

## LEMHI COUNTY AIRPORT BOARD MINUTES

September 11, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 18:02 by Richard Natelson, secretary. Vice Chairman, James Crawford and Charles LaMoure, treasurer were present by phone. Other member in attendance was Jeff Sheets.

Other people in attendance were James Carroll, Tim Vernell, from Gem Air, Jim Miteski, and his wife.

Rich asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July special meeting. The motion was made by Jim and seconded by Charles. The motion passed unanimously.

Rich asked for a motion to approve the August minutes. The motion was made by Charles. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Fuel and facilities report**

James stated that there are approximately 9760 gallons of Jet A to sell and 4400 gallons of Avgas. The Airport is expecting a load of Avgas on Thursday. Gem Air has been buying most of the Avgas. The Airport received a drum of Prist. He thinks it should last over one year. On the first of September all filters were changed on the fuel system.

The tractor has been repaired. A new glass rear window was installed. A rock guard was built over the back.

Jim stated that Wade was calling in on his phone.

Since no more mowing will occur this year, James stated that he will change over to winter operations.

He talked to Jim and Charles about getting light bars on the plow truck. It will increase visibility.

He is still setting up a meeting with Charles to work on the proposed plan for snow removal.

There is a new Airport telephone. It is a cell phone. This way he can speak with people when he is not in the office. The number is unchanged. Also, when he is not available or out of town, the phone can be given to the person covering.

On September 1<sup>st</sup>, Tim Vernell let him know that Gem Air's fuel truck had backed into one of the power poles. James went out and looked at it. He states it did not do any damage to Airport property. This occurred where the fuel trucks park.

James stated that he would like more Board members to help out on weekends with the fuel testing. Anytime during the workweek, simply text James and he can arrange to teach those interested in learning.

### **Financial report**

Charles met with Teresa. He stated that the ladies up at the court house are very helpful. The Airport has spent more money than it has taken in for the year. He stated that it is not a big deal when one looks at how much money is presently on the field in fuel. He stated that it will balance out. Overall, the Board has stayed within the budget year to date. The Airport has collected about 60% of the income but has spent closer to 80% of budgeted expenses.

As Jet A and Avgas are sold, the numbers will appear much better. Expenditures for the month were approved and the County has paid them.

### **Public Input:**

Tim from Gem Air stated that he could not see the agenda online. Rich stated that this is a problem with transition. He explained that the website used to be done by himself and Beth McDonald. When Rob Schick took over as chairman he handled the website entirely. Since that time, the Board is attempting to find somebody to do the website. It was discussed at last meeting that the gentleman who does the website for the County could also do the website for the Airport.

Tim asked if they could be placed on an email list so that the agenda could arrive to Gem Air. Rich stated that the agenda has been placed on the website in the past and would be again in the future when the website management is determined.

Tim stated that the only damage done when their fuel truck backed up was they damaged their fiberglass ladder.

### **Commissioner Update:**

Jim spoke to the Commissioners about the fact that the Airport only has one person to perform the fuel checks. He asked if it would be possible to have a County employee help. They told him that this would not be possible but that they would put it on the agenda to possibly hire somebody to perform these checks.

At this point in time he stated, additional Board members should be checked out to perform these checks when James is not available.

Rich asked for clarification as to the possibility of having somebody from Road and Bridge perform the checks and the County Commissioners stated that this would not be possible. Charles felt that the reason this was not possible because it was not in the County budget. Discussion ensued

### **Old Business**

#### Relocation of Power and Water

Update: Nothing has really happened as of yet. The Board will need to have an estimate before the Board can vote on it.

Charles stated that the project cannot be put out to bid until the Board has a quote from Idaho Power. Jeff asked when Idaho Power will come up with a bid and Charles responded that it might occur within the next two weeks.

It was felt that a 200 amp transformer would be appropriate for the hangars that would eventually be constructed. Jeff was under the impression that a 125 amp panel would actually be sufficient. This he stated, would offer considerable savings.

#### New Lease for David Reese.: Update

Rich stated that Reese went up to the County and signed a new lease. The Board had not received any communication to this effect from the County.

#### Website

Rich stated that it was discussed at the previous meeting who will maintain the website. It was mentioned that perhaps the gentleman who does the website maintenance for the County could also do the maintenance for the Airport website. Rich stated that he looked into the Board keeping the present website, "lemhcountyairport.com" and he stated that most airports do have a direct link to the airport and it is not necessary to go through the county website. It was felt that this should be presented to the gentleman doing the maintenance to ensure that the Board can keep the present Airport web address.

Charles stated that he will speak with the gentleman about this. His name is Clint.

#### Flying B Parking

Tammy Overacker from the Flying B presented documents showing the Flying B has been paying for parking since 2007. At that time, Flying B was paying \$116.69 a year and then in 2008, they started paying \$200 a year and did so through the year 2021. Since 2007 and 2021 Flying B has paid \$2916.69 for parking and \$3519.23 for hangar rent.

Charles spoke with her and stated that in the future she may be losing that parking space because a hangar may be constructed there. She stated that she has a huge concern that if that space is taken up with a hangar where will parking be provided. Discussion ensued. It was felt that the long-term parking area would not be adequate during the hunting months. Also, Tammy stated, that her septic system is located north of the Flying B office and she does not like the idea of people parking on top of that. There is presently a white van parked there and he has been there for weeks. James stated that Jim knows who's van it is and that the owner paid for a year's parking. Jim stated that indeed he has all the information and that he paid 500 dollars for the year to park there. Jim stated that he will have him move the van.

Rich explained that the area that is being used for parking is designated for aviation use. It is for this reason that it may not be suitable to have vehicles parking there. Further discussion ensued.

It was felt that suitable parking would need to be provided in that part of the Airport. It is not just Flying B that may need parking at the south end of the Airport.

Charles stated that it may be necessary to straighten the fence so that there be more parking space. Charles felt that the Board should not be signing long-term releases for parking areas. He did however state that the need for additional parking spaces will need to be addressed.

Tammy stated that although she has been paying for that parking area Middle Fork Lodge and aviation have also been using it for parking space.

Tammy also mentioned that the house across the way burned down in 2012. That was the main source of water for Flying B's office. At that time, she asked the County Commissioners to allow her to tap in to the well that is straight south of her office. The Commissioners declined her request. She ended up discussing this with Jim Crawford and she tapped into his well with his permission. She stated that if a hangar were to be built in that parking area she would like

assurances that the water line that she put in, would not be ruined. She also stated that the hangar that would be built would be small.

Rich stated that the Board is trying to treat everybody fairly. He suggested that T0 engineers look at that area to see what could be done. Tammy suggested that she have a 5-year contract so that this would allow the Board to come up with some ideas on how to deal with this problem.

Jim felt that the parking area should stay where it is presently and that the issue should be discussed with Nathan Cuvalla.

Charles felt that perhaps the issue should be tabled. He also felt that perhaps the parking should not be within the Airport fence.

Jim made the motion to table the parking issue. Jeff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Tammy stated that she has not signed the lease. Rich felt that she should sign the lease and that the parking should be a separate issue. She agreed to get a lease from the County and she would sign it.

## **New Business**

### Applicants for the Board

Rich stated that there are three other applicants for the Airport Board. Charles stated that he knows who the 3 gentleman are who are interested and he suggested inviting them to the next meeting so that the Board could meet them. One of them could possibly fill present vacancy. The other applicants could possibly fill future vacancies, if there are any after the December meeting. Charles stated that he would invite them to the next Board meeting. Their names are: Jim Miteski, Michael Lane, and Tim Sues.

### Closing Comments:

Charles feels we need another County employee to perform the fuel checks when James is not available. He proposes, until that time, a sign-up sheet be made so that the testing can be carried out. There are presently 3 board members who know the procedure. It only takes about 15 minutes to do the testing.

The meeting was adjourned at 18:46