had no response to this point. The same two or three issues remain outstanding, most notably the issue of airplanes not being considered “vehicles” according to the Municipal Code. The Transportation Manager will continue to follow up with Legal.

6. Airport Budget:

The Transportation Manager shared copies of the current expense/revenue spreadsheet for airport operations. Revenues continue to exceed expenses by an acceptable margin and fuel sales are consistent with expectations.

CDOT grant funding will not be available for any projects at the Airport for the next two or more funding cycles. Due to funding shortfalls, CDOT is restricting eligibility to NPIAS-designated airports and for projects where CDOT funding can be used as a match for Federal money. If/when money for Glenwood becomes available, CDOT has said their first priority will be to fund runway maintenance. The Board should consider researching alternative methods of funding necessary upgrades.

Board members suggested that the Airport should be lobbying more aggressively for both CDOT and outside grants. Mr. Leahy noted the City was considering hiring a company specifically to work on grant applications and said the Airport Board should make sure airport-related projects were given consideration. Mr. Brown stressed the importance of continued communication with CDOT about future grant opportunities to ensure the Airport received consideration as soon as money became available. Mr. Leahy suggested there may also be additional sources of aviation funding such as private aviation enthusiasts and/or aviation-related foundations.

Mr. Leahy suggested that Grant funding might also be available that could assist with the airport master plan/visioning process. A plan would also be a useful tool to rely on when applying for other grants. The Transportation Manager noted the Council would have to weigh in on any long-term vision for the Airport and suggested that after completion of the EA might be a good time to suggest the Council hold a work session.

7. Airport Manager's Report

The Airport Manager said he had made a recent fuel purchase. The price had gone down \$0.14.

The Airport Manager reiterated the importance of receiving notification of all aviation-related incidents reported to other agencies (Police, Fire, etc.). The Transportation Manager said she had edited the draft notification letter and would share it with others in the City for additional feedback before circulation.

There have been continued issues with PAPI bulbs burning out. The issue appears to be with the connectors as well as the wires. The Airport Manager will meet with the electrician to discuss options.

The Airport Manager raised concerns about possible overcharging for a recent fuel system repair. The invoice reflected two hours of work and travel time, which was not accurate. Board members speculated that this may reflect the repair company's minimum charge and recommended the Airport Manager contact the vendor to seek clarification.

8. Other Business

Board members have been approached about organizing a fall fly-in but no further information was available at this point. The skydiving company has expressed interest in the event. Board members also discussed a recent incident where a skydiver was injured. The plane in question did take off from Glenwood. The accident was attributed to jumper error.

The Transportation Manager said that she had met recently with Njord Rota, who had expressed interest in developing a base for his helicopter company at the Glenwood Airport. The Board acknowledged multiple complexities related to new development at the Airport, including issues specifically related to helicopters. However, they agreed that this idea was worth exploring and could be a good opportunity to attract desirable development. They suggested inviting Mr. Rota to attend the next month's meeting.

8. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20.