



Bentonville Municipal Airport
Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, January 13, 2022 @ 3:00 pm
(VIA ZOOM WEBINAR)

MINUTES

Call to Order, Welcome & Pledge of Allegiance – *Dr. Richard Ham, Chairman*

Dr. Richard Ham opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Old Business:

1. Approval of Minutes from December 2, 2021

Mark Slaughter made a motion to approve the minutes from the December meeting. Dennis Cherry gave a second to the Minutes. No discussion. Motion approved.

2. Robin Fields and “Maverick”
 - A. Updates on Geese Control and Progress of Maverick

Robin Fields and Maverick appeared before the Board via Zoom. Robin reported that everything was going well. He said that in December of 2020 they chased 608 geese from the airport area. In December of 2021, they chased 150 geese from the airport area. So there was a big difference in that report, in part, Robin felt, because this December was so warm and there have not been many migrating geese coming through. However, with that said, in the last 10 days when it got a little colder, Robin reported they had chased 118 geese away. It picked up some when the cold weather was here, but not seeing as many migrating geese as he did in 2020. However, that did not account for any ducks or other birds that they chased away.

Mike Frost asked if there had been any near misses in the last 6 months. Robin deferred to Will Gunselman who said there had not been. He said Robin and Maverick were doing an awesome job out there.

3. Updates and Discussions –
 - A. Hangar Access for Public Use – *Sub-Committee Members*

Lisa Kelley was not present at the time this item came up. Debbie Griffin said that they had canceled the last Sub-Committee meeting that we had scheduled and we did not have a quorum to hold the meeting.

- B. Dirt Removal – *Debbie Griffin*

Debbie Griffin reported that the Parks Department is still planning to take the dirt. The Compost Facility is interested in some of the dirt. They are just working out the timing with their engineers as to when they will be able to start moving that. It will be in 2022, she just did not have confirmed dates.

4. Chad Cox Discussion Items:

A. Airport Updates from the Field

Will Gunselman appeared and gave an update on fuel sales. In 2020, they sold 199,943 gallons of fuel and in 2021 they sold 264,941 gallons. Will said that their 2022 goal was 315,000 gallons. He also mentioned that his waitlist for hangar access is growing rapidly, and he is excited about the dirt removal and bringing new tenants on the field.

New Business:

1. Engineering and Construction, *Chris Maestri - Garver Engineers*

A. Update on Current Projects

Chris Maestri appeared and gave an update on the current airport projects.

SE TAXIWAY

Chris Maestri said that they have all of their base material down. They are paving the taxiway connectors starting today. Bravo 1 and Bravo 2 are getting some asphalt down. Once that is completed, they will focus on restoring these areas and then move to paving the parallel portion.

RUNWAY EXTENSION

This is on the same approximate schedule as the Taxiway project is. The runway paving is complete as of this week. They tied into the existing south end and we now have an additional 600' of pavement. It is not marked at this time. They are going to focus now on the grading and electrical work around the edges of the new extension, so we can get this open and usable for everyone by the end of January.

WIDENING

Chris reports that they are still in their preliminary design phase with our first big milestone at the end of January with a 90% submission to the FAA. They are still on schedule to bid this in late April and hopefully a grant aware in late summer with construction starting in the fall. We hope this will be complete by the end of this year. Chris said that they met with a contractor to discuss what phasing might look like. It looks like approximately 18 to 24 days per single closure, weather dependent.

GAME COMPOSITES EXPANSION

They are still moving along. Their parking lot is complete south of the building and they have started pouring some of their slab for the south expansion. They are working on the dirt work on the north side.

EAST HANGAR

They have been working on the door. All the wall panels are up and are cleaning up some site work, but they are expecting to be done around the end of March.

PEDESTRIAN TUNNEL

Nabholz and the owner are still negotiating contract, but we did get a glimpse at a potential schedule with an end of March start date. The displacement associated with this project on the north end would happen around June and

extend into the early fall to get the tunnel section built. Displacement at this point is about 120 days....this is not set in stone. This is very preliminary.

2. City of Bentonville Updates – *Debbie Griffin - Director of Administration*

Debbie Griffin appeared and gave her update to the Board.

A Through the Fence Agreement with Game Composites

Ms. Griffin reported that the Fence Agreement was passed by City Council. She gave appreciation to the board members being flexible to meet on Monday to go over this. She said the contract has been executed, signed and sent back to the parties.

B. Grant Opportunities

Grant opportunities are continuing to be explored.

Lisa Kelley at this time had a question about the Through the Fence Agreement. She asked about the allocation of funds of that agreement. Ms. Griffin said that those funds cannot be earmarked for specific projects. They have to be used for aeronautical funding for the airport, and that would come back before the board for approval first.

Also, she noticed the indemnity clause changed significantly. Debbie said she would have to defer to the legal department on that. She asked Bonnie Bridges to respond to her. She will have to check the previous clauses as she does not know the difference between the two, but she asked that Lisa send her an email, she will look into them and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Ms. Griffin reported that the meeting on the ARPA funds has been postponed until February, so she does not have an update on that right now. She feels that we will be able to secure some of the City ARPA dollars, but that will go to City Council for approval first.

C. Update on Charging Station

The Charging Station is up and running for vehicles, but not being utilized for aircraft yet.

D. RFP Update

Concerning the piece of property that we had people inquire about leases last summer, the RFP will be published next week. I have not received any additional Statements of Interest, but our Purchasing Department has completed their part, we will get Legal to look at it again, but it is supposed to be published next week. This is the property that is just south of the circular apron.

We have received two Statement of Interest forms. She will forward them to the Board after the meeting today via email since we are not meeting in person. She will have hard copies for you at the next meeting. Both of them were interested in constructing hangars once we get the dirt pile removed.

Also on Tuesday, the 18th, Mayor Orman has the Virtual Coffee at 8 AM in the morning. They will be discussing the Airport and she will give an update on Maverick. Chad Cox and Chris Sooter are going to join in, and any of you that would like to be part of that call as a panelist and talk about the airport, we would love to have you. You can contact her for the link if you know of someone who would just like to listen in.

Dr. Ham mentioned that if anyone is interested in seeing the drone operation through the University of Arkansas, please see him and he can set that up. There is one in Pea Ridge and Tontitown.

Mike Frost said that we need to be reviewing the Master Plan process. It has to be on the CIP Budget and we are not yet due to look at this again for another five or so years, but we can certainly start looking at it. He said the Board first needs to do some homework and then set a separate meeting to discuss what the sense of the Board is on it. Ms. Griffin said that it is on our website, www.bentonvillear.com, the under Transportation and then under Airport down in the right hand corner. Dr. Ham asked that this be put on the agenda for February 3rd.

Lisa Kelley proposed a date for an in-person sub-committee meeting with Zoom option on January 28th or January 31, 2022 at 2:00 pm to talk about hangar access for public use. All Board members are in agreement for Monday, January 31, 2022 @ 2:00 pm. The meeting will be in the Planning Commission chambers, if available.

Ms. Kelley also mentioned if we were doing all the things in Ordinance 2014-103 or if we need to change the ordinance. Chairman Ham said we need to redo the Ordinance. Ms. Griffin said those things were being done, but we need to change the Ordinance. Ms. Griffin said she would see that it is re-done as to what the responsibilities of the Airport Advisory Board are.

Chad Cox brought up the drones and Zipline. He said in the Club on January 27, 2022 at 6:00 pm the Zipline is going to be here and meet with the club members and instructors. If the Board would like to learn from them, this is a good opportunity. They want to be good community partners and here is an opportunity. Chad said that “all of you guys” are invited.

Chad brought up that in the past the bi-annual report was something that Bryan Baldwin would go to City Council with a little presentation similar to what is going on with the Mayor’s Coffee. He does not know that it has to be a written report.

Other Business:

1. Schedule AAB Meeting for February 2022

Proposed Meeting Day: Thursday, February 3, 2022 @ 3:00 pm

The next meeting will be on ***Thursday, February 3, 2022 @ 3:00 pm.*** All members agreed. Dr. Ham said he would rather the Board try to meet in person, and then we would go with a contingency plan if we have to.

2. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Mark Slaughter. Dennis Cherry gave a second. No discussion. Motion approved.

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ATTENDANCE LIST

[illegible]

Project Task	East Taxiway Extension (South) (FAA Grant)						
	Pedestrian Tunnel (Private Funding)		Game Composites Expansion (Private Funding)		East Hangar Construction (Private Funding)		Runway 36 Extension (Private Funding)
Site Investigations							
Conceptual Meeting w/ City							
Preliminary Design							
Preliminary Design Review							
Final Design							
Final Design Review							
Bidding							
Grant Award							
Construction Contract							
Preconstruction							
Construction Start		3/21/2022					
Construction Complete	1/31/2022	1/30/2023	3/31/2022	3/31/2022	1/31/2022	11/30/2022	
Grant Closeout	3/17/2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	12/30/2022	





VBT Runway Displacement Schedule

North
(RW 18 = 4016')
(RW 36 = 4016')



South
(RW 18 = 3047')
(RW 36 = 3304')



1/1 1/16 1/31 2/15 3/2 3/17 4/1 4/17 5/2 5/17 6/1 6/16 7/1 7/16 8/1 8/16 8/31 9/15 9/30 10/15 10/31