

Boundary County Airport Board Meeting May 7, 2024.

Present: Scott Hittle, Rick Durden, Bob Blanford, Mark Weber, Don Jordan and Trey Dail.

Airport Manager: Dave Parker

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Don Jordan.

Rick Durden moved acceptance of the minutes of the April 2024 meeting, Mark Weber seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Old Business

Weed Update

Dave Parker reported that his crew did heavy weed spraying last fall which has improved things a bit this year, although it is still a fight—overall the condition of the airport in terms of weed infestation is the best it's been. County weed spraying is coming up along with a touch up by Mr. Parker's airport crew.

Slope Stabilization

Trey Dail reported that the project should be kicking off soon—it's anticipated that the area will be staked tomorrow. The personnel involved will walk and flag trees on Monday. The contractor should start on June 1 if the weather holds. The preconstruction meeting is next week. There will be runway closures but not for more than five days and they should not be sequential.

Environmental Assessment—Update

Dave Parker and Trey Dail reported that the old grant (as discussed in last month's meeting) has been approved for closeout. The new grant application (as discussed in last month's meeting) has been approved and signed by the County Commissioners.

The EA has been through the “other lines of business” at the FAA is being reviewed by regional legal counsel. We are waiting for their comments. All comments thus far have been minor. Once all comments are in, we will set up an open house for the public to review.

Update—Power Line Poles South of Runway

Trey Dail reported that he has been in touch with Tollhouse Energy/Smith Creek Hydro, the owners of the power line that must be buried. The person he spoke with indicated that the company wants to get the job done and Trey is working to set up a meeting to discuss how to approach the project.

Farm Lease Update

Dave Parker reported that he had met with the Commissioners and found that no advertising was needed for the lease. There had been two proposals from farmers. The better proposal was from Tobyn Mastre of K&K Farming LLC. and the Commissioners agreed to a lease with him. The total acreage being leased is 71.3 acres, up from 50 in the previous years.

Hangar E Taxiway Construction and Hangars

Dave Parker reported that the application for approval of the first hangar on Row E has been made to the FAA—for the height of the hangar. It's a routine request, made for each hangar, and is expected to be approved soon. Gravel will have to be laid for a taxiway to the hangar. Dave Parker indicated his concerns with snow removal those have been expressed to the hangar tenant.

No action was taking on constructing a full taxiway for hangar row E.

New Business

Budget

The proposed budget for the airport was discussed. Worst case is that the County's share of grant money matches for next year will be \$145,000, which includes \$4,600 for slope stabilization.

There was concern expressed by the board members at the low salary paid the airport manager, especially as the airport is growing and demands on his time for airport business are accordingly growing. Rick Durden moved that the Board recommend to the Commissioners that the airport manager's salary be increased. Mark Weber seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Rick Durden moved that the proposed airport budget be accepted and recommended to the Commissioners. Mark Weber seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Avigation Easement—Adam Michel

Dave Parker reported that the property owners south of the airport on airport centerline affected by the need for an avigation easement have expressed that they want to sell all of their land with house rather than just the small portions affected. Currently, there is no budget for this.

On the north side, Adam Michel proprietor of North Idaho Building and Supply has expressed agreement with selling an avigation easement over the property as the FAA is demanding. Trey Dail has found a Spokane company that performs avigation easement appraisals, and the appraisal is in process.

Bob Blanford moved that the Board recommend to the Commissioners that the County move forward with purchasing an aviation easement over Parcel A14 on the airport master plan. Mark Weber seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Airport Manager's Report

Dave Parker reported that he and his team had completed the de-stumping, tilling, leveling, planting with link grass of 3.3 acres for heliport operations. Rental equipment and labor cost was \$3,180.

A south access to the airport was made which involved pulling stumps and planting with appropriate grass.

The southwest corner triangle of the airport inside the fence was leveled and planted.

Weeds were sprayed along airfield edges to stop encroachment.

Numerous brush piles were burned.

He met with Trey Dail and Shem Johnson to look over the slope stabilization area and discuss the work that will be starting.

He ordered 2" drain and boulders to be placed to keep vehicles off of areas of the south hangars where vehicles are not supposed to travel.

He met with Jackie and Nicholas Morrelli and Adam Michel to discuss avigation easements and first right of refusal on sale of their properties.

Supervised field trips of 12 second graders and 60 kindergartners. He did not report whether therapy was required for the airport manager or personnel afterward.

Met with Thom Fisher of Smith Hydro regarding the power line burial project.

Swept all taxiways and runway surfaces to remove small rocks and gravel that could cause damage to aircraft.

Planted grass on bare hangar sites to stop weeds.

Met with farmers interested in leasing airport land to discuss rules and regulations that would apply

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 pm.

Fuel Sales for March: 100LL-2,960 gallons; Jet A-1,307 gallons.