

# **Minutes of the Baxter County Airport Commission**

March 2, 2023

## **Attendance:**

Airport Commission: Stephen Vester, John Bolding, Jim Brown, Paul Fagras, Brad Hurst, Kyle McAlister, Sally Hall

Baxter County Judge: Kevin Litty

Airport Manager: Taylor Carmichael

Airport Tenants: Les Ives of Ozark Airworks, Trey Haney of Bayird Air

Guests: Dan Clinton from Grimes Engineers, Chris Whitfield of Lochner, Daryl Seibel, Jay Carter, Steve Johnson, Bob Harris, Dani Pugsley of Mtn. Home Chamber of Commerce, Gerald Gaige, Katie Carlisle, Dean Peitzman, Tim McGoldrick

## **Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Stephen Vester with the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:**

Minutes of the previous meeting were read into record by Sally Hall. Jim Brown moved and was seconded to approve minutes as read, seconded by Kyle McAlister. Motion unanimously passed.

Stephen reported the FAA visit to BPK has not been rescheduled. The terminal renovation grant application was denied. Land leases are still in the works. The County Judge and Road & Bridge said that they could not help with moving dirt. He also stated that it may be possible to obtain clay from the county clay pit.

## **Manager's Report:**

Taylor reported the following:

- Katie with the FAA is saying it will be summer before they can come visit.
- The 99s are tentatively scheduled to come in Spring of 2024 to paint the compass in front of the terminal
- No word from the FAA on the ILS obstruction status after Taylor reported the trees were removed
- There is a link for Commissioners to preview the Website that is in the works
- The snow blade has been delivered

- Taylor reports that we need to fine-tune our quick-books to allow for better management to track grant funding better

### **Chairman's Report:**

The Hangar Committee met on 2-2-2023 and are working on speaking with contractors about kits and investigating doors. Taylor also reports that the overhang test is ready to be implemented as soon as the weather allows him to install. The Eclipse Event Committee Reported on their progress. EAA is planning an Open House August 19 for Aviation Day at the airport. The adoption of the new Rules and Regulations will be tabled at the next meeting. Ozarks Airworks hangar expansion is still in the works.

### **New Business:**

The Safety and Security Committee needs to be re-formed. Members will be Brad Hurst, Kyle McAlister, Bob Harris and Trey Haney. Discussion took place about the size and scale of this project. The 50/50 grant would be used and it was unanimously agreed to spend \$30,000 to \$50,000 for the entire package of gates/openers, cameras, lighting, etc.

New Committee for Rules and Standards to update our outdated Minimum Standards. Committee will be Kyle McAlister, Taylor Carmichael and John Bolding.

The terminal is in need of updating aesthetically. Sally reported that Brad from Butler Furniture has offered to come out and help base design the renovation, along with a discounted cost of furniture. Paint and carpet will be designed around the furniture at an additional cost. So we are awaiting the bid.

Chris Whitfield from Lochner and Dan Clinton from Grimes are here to update the status on projects. Dan reports that he spoke with Les and they have decided on a 60 x 100 building and the specifications of that. It will be put out for bids. Dan was given permission to begin the bidding process. He will turn in a bid by the end of March to be presented to the state in April. Dan and Chris spoke on the runway expansion and that the highway is now the obstruction, regardless if the wires are moved. Therefore, the runway will have to be shifted. Chris hasn't received a final report on the core samples, but preliminary reports show good soil and the current runway has some weak spots. Discussion about the county road around the west end of the airport ensued about possibilities for that.

Daryl Seibel proposed a grass strip on BPK. There is an area between the runway and taxiway between Charlie and Delta. No dirt work would be needed and is very smooth. There is more than enough length, no dips or culverts/obstacles. Dean can mow this shorter to make the grass strip visually different from the taller grassy area. This will not be published, be daytime VFR only, all traffic using the paved runway will have priority over grass traffic and CTAF must

be used for communication. Paul Fagras made the motion and Kyle McAlister seconded to accept the proposal as presented with the aforementioned rules. Motion passed unanimously.

Tim McGoldrick proposed a sandwich shop to be opened in the area where the Subway used to be. Discussion ensued about the need for some type of food service on the airport This may be an insurance issue. Tim reports that he hasn't applied for Health Department permits yet, but reports that it will take him 75 days to get up and running. Tim is asking for use of the storage room inside the fence for storage. Paul reports that we do not meet fire code for open flame and Tim is wanting to use a smoker. Jim Brown suggested the Safety and Security committee needs to meet with Tim to work some of these issues out. Tim was given the go-ahead to begin the permit process and to meet with the Committee in the meantime to work out the details. Stephen asked Jim Brown to head this up in regards to the safety issue, as he is wanting to run a smoker.

Jim Brown suggested that we develop a Grounds and Facilities Committee to help Taylor. All were in agreement to develop this committee. We will make assignments in the future.

Officer elections for the coming year were held. For the office of Chairman, Paul made the nomination for Stephen Vester. Jim Brown moved nomination to cease and Sally seconded. Nomination was unanimously accepted. For the office of Vice-Chair, Jim made the nomination for Paul Fagras. Kyle made motion and Sally seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The Secretary nomination was made for Sally Hall by Paul Fagras. Jim Brown made motion and Kyle seconded to cease nominations. Motion passed unanimously.

Sally Hall spoke on the Commission holding a social to be a "get to know you" event with lunch served. This will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup> at noon.

AOPA Report by Gerald Gaige. The STEM curriculum on aviation is still progressing. The Mountain Home sophomore class was at the airport 2-28 and was very successful. They were presented with information about airport operations, aviation careers, about being a pilot, and several planes on display with pilots available to speak to the students. Steve Johnson and Gerald Gaige will be at the career fair tomorrow. In April, MH teachers will be at the airport for externships for them to explore careers in aviation. Gerald offered to be part of the new rules committee.

Steve Johnson will be starting his newsletter on local aviation again.

7:48 pm. Meeting was adjourned.

