

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**JOPLIN AIRPORT BOARD MEETING**  
**October 10, 2019**

The Airport Board met in the Second Floor Conference Room at the at the Joplin Regional Airport Commercial Terminal Building. The meeting was brought to order at 7:02 A.M.

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

Board members in attendance included Bill Harding, Bob Loudermilk, Richard Russell, Mike Bentley and Randy Moore. Kelli Starkweather attended via phone and Tim Forker was absent. Staff in attendance included Melissa Hunter and Steve Stockam.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Moore moved to approve the minutes from September's meeting. Mr. Bentley seconded. All were in favor.

**Item 2: Old Business**

First, Mr. Stockam gave the board an update on the air service numbers. He said we saw a significant drop in our Dallas numbers in the first few months of Chicago service. This month the numbers got back to normal with mostly new passengers to Chicago. In June we saw a 20% increase in passengers, 18% increase in July, 36% increase in August and a 50% increase in September. We hope that number continues to grow, and the market is beginning to stabilize. The Chamber of Commerce wants to ensure we are growing the market to bring more people into our community. Mr. Stockam added that our growth appears to be right on schedule. We will continue to have the CJR900's for the midday DFW flight. Later in December, we will have a 175. The Chicago flights will continue to be the ERJ140 and the Saturday afternoon ORD flight will be dropped through the holiday season. American Airlines is trying to optimize our schedule according to Mr. Stockam and it seems to be working well. He added that there have been a few flights per month to Chicago that were weathered, but that is to be expected. Mr. Loudermilk added that Joplin seems to be the best price in the area as compared to other airports. Mr. Stockam commented that 65% of our passengers come from outside our service area and we may see an adjustment of business travelers to leisure travelers as fall approaches. Mr. Russell asked if American Airlines is pleased with our overall air traffic. Mr. Stockam stated that they are pleased.

Next Mr. Stockam addressed our ongoing construction projects on the airport. He stated that 18/36 has reopened this week. They pre-tested the lights and signs in preparation for the opening. There was one small issue with some cores expanding and popping up but it was easily resolved. He added that Delta 2, Delta 3 and Delta 4 are all in great shape. The grading is complete as well as the lights, signs and NAVAIDS. However, the seeding is not complete yet. The next portion to open is Delta North of 13/31. We hope to get the last lift on today, but rain will be a factor. The contractor has 14 to 15 days to dress the shoulder and be ready to open. Mr. Stockam stated that it will probably be open by November 1<sup>st</sup>. He added that this will be a good clean project once complete. In the end we will be 16 to 17 days over schedule, but given the weather, that is not too bad.

Mr. Stockam addressed the board regarding the 18/36 Runway Design project. He stated that the engineer is 30% complete with the design. He will meet with the FAA next week to discuss it. There are three or four different phasing plans that will be discussed because a portion of the airport will be closed for a period. Next week we will have a better idea of what to expect with that project according to Mr. Stockam. We propose to have 5 to 6 short closures on the weekends during the summer months. That would be better than closing the airport for a full week. Funding will drive when we start project construction, but we hope to begin phase one next summer. We received approval from the FAA to use LED runway lights. Mr. Stockam added that we will be one of the first airports in the country to have LED runway lighting. Mr. Bentley stated that a one-week closure would shut down Tamkos' entire operation. He agreed that spreading the closure over the weekends would be better. Mr. Stockam stated that the FAA wants to make sure we are aware that there is more responsibility to the airport with short closures. Mr. Stockam added that we must also plan in advance to alert American Airlines of no flights during that time.

Next, Mr. Stockam gave the airport board an update on the GA entrance road design. Mr. Stockam met with MoDot regarding the need to go ahead and design the intersection with a signal in mind. 90% of the drawings have been submitted to MoDot for review. Mr. Stockam stated that they were taking into consideration the need to have access to the Leggett and Alpha hangars throughout the construction process. Also, there will need to be some adjustments to allow access to the gas metering station. We plan to use millings for the Spire facility and meet Spire requirements according to Mr. Stockam. We hope to have a bid request out for that project around February and do the construction next year. We plan to coordinate the construction with the hangar folks to allow temporary access to the area during construction as well.

Our 5-year agreement with CMT is expired after 2019 and we need to put forward a request for qualifications to select a new engineer. Mr. Stockam provided the airport board with a list of potential projects we could have over the next five-year period. He added that we will not be doing all the projects listed, but they will all need to be included in our request for qualifications. Mr. Harding asked about item # 20 on the list. It states replacement of electrical systems. Mr. Stockam replied that in addition to still needing to get a generator for the terminal building there are some electrical updates needed on the General Aviation side. Mr. Russell stated that the generator at Memorial Hall should be brought out to the airport. It has only been used once other than for testing he stated. Mr. Harding commented that he heard that generator was purchased with grant funding and has assurances so it cannot be moved. Mr. Stockam stated that there may be some changes to Memorial Hall with the new Cultural Arts Center plan. We have approval to continue to use Crawford, Murphy and Tilly to complete to project in progress on 18/36 until it is complete.

### **Item 3: New Business**

Mr. Stockam spoke about the car wash project completion. The car wash facility and the fuel station are owned by the Joplin Rental Car LLC and now that the project is nearing completion. We plan to partner with the LLC to maintain it. The car rental agencies have charged an additional few dollars per rental to raise money for the car wash facility. That fee will go decrease for maintenance and upkeep. The car wash is not open to the public and only

people issued an access card may use it. Mr. Stockam added that the car rental attendants are happy to not need to wash cars by hand over the winter months.

Mr. Stockam listed some smaller airport projects in progress. We are still adjusting our operations staff to provide janitorial service to the main terminal building. We have a struggle with depleted staff to split responsibilities between the airfield and fire barn needs. Mr. Stockam stated that we have reached out to contractors to expand our roll with janitorial services. We currently have four open positions within the airport. Two operations personnel and two airport police. Mr. Stockam stated that he spent one afternoon mowing to help our staff keep up. He has authorized over time for operations staff to keep the airfield up to Part 139 standards. Today he will review the available applications for a new operations staff member.

As a reminder, Mr. Stockam stated that we have our annual snow committee meeting scheduled for next Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at the General Aviation Terminal. Part 139 states that we must have an annual meeting to go over our snow removal process. In that meeting we will also discuss how we will handle our new liquid deicing process.

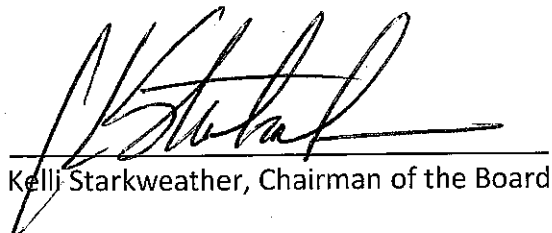
Mr. Moore commented about seeing coyotes on the airfield recently. Mr. Stockam stated that we do often have a problem with them in the spring and fall. He added that we have the deer under control, but we do also have some geese issues as well. We do have a kill permit and continue to use it as needed he stated.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 am.

Approved,



Melissa Hunter, Airport Clerk



Kelli Starkweather, Chairman of the Board