

Oregon State Aviation Board

Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2014

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 March 6, 2014, at Portland International Airport (PDX) at the Port of Portland Headquarters' building in the Chinook conference room.

Board Members in attendance included: Chair, Mark Gardner; Vice Chair, Chris Corich; Board Members Nan Garnick, Jack Loacker, Larry Dalrymple, Joe Smith and Paul Hudgens.

Oregon Department of Aviation members in attendance included: Director, Mitch Swecker; Business Manager, Joy Howard; Planning Manager, Heather Peck; Aviation Planner, Jeff Caines; Fiscal Analyst, Kristen Forest; Administrative Assistant, Roger Sponseller.

Presenters and Guest included: ODA Director; ODA Planner; Oregon Pilots Association (OPA) President, Mary Rosenblum; Governor's Transportation Policy Advisor, Karmen Fore; Port of Portland General Aviation Manager, Steve Nagy; Aviation Officer, State of Oregon Military Department, Colonel Todd Farmer; Oregon Civil Air Patrol, Colonel John Longley.

CALL TO ORDER – INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting started at 10:00am

Self introductions were made.

ACTION ITEM – Approval of minutes from February 5, 2014 Teleconference.

Motion to approve by: Joe Smith

Motion 2nd by: Nan Garnick

Motion passed unanimously

Public Comments:

Mary Rosenblum: Ms. Rosenblum, President of Oregon Pilots Association (OPA) updated the Aviation Board on the proposed cooling towers at the Troutdale energy plant near the Troutdale airport. OPA and Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) are contesting the siting of the towers with the Dept. of Energy. Ms. Rosenblum stated that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will be issuing new land use guidelines in September of 2014 regarding

the siting of different facilities near airports. Ms. Rosenblum urged the Aviation Board to reiterate its opposition to the siting of the cooling towers at Troutdale until the FAA can determine if local and/or federal land-use guidelines are being followed.

Karmen Fore: Ms. Fore, Governor Kitzhaber's Transportation Policy Advisor, spoke to the board regarding the Governor's transportation plans for Oregon's future. Ms. Fore stated that the Governor supports the various transportation projects around the state including those in the aviation industry. Board Vice-Chair, Chris Corich, and board member Joe Smith, both remarked to Ms. Fore that the Governor's office needs to strengthen its commitment to preserving and enhancing general aviation in Oregon. This commitment could come in the form of supporting an increase in the aviation fuel tax.

ConnectOregon V Presentations (handouts):

See separate minutes from Kristen Forest.

Aviation Board Strategic Plan (working lunch):

Colonel Todd Farmer, Aviation Officer with the State of Oregon Military Department, spoke to the board regarding several issues. Topics included the current and future siting of wind farms in the Saddle Butte/Boardman area. The wind turbines affect everything from minimum operational altitudes for military training aircraft to radar interference from the turbines themselves. Col. Farmer remarked that the military is trying to work with the wind farm developers to come to some sort of an agreement regarding the placement of the towers.

Mr. Steve Nagy, Port of Portland General Aviation Manager, traveled with Col. Farmer to central Oregon to tour one of the wind farms located in the Boardman area. Mr. Nagy's concern was with the height of the turbines themselves. The turbines can be built to a height of 499ft. without the FAA getting involved in their placement (500ft. is the minimum height that a structure must reach before the FAA will comment). However the blades of the turbine add another 100ft. to the overall height of the turbine towers. This discrepancy in the overall height of the turbine towers, Mr. Nagy felt, was not being adequately addressed by the FAA.

Ms. Mary Rosenblum, President of OPA, continued her discussion with the board concerning the proposed cooling towers at the Troutdale Energy Center and the dangers to aircraft from the towers' thermal plumes. Ms. Rosenblum reiterated her request that the Aviation Board become more involved in the issue and that ODA's Director, Mitch Swecker, testify at the land use hearing on the towers which is scheduled in a couple of weeks.

ConnectOregon V Presentations (continued):

See separate minutes from Kristen Forest.

Modal Committee Final Discussion, Prioritization and Recommendations:

Aviation Board members discussed and prioritized the *ConnectOregon V* projects. At this point in the meeting Aviation Board Chair, Mark Gardiner, asked the Aviation Board members to disclose any conflicts of interest relating to the proposed projects being brought before the board. Board member Nan Garnick expressed a potential conflict in regards to the Madras and Redmond projects and Board Vice-Chair, Chris Corich, as a former employee of the Port of Portland, expressed a potential conflict in regards to the Port of Portland project. No other board members had any conflict of interests.

ACTION ITEM – Motion to Accept Modal Committee Rankings Baseline As Is

Motion to accept by: Paul Hudgens

Motion 2nd by: Jack Loacker

Motion did **not** pass

After the motion to accept the modal rankings as they were was defeated, the Aviation Board moved to reclassify several projects into different tiers.

ACTION ITEM – Motion to Accept the Rankings as Modified by the Board. Provide Direction to the Staff Attending the Multi-Modal Committee Meeting and Authorize the Staff to Work Within the Starting Point and Make Modifications Based on what they Believe is in the Best Interest of the Aviation Mode and that any Agency that wants to Modify its Request Can Do So and Will Have the Updated Information Included in the Meetings.

Motion to accept by: Chris Corich

Motion 2nd by: Jack Loacker

Motion passed unanimously

Civil Air Patrol:

Col. John Longley, Wing Commander and senior military member of the Oregon Civil Air Patrol (CAP), spoke to the board about the proposed agreement between CAP and ODA. CAP wishes to enter into an agreement with ODA which will define services between CAP and ODA in regards to search/rescue and provincial disaster response/relief. Director Swecker, while supportive of the proposed agreement, stated that more study needed to be done to insure that CAP's activities/interests (S&R, disaster relief) parallel those of ODA's in regards to the use of

Oregon's state owned airports. Director Swecker said that he would get a copy of the agreement to the Aviation Board members for their input and approval.

Troutdale Energy Center Cooling Towers:

After the testimony of Col. Longley, Aviation Board Chair, Mark Gardiner, asked if there was any more business for the board to address. Aviation Board member, Joe Smith, asked for a motion in regards to the Troutdale Energy Center Cooling Towers project. Mr. Smith proposed the following motion:

ACTION ITEM – Motion to have the Director of the Department of Aviation, through letter or testimony, recommend to the Energy Siting Council that either the council delay consideration of the cooling towers at the Troutdale Energy Center until September, when the FAA survey tool is available, deny it until safety has been demonstrated based on that approval or grant it on contingent that it satisfies that aviation safety aspect.

Motion to pass by: Joe Smith

Motion 2nd by: Paul Hudgens

Motion passed unanimously

Aurora Tower:

Aviation Board Vice-Chair, Chris Corich, spoke to the board regarding Director Swecker's efforts in moving the Aurora Tower project forward. It has been an uphill battle and funding for tower staffing has not yet been resolved but Mr. Corich felt that it was a project that had to be done. Vice-Chair Corich then put forth the following motion:

ACTION ITEM – Whereas the construction and staffing of the Aurora airport control tower is important to the safe operation of the airport and enhancing the compatibility with the surrounding communities, the Oregon Aviation Board moves to reiterate its support to the Director of the Department of Aviation for implementing the construction project as funded by ConnectOregon and for pursuing alternate funding (FAA) to have the tower built as quickly as possible.

Motion to pass by: Chris Corich

Motion 2nd by: Joe Smith

Motion passed unanimously

There being no further business for the Aviation Board to address, a motion was made to end the meeting.

ACTION ITEM – Motion to end the March Aviation Board Meeting

Motion to end by: Joe Smith

Motion 2nd by: Nan Garnick

Motion passed unanimously

March 6, 2014 Aviation Board Meeting ended at 3:30pm.