

# Oregon State Aviation Board

## Meeting Minutes

**June 21, 2012**

**McMinnville, 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 June 21, 2012, at the Evergreen Air & Space Museum in McMinnville, Oregon.

**Board Members Present:** Chair, Mark Gardiner; Vice-Chair, Chris Corich; Board Members Nan Garnick, Jack Loacker, Larry Dalrymple, Joe Smith and Paul Hudgens.

**ODA Members Present:** Director, Mitch Swecker; Airports Manager, Mathew Maass; Fiscal Manager, Cindy Pease; Aviation Planner, Jeff Caines; Fiscal Analyst, Kristen Forest; Administrative Assistant, Roger Sponseller.

**Presenters and Guests in Attendance Included:** ODA Director, ODA Fiscal Manager and ODA Airports Manager, Aviation Board Vice-Chair Chris Corich.

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### **CALL TO ORDER – INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting started at 10:30 am

Self introductions were made.

***ACTION ITEM – Approval of minutes from May, 2012 meeting.***

**Motion** to approve by: Joe Smith

**Motion** 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Larry Dalrymple

**Motion** passed unanimously

### **Public Comments**

**Dennis Smith:** Mr. Smith, President of Oregon Pilots Association (OPA) spoke to the board regarding the new Troutdale Energy Center and the concerns over the center's combined cycle exhaust stack. Mr. Smith stated that the application from Troutdale Energy is being amended by the company; they are trying to revisit the FAA 7460 process with a new layout plan. Mr. Smith felt that no arrangements for siting inspections should be made until the FAA makes its decision

regarding plume stacks first. Mr. Smith also urged the board to send ODA's/Aviation Board position letter, authorized by the board, to Oregon Dept. of Energy ASAP.

**Alan Daniels:** Mr. Daniels, manager of the Ontario Municipal Airport, wanted to thank the board for all of their help in obtaining federal funds for the airport. Between *ConnectOregon* and the federal funding, about \$9 million in upgrades have been made over the last couple of years. In addition to a new FBO coming in and remodeling the FBO building, the airport is about to break the 100-based-planes mark and more corporate jets from Idaho are also being based there.

**Paul Erhardt:** Mr. Erhardt, Public Relations Director of OPA, remarked to the board that, as an EMS (Emergency Medical Services) trainer, he has discovered that EMS flights are having a hard time during the rough economy. As a result, more flights are looking at flying into smaller airports with fixed-wing aircraft and meeting-up with ground transport instead of rotary-winged aircraft flying directly to their destinations.

### **Workgroup Round-Up**

The board continued its discussion from the morning workgroup meeting of ODA and the Aviation Board. Points brought-up during the discussion include:

1. Undertake a process of enabling more volunteer effort on ODA airports where there are currently restrictions on volunteers using state equipment for maintenance or working on the airport at all.
2. Create a trust fund (legislative) as the recipient of proceeds from the dissolution of any state airport or sale of any state airport property.
3. Look at the airports that are, in one way or another, involved with BLM, Bureau of Reclamation, US Forest Service or Oregon Department of Forestry to evaluate ODA's relationship with these entities with the intent of making sure the appropriate share of costs are being shared by said agencies.
4. Create a list of airports that are "borderline" sustainable and look at options where the airport could become closer to self-sustainable (volunteers, federal money).
5. Create a plan for the ongoing capital requirements for airports that are not self-sustaining.
6. Find a more sustainable source of operating capital.

The board discussed.

***ACTION ITEM – Direct ODA to repair Crescent Lake Airport runway this year, preferably by the first part of July.***

**Motion** to approve by: Jack Loacker

**Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>** by: Larry Dalrymple

**Motion** passed 6 for and 1 against.

### **Director's Update (handout)**

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

- Calendar of Events:

June: Aviation Cluster in McMinnville on June 21, 2012.  
Positive Aurora Airport Management (PAAM) June 28, 2012.

July: Legislative Concept deadline is July 13, 2012.  
*ConnectOregon* IV public hearing is July 18, 2012  
Next Aviation Board meeting is July 19, 2012.  
Positive Aurora Airport Management (PAAM) July 26, 2012.  
FAA Contract Tower Workshop in D.C. July 31 – Aug. 1, 2012.

August: August Aviation Board will be on August 16, 2012 at PDX.  
*ConnectOregon* IV OTC meeting in Baker on August 18, 2012.  
Emergency Board on August 20, 2012.  
Positive Aurora Airport Management (PAAM) August 23, 2012.

September: NASAO convention (Salt Lake) September 9-11, 2012.  
E-Board is September 12-14, 2012.  
September Aviation Board is in Madras on September 20, 2012.  
AAAE conference is September 26-28, 2012.

### **Fiscal Statement (handout)**

**Cindy Pease:** ODA Fiscal Manager, Cindy Pease, briefed the board on the current fiscal status of the agency. Topics covered included:

- Operating Revenue
- Revenue of AV/Jet Fuel Tax
- Revenue to date
- Cost Drivers

- Actual Operating Expenditures
- Search & Rescue
- Aircraft Registration
- Pavement Maintenance Program
- Cash and Limitation Balances
- All Other State Owned Airport Profit and Loss Statement

### Operations Update

The only item that was scheduled for the Operations Update was a review/discussion of the deteriorating runway conditions at Crescent Lake airport and what to do about it. It was determined during the working session, before the start of the Aviation Board meeting, that Crescent Lake would be repaired and made operational in July. No other items were on the agenda.

### Construction Projects Update

**Mathew Maass:** ODA's State Airports Manager Matt Maass (filling-in for Heather Peck) briefed the board on ODA's planning and construction projects. Topics covered included:

- Chiloquin: ODA's Planning Manager, Heather Peck, was currently at a pre-bid meeting for the runway renovation and obstruction removal to be done on Chiloquin State Airport this summer. Bids will be due by July 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Aurora: The Aircraft Control Tower at Aurora is on hold while funding for additional equipment is sought. FAA approval of the Aurora Master Plan is expected sometime next month.
- PMP – Once the bids are received (July 10<sup>th</sup>) they can be reviewed and the notices to proceed issued. There will be three separate sub-contractors working on the projects in eastern Oregon instead of just one large contractor doing the various projects.
- Cottage Grove: Obstruction removal. Waiting for the final sign-off on the Environmental Assessment (EA). Once ODA has the EA the obstruction removal can begin. ODA must wait for the nesting season to be over before work can begin.

- Siletz Bay: Ramp rehabilitation. Still in the preliminary stages of planning the ramp rehabilitation. The design portion is currently underway.

### **Roles and Mission**

**Chris Corich:** Oregon Aviation Board Vice-Chair, Chris Corich, addressed the board regarding its ongoing process of evaluating ODA's and the Board's roles and missions. The following issues involving aviation were discussed:

- Full Disclosure for Home Sales Near Airports – The Aviation Board supports the idea of establishing within state law the provision that property real-estate brokers must disclose to home buyers the proximity of the home to nearby airports (within 5 miles).
- Air Service Initiative – There should be a discussion to decide if the board is going to get behind the issue or let it go and acknowledge that the program is going to cost money in the long term. There is a foundation for the discussion; a 2001 study that looked at the issue of air service in Oregon. Mr. Corich felt that perhaps the board could hire a consultant to update the study before the dialogue takes place.
- In the past, the Department of Aviation used to provide technical expertise (planning, operations, maintenance, etc.) to municipal airports in conjunction with FAM (Financial Aid to Municipalities) grants sponsored by ODA. Due to the termination of the FAM program and a very limited staff at ODA, this technical assistance has fallen by the wayside. Mr. Corich remarked that he and the other board members (Jack Loacker and Larry Dalrymple) of the Roles & Missions group felt that some way should be found to continue with the technical assistance for the municipalities even though the FAM program is no longer active.

The board discussed.

### **Executive Session**

It was decided that it would be easier to hold the Executive Session after the main Aviation Board meeting was over.

At 11:45am the Aviation Board meeting ended and the board went into Executive Session.