# Oregon State Aviation Board Meeting Minutes

# **January 19, 2017**

Aurora, 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 19, 2017, at Columbia Aviation at the Aurora Airport.

**Board Members Present:** Martha Meeker, Chair, Vince Granato, Keith Washington, Doug Ferguson, Paul Hudgens, Mary Rosenblum and Brian Whiteside.

**ODA Members Present:** Director, Mitch Swecker; Airports Manager, Matthew Maass; Planning Manager, Heather Peck; Airport Planner, Jeff Caines; Business Manager, Bryan Guiney; Program Coordinator, Matthew Lawyer; Fiscal Analyst, Nohemi Ramos; Administrative Assistant, Roger Sponseller; Administrative Assistant, David Astorga

Guest in Attendance: Senator Betsy Johnson

# **CALL TO ORDER – INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting started at 12:04 pm

Self introductions were made.

#### ACTION ITEM – Approval of Minutes from October 27, 2016 meeting.

Motion to approve by: Keith Washington

**Motion** 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Mary Rosenblum **Motion** passed unanimously

## **Item 3 - Public Comments:**

Lance Vanderbeck, Airport Director, Newport Municipal Airport provided a statement of support to the agency.

Joe Smith, Former Board Member provided public comment addressing the need for rural air service.

#### **Informative and Review Items**

#### **Item 4 - Director's Update**

**Mitch Swecker:** Director Swecker, briefed the board on current agency business. Director Swecker proposed that the next Board meeting take place on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Salem Convention Center in Salem, OR. Board agreed to proposed meeting date.

#### **Item 5 - Cascade Locks**

**Neal White and Gary Miranda:** Mr. White, President, Oregon Pilots Association and Gary Miranda, President, Washington Pilots Association, addressed the topic of the closure of Cascade Locks Airport. Presentation may be found in meeting materials. Mr. White and Mr. Miranda provided a presentation on the importance of Cascade Locks Airport and its use as an emergency landing field when low clouds are present and visibility is diminished.

Some discussion followed.

#### Item 6 – ASAP COAR Updates

Matt Lawyer and Nohemi Ramos: Ms. Ramos, Oregon Department of Aviation provided an overview of the Critical Oregon Airport Reserve (COAR) grant program to the Board. Mr. Lawyer provided updates for the COAR grant process and application requirements to the Board. Presentation provided in meeting materials. Mr. Lawyer explained that the Aviation Review Committee (ARC) will meet on February 2, 2017 to discuss recommendations for priority I, II and III projects.

Discussion with Senator Betsy Johnson followed. Senator Johnson expressed concern of applicant outstanding financial obligations, use of grant funds in system context and the benefit of equipment commonality.

#### **Item 10 – Rural Air Service Discussion (ROAR)**

(Decisions were made to move this item up)

Gale "Jake" Jacobs and Aron Faegre (ORAVI): Mr. Faegre provided a presentation on rural air service. An article from Mr. Faegre regarding innovation was provided to the Board with the intent to encourage discussion regarding rural air service. Mr. Jacobs led a discussion on the structure of Oregon Aviation Industries (ORAVI). Mr. Jacobs then proceeded to explain the "Whitepaper – Rural Air Overview and Options" handout and the "Strawman – Rural Air Oregon Dynamic Scheduling" handout. Handouts and presentation provided in meeting materials.

Public comment was provided.

Discussion followed between the Board, Senator Johnson and Director Mitch Swecker regarding the demand for rural air service. It was decided that the need for funding by ORAVI as an

economic development arm and a proposed study of rural air service would be discussed at the next board meeting.

# <u>Item 7 – State Owned Airport Reserve (SOAR) Project Approval</u>

**Matthew Maass:** Mr. Maass, Oregon Department of Aviation, Airports Manager provided the Board with read ahead documents regarding Board approved SOAR projects.

• Mr. Mass explained that SOAR projects are 9.5% ahead of forecast which is roughly \$70,000. Mr. Mass requested that the Board approve the use of these funds for an Aurora Airport Master Plan Update to include a runway extension. Comment was provided by Senator Johnson and the Board.

Action Item – Approval of \$70,000 of SOAR funds for Master Plan Update at Aurora Airport.

**Motion** to approve by: Vince Granato

**Motion** 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Paul Hudgens **Motion** passed unanimously

 Mr. Maass requested that the left over funding of \$13,000 from the minor repair project at Crescent Lake State Airport be transferred to a new project for Cape Blanco State Airport. It was requested that the Board approve the use of these funds for a gate and fencing at Cape Blanco State Airport.

Action Item – Approval transfer of \$13,000 from Crescent Lake Minor Repairs to new project; Gate and Fencing at Cape Blanco State Airport.

**Motion** to approve by: Vince Granato **Motion** 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Mary Rosenblum **Motion** passed unanimously

# <u>Item 12 – Update on 2 New Private Airports in Oregon</u>

(Decisions were made to move this item up)

**Matthew Maass:** Mr. Mass, Oregon Department of Aviation, Airports Manager notified the Board of two new private airports in Oregon, Knokey Field and Sunrise Valley Ranch Landing Strip.

## Item 8 – Discussion of State Agency Coordination (SAC) Agreement

**Jeff Caines:** Mr. Caines, Oregon Department of Aviation, Airports Planner provided an update for the Oregon SAC Agreement to the Board. The agreement allows state owned airports to

work with local jurisdictions and local planning documents in order to address land use planning issues.

Comment was provided by ODA Planning Manager, Heather Peck stating that in order for the ODA Board to formally approve and adopt a masterplan for state owned airports, the ODA must have an approved and adopted SAC Agreement. Ms. Peck commented that previously the ODA SAC Agreement has not been updated.

# Item 11 - Update Dept. and AV Board Strategic Planning

**Bryan Guiney:** Mr. Guiney, Oregon Department of Aviation, Business Manager provided a strategic planning update to the Board. Mr. Guiney discussed that the ODA has decided to use the management consulting firm, Coraggio Group in order to address the presence of the agency in the aviation industry and if agency realignment is needed.

Chair, Martha Meeker adjourned meeting at 3:00 pm.