

Minutes of Meeting
Airport & Airport Advisory Board Update
August 24, 2021
10:00 a.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Chris Fillios, Commissioner Leslie Duncan and Commissioner Bill Brooks met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Airport Director Steven Kjergaard, BOCC Communications Manager Nancy Jones and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present were Airport Advisory Board Chair Greg Gfeller, Airport Advisory Board Members Joan Genter and Alex Birch, Coeur d'Alene Press Reporter Madison Hardy and Kootenai County Residents Steve Anderson, John Huckabay, James Walsch and Greg Delevan.

A. Call to Order: Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):

Chairman Fillios and Airport Director Steven Kjergaard agreed that item 3 on the agenda, "Airport Authority Direction," would be discussed first.

C. Business (Discussion):

Airport Authority Direction (Action)

Mr. Kjergaard stated that a Joint Powers Agreement for Airport Authority had been proposed. He listed some of the benefits of such an agreement: an increased ability to protect the airspace necessary for operational safety, an improvement in continuity of purpose, since Commissioners changed regularly and, with them, BOCC direction of the Airport. He pointed out that the County had two Joint Powers Agreements already, HARSB (Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board) and KCEMSS (Kootenai County Emergency Medical Services System).

Mr. Kjergaard asked whether the Commissioners were interested in pursuing this proposal.

Commissioner Leslie Duncan said she was opposed to acting on the proposal at this time, primarily because she felt the BOCC had too many urgent issues to handle right now and it could not receive the attention it deserved. She remarked that she had also only heard about the proposal this past Thursday and wanted more time to research it.

Chairman Fillios suggested that the topic be tabled until October.

Commissioner Bill Brooks voiced his agreement.

Review of August 2021 Advisory Board Minutes (Discussion)

Mr. Kjergaard announced that a meeting regarding snow removal would be held September 15, 2021 in which the new patterns of plowing would be provided.

Mr. Kjergaard updated those present on the progress made with the new Aerosimple Software. He said it was multifunctional, handling operations, work order tracking, asset management, wildlife log, FOD (Foreign Object Debris), training management, lease management and forms. He remarked that it would allow customers to enter lease applications or work order requests online and make service more efficient.

Mr. Kjergaard reported that the Airport was averaging 370 to 400 operations per day, with a high of 590. He said he would pursue discussions with the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) about how high the numbers had to be before they would consider approving a permanent tower's construction.

Airport Advisory Board Chair Greg Gfeller stated that the Coeur d'Alene Airport Association might not dissolve, as previously thought. He said that their website had stated that they were going to hold a meeting to select new officers on August 24, 2021. He expressed his hope that the group would remain active.

Airport Lease Document (Action)

Mr. Kjergaard reported that an individual had approached him with a request to make some modifications to the Airport's standard lease document. He remarked that the changes requested were fairly minor. He indicated that Sections 7, 25 and a section on page 22 were the ones he would like guidance on from the Board.

Residential Appraiser III Robert Scott entered the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Commissioner Bill Brooks said he would like to have Legal review the entire document.

Mr. Kjergaard stated that Legal had already reviewed it and had said that the Board needed to make these decisions. He confirmed that he would bring the new standard lease and a copy of the individualized lease discussed to a future Business Meeting for approval.

Commissioner Duncan moved that the Board approve the lease changes as presented with the exception of Sections 7, 25 and "T" on page 22, which shall remain the same. Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Ginorio called the roll:

Commissioner Brooks: Aye

Commissioner Duncan: Aye

Chairman Fillios: Aye

The motion carried.

- D. Public Comment:** This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. Idaho Law prohibits Board action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance. Comments related to future public hearings should be held for that public hearing.

Kootenai County Resident John Huckabay voiced his opposition to the proposed Joint Powers Agreement for the Airport. He stated that there would be no benefit to the taxpayers in the adoption of such an agreement. He accused the Airport Director of being

“incompetent, dishonest and abusive.” He also criticized Commissioner Brooks in his position as liaison for allowing the proposed Snow Removal Equipment Building (SRE) plans to continue.

Kootenai County Resident Elizabeth Roach entered the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

Mr. Huckabay reviewed the lawsuits with which he was involved regarding the Airport and indicated that others would be lodged regarding the SRE and the Joint Powers Agreement, should those move forward. He accused Airport Staff of theft and diversion of County assets and complained that Commissioner Brooks had not acted on the information he had provided.

Kootenai County Resident James Walsh stated that he opposed the Joint Powers Agreement.

Kootenai County Resident Steve Anderson listed the reasons he opposed the proposed Joint Powers Agreement.

Commissioner Duncan exited the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

Kootenai County Resident Elizabeth Roach listed the reasons she opposed the proposed Joint Powers Agreement.

E. Adjournment (Action): Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk
