

MINUTES OF MEETING
JOPLIN AIRPORT BOARD MEETING
May 14, 2020

The Airport Board met in the Second Floor Training Room at the at the Joplin Regional Airport Commercial Terminal Building. The meeting was brought to order at 9:02 A.M.

Item 1: Roll Call and Approval of Minutes from the last meeting.

Board members in attendance included Bob Loudermilk, Mike Bentley, and Bill Harding. Kelli Starkweather and Randy Moore attended via phone. Rob O'Brian and Richard Russell were absent. Staff present included Steve Stockam and Melissa Hunter.

Approval of Minutes:

All were in favor of approving the minutes from April's meeting.

Item 2: Old Business

First, Mr. Stockam addressed airport projects. He stated that we opened bids for the **GA Entrance Road Project**, and they came in under engineers estimates. We plan to move forward with this project and the MoDOT grant will be taken to council on Monday for approval he stated. Mr. Stockam reported that everything currently programmed with MoDOT funding would continue, the funding has already been set aside. He added that the City has already budgeted this project as well.

On Tuesday, we opened bids for the **Reconstruct Runway 18/36 Project** which came in well below engineering estimates. Emery Sapp was the low bidder for both asphalt and concrete. The concrete bid was only about \$600,000 more than asphalt. Mr. Stockam will have a telecon today with the FAA to discuss our option to move forward with concrete. Mr. Bentley asked if this will be paid with CARES Act grant funds. Mr. Stockam stated that no, the CARES Act funds are for operations and maintenance at the airport. However, the local match share will be covered by the CARES Act grant which will save the City's local match share. The plan is for the funding to come in two pieces, partially next year and another round for the following year. Mr. Stockam would like to see if we can get all the funding in one year since the bids came in so much lower than expected. That will be discussed with the FAA and it will probably be a lengthy time before a decision is made according to Mr. Stockam.

Item 3: New Business

Mr. Stockam stated that another grant being taken to council on Monday is the **CARES Act grant**. This will funding be used for operations and maintenance at the airport and contains a clause that we must maintain 90% of employment. This is to bridge the gap in airports until

the market builds back up, but it will keep people working. We have adjusted our staff, but there will be no layoffs through this calendar year. We have had to put off our runway painting project due to staff separation, but we are just working that back into our schedule. Mr. Stockam explained that there should be enough funds in the CARES Act grant to cover our operating expenses for 28 months. Experts are predicting that it may be 24 to 36 months before our air traffic gets back to where it was, so we want to stretch that funding as far as possible. Revenues from American Airlines and the car rental agencies will have a big impact. However, final decisions have not been made on how to spend the funding.

Mr. Harding asked when the General Aviation Entrance Road project would begin. Mr. Stockam stated it should begin in July and be completed by October 1, 2020. However, the Reconstruct Runway 18/36 will not begin until next year. Mr. Harding asked if the low bidder on the runway project is qualified as a bidder. Mr. Stockam stated that the bidder is Emery Sapp and they have completed runway closure projects for other airports. Mr. Loudermilk asked if they will put an asphalt or concrete plant onsite for the project. Mr. Stockam stated that they would do that to prevent the need for trucking and hauling.

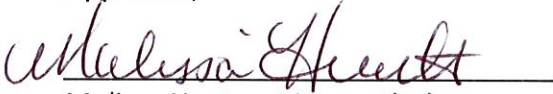
Next, Mr. Stockam gave an update regarding **air service**. He stated that he has been monitoring telecons for updates. Over 50% of domestic fleets are parked he stated. Kansas City and Tulsa airports have runways shut down with planes parked on them. We have seen an increase in the last week with JLN passengers now booking an average of 25 to 30 passengers per day on the ERJ-140. Other airports were hit hard across the board as well. American Airlines has instated the rule that masks must be worn while aboard the flights. Mr. Stockam stated that we would support their decision. Our airport staff has instituted additional sanitizing and cleaning as well as social distancing between employees. He added that TSA recently mentioned that they might begin thermal screening of passengers, but no decision has been made. Mr. Bentley stated that some major FBO's have begun requiring masks to be worn before entering their facilities. Mr. Stockam added that Alpha Air is closed to the public and only has limited staff available for maintenance. Mizzou is still open to the public. According to Mr. Stockam, the biggest issue is that some domestic markets will not open without vacation destinations opening, like Disney. Mr. Loudermilk asked how the air traffic decrease has affected the Boeing 737 issue. Mr. Stockam stated that Boeing is working to resolve the issue at this time. He added that Delta has been the most aggressive with retiring planes. Southwest has announced it will begin opening some vacation markets in June. Mr. Harding commented that Hawaii is hurting because they live off the tourist markets. Mr. Bentley added that Bermuda is only allowing cargo planes in, no passenger planes. Mr. Stockam agreed and stated that airports are operating at about 10% capacity. Mr. Bentley stated that Tamko hasn't flown since mid-March.

Mr. Stockam stated that it is time to begin preparing for the **next fiscal year budget** and we have been instructed by the city to plan as we normally would. As we move forward and have more information about incoming tax revenue, adjustments can be made. We plan to be conservative to stretch our CARES Act funding. Certain sectors of the market are up such as home improvement stores. Mr. Loudermilk agreed and stated that Lowe's had a record day last month, even higher than after the Joplin tornado. Also, certain restaurants are doing well with carry out and drive through services. However, the mall is just opening. Mr. Stockam stated that he is most concerned with the transportation sales tax fund which is a percentage of retail

sales on fuel. With fuel prices being so low and no one traveling it may be lower than average. We will not plan any capital expenditures next year. Mr. Stockam stated that if there are any changes, he will let the board know via e-mail.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37am.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Melissa Hunter", written over a horizontal line.

Melissa Hunter, Airport Clerk

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kelli Starkweather", written over a horizontal line.

Kelli Starkweather, Chairman of the Board