

Oregon State Aviation Board Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2015

Portland, Oregon

Pursuant to notice made by press release to newspapers of general and local circulation throughout the state and mailed to persons on the mailing list of the Committee, a meeting of the Oregon State Aviation Board was held on January 13, 2015, at Portland International Airport's (PDX) Conference Center in the Multnomah conference room.

Board Members Present: Chair, Mark Gardner; Board Members Jack Loacker, Nan Garnick, Larry Dalrymple, Paul Hudgens, Mary Rosenblum and Vince Granato.

ODA Members Present: Director, Mitch Swecker; Business Manager, Joy Howard; Planning Manager, Heather Peck; Airport Planner, Jeff Caines; Administrative Assistant, Roger Sponseller.

Presenters and guests in attendance included: ODA Director, ODA Business Manager and ODA Projects & Planning Manager.

CALL TO ORDER – INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting started at 1:05 pm

Self introductions were made.

ACTION ITEM – Approval of minutes from October 16, 2014 meeting.

Motion to approve by: Larry Dalrymple

Motion 2nd by: Jack Loacker

Motion passed unanimously

Public Comments:

Joe Smith: Former AV Board member Joe Smith reminded everyone present that ODA cannot do anything, by law, to support proposed legislation currently before the legislature. The Aviation Board needs to step-up and encourage the legislature to pass the aviation fuel tax to help fund the continued operation of state airports.

Director's Update (handouts):

Mitch Swecker: ODA's Director, Mitch Swecker, briefed the board on agency business.

➤ **Calendar of Events:**

- Jan. Jan. 12th – Legislative Days
Jan. 14th – Tillamook Test Range Meeting
Jan. 14th – Transportation Visioning
Jan. 27th – All Agency Directors Meeting
- Feb. Feb. 2nd – Legislative Session
Feb. 19th – Aviation Board Meeting
Feb. 26th – PAAM Meeting
- March March 4th – Air Service Development Conference (4th – 6th)
March 9th – OAMA Conference (Salem Conference Center)
March 10th – Aviation Board Meeting
March 11th – OFAC Quarterly Meeting
March 26th – PAAM Meeting
- April April 7th – FAA Conference (Seattle 7th – 9th)
April 23rd – PAAM Meeting

Fiscal Statement (handout):

Mitch Swecker: ODA's Director, Mitch Swecker, presented to the board the current fiscal status of the agency. Topics covered included:

- Sources and Use of Funds
- Expenditures by Program
- AV/Jet Fuel Revenue
- Annual Jet Fuel and AV Gas in Gallons
- Limitation and Cash Balances
- Operations Cumulative Totals
- State Owned Airport Profit / Loss Summary
- Search & Rescue Cumulative Totals
- Aircraft Registration Cumulative Totals
- Pavement Maintenance Program Cumulative Totals

UAS Report (handout):

Mitch Swecker: ODA's Director, Mitch Swecker, brought the board up to speed on ODA's current task of compiling data for the legislature concerning the use and possible registration of UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) in Oregon. Topics covered included:

1. Tasks:

- Dept. of Aviation will report to the legislature by November 1, 2015.
 - Status of federal regulation of UAS
 - Recommendation on registering private use UAS
- Begin registration of publicly operated UAS's by January 2, 2016.
 - Methodology
 - Database
 - Rulemaking
 - Fee structure
 - Coordination/Education – Public agencies/flying community
 - State agencies – ODOT, ODF, ODA, ODFW, Universities
 - Law enforcement – State, Counties, Cities
 - General aviation – Pilots, Airport managers

2. UAS Usage Potential:

- Agriculture –
 - Field evaluation for water, pesticide, fertilizer application focus.
 - Livestock counts and location.
- Forestry –
 - Fire detection / monitoring
 - Tree disease vector location
 - Invasive species location
- Fish and Wildlife –
 - Wildlife tracking and monitoring
 - Invasive species identification
 - Law enforcement: poaching, trespassing
- Emergency Management –
 - Search and rescue
 - Damage assessment identification and documentation
 - ODOT highway/bridge assessments

3. Oregon Test Sites:

- Tillamook Range –
 - Access to coastal maritime, mountains and
 - Long term tenant (NearSpace – balloons & UAS)
- Warm Springs Range –
 - High plains and mountainous region
 - Potential to demonstrate forest fire fighting
- Pendleton Airport Range –
 - Eastern geographic region
 - Infrastructure in place
 - Long term interaction with General Aviation (GA) community and Mil. UAS's

4. State Issues:

- House Bill 2710 Regulation of UAS –
 - Law enforcement/privacy protections
 - Pre-emption; no local laws regulating UAS
 - No weaponization
 - Civil penalties for privacy violation (below 400ft.)
 - Not applicable to recreational UAS
 - Registration of public use UAS
- Cottage Industry Already Exists in Oregon –
 - Private enterprise using recreational/commercial UAS
 - Camera mounted (gyro stabilized)
 - Available at any hobby store or on the internet
 - Increasing number of incidents with manned aircraft
 - Registration challenges: “chasing bees” vs. “access to the hives”

5. Should Oregon Register Private Use Drones?

- Three classes of UAS –
 - Public Use – register by January 2016
 - Private Use/Commercial
 - Private Use/Recreational
- Two Federally Designated Weight Classes –
 - Over 55 pounds-Heavy
 - Under 55 pounds-Light

- Three Options –
 - Register all three classes of drones
 - Register only public and commercial
 - Register all three classes but wait for federal legislation and litigation to sort out.
- Recommendation –
 - Recommend Option #3

Administration Updates (handouts):

Joy Howard: ODA’s Business Manager, Joy Howard, briefed the board on ODA Administrative issues. Topics covered included:

- Update on pending Oregon Administrative Rules – Currently working to revise the agency’s OAR’s; including civil penalties.
- Update on Legislative Concepts – ODA, in conjunction with DOJ, is working on updating several statutes relating to aviation including:
 - HB 2038 – Limited liability for aviation use of land.
 - HB 2075 – Relating to aircraft fuel; prescribing an effective date; providing for revenue raising that requires approval by a three-fifths majority.
 - HB 5004 – Relating to the financial administration of the Oregon Dept. of Aviation; declaring an emergency.
 - HB 5006 – Relating to the financial administration of the Oregon Dept. of Aviation; declaring an emergency.
 - SB 269 – Relating to aviation fees.
 - SJM (Senate Joint Memorial) – Expresses support for Federal Aviation Administration initiative to certify safe unleaded aviation fuel.
- Ethics / Board Training – Ms. Howard provided training material to the AV Board (for current and *new* members) regarding statutes, procedures and ethics.

Airports Update:

Mitch Swecker: Director Swecker, filling-in for ODA’s Airports Manager Matthew Maass, updated the board members on current airport issues. These issues included:

- Mulino Update – Increased interest for developing the airport for more hangar space. Skydiving outfit has begun the process of getting its office moved inside the airport perimeter (mobile building).
- Cottage Grove & Condon Annexations – ODA has an opportunity to annex the airports into the city limits of Cottage Grove and Condon. Options are being explored.
- Coos Bay Tall Structure – A proposed wind turbine is being considered for the city of Coos Bay. Structure will be located near the airport.

Projects & Planning (handouts):

Heather Peck: ODA’s Projects & Planning Manager, Heather Peck, briefed the board on current projects.

Status of Projects:

- SAC Agreement – Finalizing; on schedule.
- Aurora – Tower project is proceeding on track. Inside is finishing nicely.
- PMP – 2015 PMP program is ramping up.
- PEP Update – Finalizing now.
- Cottage Grove – Runway improvement, lighting, and signage work to be completed by the end of this summer.
- Wasco – New beacon tower is on schedule; construction almost complete.
- Joseph – Project for obstruction removal and fencing around the airport complete.
- Aurora Apron / Taxilane Project – On schedule
- Bandon Master Plan – Currently underway. Meeting in Bandon on Feb. 12th.
- Mulino Master Plan – Will begin in the next couple of months.
- System Planning 2015 Update – Currently underway.

ACTION ITEM – Motion to Adjourn the January 2015 Oregon Aviation Board Meeting

Motion to approve by: Larry Dalrymple

Motion 2nd by: Nan Garnick

Motion passed unanimously

Meeting ended at 3:00pm