

Oregon State Aviation Board Meeting Minutes

REVISED

October 28, 2010 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 October 28, 2010, at Portland International Airport (PDX) in the Port of Portland's Headquarters Building, in the Chinook room.

Board Members in attendance included: Chair Mark Gardiner, Vice-Chair Chris Corich, Board Members: Nan Garnick, Jack Loacker, Joe Smith and Larry Dalrymple.

Department of Aviation employees in attendance included: ODA Director, Doug Hedlund; ODA State Airports Manager, Mitch Swecker; ODA Projects & Planning Manager, Chris Cummings; ODA Fiscal Manager, Jenny Wilfong; ODA Airports Specialist, John Wilson; ODA Administrative Assistant, Roger Sponseller.

Presenters and guests in attendance included: ODA Director, ODA Projects & Planning Manager, ODA Fiscal Manager. Ethan Hassenstein, DOJ; Ted Millar, Southend Airpark; Ken Hardwick, Independence Airport.

CALL TO ORDER – INTRODUCTIONS

- The meeting started at 11:30 a.m. Self introductions were made.

ACTION ITEM – Approval of minutes from August Aviation Board teleconference.

Motion to approve by Larry Dalrymple.

Motion 2nd by Joe Smith

Motion passed unanimously

Public Comments:

Ken Hardwick: Mr. Hardwick stated that he first wanted to thank Doug Hedlund and Mitch Swecker for the work they had done on Through-The-Fence policy issues involving Independence Airport. Mr. Hardwick then commented on the 41-acre piece of property adjacent to the Independence Airport. The property was recently annexed by the city and has been put-up for sale by the owner. Mr. Hardwick believed that the purchase of the property by the state would be a good investment in the airport.

The Aviation Board thanked Mr. Hardwick for his input concerning Independence airport and reiterated its position that it does not agree with the FAA's recent decisions regarding Through-The-Fence (TTF) operations. The Oregon Aviation Board firmly believes that both residential and commercial TTF operations are essential to airport self-sustainability and growth.

Agency Operations Update:

Mitch Swecker:

- Prospect airport has been temporarily closed for nighttime operations due to obstructions (trees) in the extended centerline of the runway making landings and departures dangerous. Mr. Swecker reiterated that the closure is for nighttime operations only and will be lifted when the obstructions are removed.
- ODA's National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) membership is due. The annual dues are approximately \$10,000. ODA staff recommended that due to budget restrictions ODA not renew its dues this year. The board discussed and agreed with the recommendation.
- Update on the Through-The-Fence (TTF) letter (hand-out) sent to the FAA from ODA regarding FAA's recent residential TTF decisions. There are essentially three residential TTF issues the FAA wants addressed:
 1. New – The FAA wants any new residential TTF to be forbidden altogether and will codify any attempt as a grant assurance violation.
 2. Existing – At existing residential TTF airports such as Independence, which has been around since the 1970's, residential TTF activity will be allowed to continue.
 3. Additional – Expansion at established residential TTF airports will be allowed, but with very strict guidelines.

The board discussed.

- Leases are currently in the process of getting updated. The process had been put on hold due to management review. ODA has over 300 leases it is trying to update. A dozen leases are finished and 70 are currently in the pipeline for completion.
- Update on the Aurora airport Departure Lane. The FAA is proposing to amend the Instrument Departure Pattern at Aurora State Airport to avoid any over-flight of the cities of Aurora, Deerpark, Wilsonville and Charbonneau. The amended pattern should help a great deal with some of the concerns regarding noise abatement.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Update:

ACTION ITEM – Approve ODA’s CIP proposal “as is.”

Motion to approve by Jack Loacker

Motion 2nd by Larry Dalrymple

Motion passed unanimously

Comments: Chris Cummings: Briefed the board on ODA’s current CIP proposal (handout) for Oregon’s NPIAS airports. Mr. Cummings stated that one of the purposes of the briefing was to seek the Aviation Board’s “concurrence” in regards to the choice of CIP projects. Projects include the runway rehabilitation at Joseph (which was scheduled for last year but got pushed back) and the runway rehabilitation at Chiloquin in 2012.

The board discussed.

Budget Review / Budget Process Update / Legislative Outlook:

Jenny Wilfong: Ms. Wilfong updated the board on the agency’s current budget standings. Revenue figures (handout) from fuel sales and other sources, as well as new revenue generated from *ConnectOregon III* administration fees, were presented and discussed. Cost drivers, cash flow and cash balances (handouts) were also presented and discussed.

Ms. Wilfong also updated the board on ODA’s budget request process. There hasn’t really been any change in the budget request itself (handout). The request was forwarded to Budget and Management at DAS where it was reviewed by its analysts. The analysts came back with a budget that would balance the agency’s budget but did not concur with the number of staff positions recommended by the ODA budget request for agency staffing. ODA is appealing DAS’s analyst’s recommendation regarding the positions.

Ms. Wilfong reminded the board that this is an election year. Even though the current Governor’s transition team will make its budget recommendations for the biennium to the incoming administration, there is no guarantee those recommendations will be followed.

Doug Hedlund: ODA Director Doug Hedlund briefed the board on the current legislative outlook. Budget shortfalls are continuing to be expected as are cuts in General Fund spending. Even though ODA is an “Other Funded” agency, future budgets will be tight. Fortunately, ODA has been able to present a sustainable budget.

The board discussed.

Aurora Airport Update:

Chris Cummings:

- The obstruction removal project at Aurora airport (trees along the west and south airport boundaries) would begin the next Monday (11/1/10).
- There has been a lot going on with the Aurora Master Plan. There are sides that are in favor of the plan and those who are against it. This is fine, except that we haven't gotten to that part of the master planning process yet. We're dealing with a lot of comments that are coming up that are really not at the appropriate time or, frankly, have nothing to do with the Master Plan itself. Progress has been made by holding the PAC meetings to help clear-up some of the rumors that have been circulating about the future of Aurora airport. Aviation Board Chair, Mark Gardiner, Mitch Swecker and Mr. Cummings are going to meet with officials from the city of Wilsonville and some interested PAC members. Mr. Cummings already met with Friends of French Prairie and is meeting with Thousand Friends of Oregon next week. ODA is committed to following all rules and regulations in implementing the Aurora Master Plan.

The board discussed.

Board Agenda for 2011:

Mark Gardiner: Remarked to the board that the next year will bring a new governor and that the board does serve at his pleasure. Mr. Gardiner stated that some time next week he would be meeting with the staff of the governor-elect to see how the Aviation Board will be participating in the transition process. Mr. Gardiner believes that for next year's agenda, the Aviation Board should concentrate on what Oregon's airports role for the future should be and how best manage the system going forward. The board should continue to press the OTC (Oregon Transportation Commission) about funding for rural commercial air service and adequate funding for the airport system in general.

Jack Loacker: Asked if there are any regulations that need to be updated and in what time frame. Doug Hedlund replied that there was; the agency needs to do a comprehensive rule review and form an advisory committee to make sure all the relevant rules/regulations are reviewed and that the rule making process is followed correctly.

Board adjourned at 1:00pm and went into Executive Session.

The Aviation Board was called back into session at 1:50pm.

ACTION ITEM – To pursue no further action regarding the lease with the Aurora Hangar Association.

Motion to approve by Joe Smith

Motion 2nd by Nan Garnick

Motion passed unanimously

Comments: The Aviation Board has been asked for guidance by the ODA staff regarding the lease with the Aurora Hangar Association. It is the recommendation of the board to take no further action regarding the lease.

Next Aviation Board meeting:

December 16, 2010
Port of Portland HQ
PDX

Board adjourned at 2:00pm.