

**Seaside Airport Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting**

January 26, 2021

Call to order: 18:02 hrs.

Members present: Randall Henderson, Dianne Widdop, Jesse Taylor, Joyce Hunt, Dale McDowell, Randy Frank.

Members absent: Bruce Francis, Teri Carpenter, Roy Bennett.

Guests present: RJ Marx, Jeff Gage, Dan Organ, Josh Duff, Jeff Bianchi, Gryphon Shafer.

Review of minutes: Dianne Widdop makes a motion to approve November 2020 minutes as presented, Jesse Taylor seconds, motion passed.

Election of Officers: Randall Henderson as Committee Chair, Teri Carpenter as Committee Vice Chair, and Jesse Taylor as secretary. Motion made to re-elect by Joyce Hunt, Dianne seconded. Votes in favor by all voting members present, Joyce, Dianne, Randall, Jesse. Votes in opposition, none. Motion passed.

Introduction: Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and in accordance with ORS 192.610 10 192.690, this meeting was conducted in electronic form and conforms to guidelines set forth on public meeting law.

Comments from the floor: Thanks to everyone for getting the airport committee meeting put together via Zoom.

Infrastructure/Improvements/Funding: Report from Dale, no new updates from the FAA or Oregon Department of Aviation on the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). The runway will be receiving maintenance (slurry seal/re-striping) this year through the Oregon Dept. of Aviation pavement management program (PMP). Nothing new in the donation box, will investigate making better signage. Dale is working with the Visitors Bureau; he reports the airport will be eligible for grant money and will apply as soon as they open. The new visitor's sign-in sheet where guests can now indicate if they spend money on food, lodging, or in stores is being utilized by pilots. This information will be provided to the Visitor's Bureau and City showing how the airport visitors contribute to tourism dollars. Randall and Dale to send the City of Gearhart a request for a \$500.00 grant. Dale and Randy will discuss with city officials on how to get donation money raised by the airport to the City for use in an upcoming meeting.

Port of Astoria News: Port meetings have been suspended due to COVID concerns. Once meetings resume the committee will get on the agenda.

Maintenance, Safety and Security: Dale reports they are working on getting new runway light parts, they are hard to find as these lights are now obsolete. Randall found more golf balls and possibly saw a person hitting balls on the airport grounds. Will continue to monitor, possibly look into more signage and fencing. Cameras are working. Randall asked if there were any new updates on getting internet to the airport, nothing new. Dale says the City is not "reluctant" to bring internet to the airport, it is the cost to do so and the airport has a small budget. Dale and Randy will bring this up at the Goal Setting meeting. Randall is working on a PowerPoint presentation he would like to share at one of the City Council meetings. The presentation is to help educate how investing in the airport will benefit the entire city. For example, having dedicated internet will provide the operations of the weather camera's which

helps with safety and encourage more flights. With more flights comes more tourism dollars. Randall noted the recent king tides created some major flooding; at one point a major portion of the runway was under water. Dale and committee members helped with driftwood and debris removal. Gates and fencing are functional, windsocks to be replaced as needed when it is safe to get equipment out there. Public Works and committee members continue to keep the grass and airport looking great!

Operations: Nothing new from Jim Grant. Visitors are still signing our logbook and leaving nice comments about the airport and bicycles. Randall witnessed a C172 charter a couple individuals into town and a Coast Guard helicopter using the airport for a possible rescue staging point.

Promotion & Services: Randall thought it might be a good idea to give keys to other committee members and guests who frequent the airport to help unlock and lock the bikes. Dale created a liability waiver releasing the City of any liability if a person is injured while on a bicycle. The City attorney is reviewing the document. We now have FAA approval to start construction of the bike shed. Dale says that Public Works will start construction after they finish a current project, they are hoping to have it completed by mid-March 2021. Dale will start collecting building materials. Randall suggested adding additional windows and using the bicycle shed partly as a pilot lounge. Dale and Randy will mention the idea of a new hangar project at the upcoming City Goal Setting meeting. Randall has different ideas and drawings for hangar space. It is possible a private investor may be willing to take on the project. Josh Duff asked if the City could sponsor the project? This could be an incentive for pilots to base their aircrafts at the airport which would help reclassify the airport and open it up to more funding. Dan Organ asked about rental prices for hangars, Randall said each hangar would be sold and not rented. Randy asked how long approx. to sell, Randall mentioned if done by the private investor the hangars would be pre-sold prior to construction.

Regulatory Review: We reviewed the FAA's National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS). It is a lengthy topic, so went over the parts that relate to our airport category including how that is determined and how it relates to funding. Seaside is currently an Unclassified airport. The goal is to get the airport classified as Basic, which will require 10 or more validated based aircraft. The new classification will also open more funding options. Randall said it was nice to see the classification requirements in writing. He was also worried the airport could be removed from the NPIAS but feels relatively safe since the airport is being maintained. Dale mentioned he had heard from the new FAA representative that the requirement is 9 based aircrafts to be reclassified, this to be investigated.

Committee Member Report: Randy says while playing tennis in Gearhart he enjoys watching the air traffic, once in awhile even getting a wing drop. Everyone is curious with Josh Duff's powerplant due to the unique sound and how he copes with the cold weather. Josh said it is a fuel injected VW motor and he wears a heated jacket, but it is still cold especially around 3000 feet. Thank you to all the guests.

Next Meeting: Every other month schedule - NEXT REGULAR MEETING March 23, 2021, 6:00pm. Location TBD. If additional meetings need to be held, they will remain the 4th Tuesday of each month.

Meeting adjourned 19:24 hrs.