

LEMHI COUNTY AIRPORT BOARD MINUTES

November 8, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 18:00 by Board Chairman, Robert Schick. Other Board members in attendance were James Crawford, Vice Chairman, Charles LaMoure, Treasurer, Richard Natelson, Secretary, Bob Deurloo and Ben Armstrong.

Other people in attendance were Gary Connelly, superintendent, Jim Paulikas, Jim Miteski, , and Tim Vennell from Gem Air.

Rob asked for a motion to approve the October minutes. The motion was made by Rich and seconded by Charles. The motion passed unanimously.

Fuel and facilities report

Gary stated that the Airport now has 6332 gallons of Jet A. There are 5103 gallons of Avgas. Gary states that the Airport is getting low on Avgas.

Gary states that he is concerned about the moisture content in the tanks. He would like to keep the tanks as full as possible to reduce the risk of this. He would like to get 10,000 gallons in each tank. He has been sumping the tanks daily. He states there is a little bit of moisture but it is not bad. He states it is worse with the above ground tanks because of the temperature fluctuations. The tanks that were in the ground were more stable. Rob stated that he wants to speak with World Fuels about this to see what would be the ideal amount of fuel to have.

Charles pointed out that it is also a monetary issue and we have to make sure we do not overspend ourselves.

Prist System

The Prist system is up and working. It has been calibrated and the amount of Prist is 12 ppm. At this point in time, nobody has used it yet. Gary states that the Airport has a refractometer. He plans on taking 100 gallons approximately that will be used by Air Methods and when the fuel is placed into their tank, he will use the refractometer to see how accurate the calibration is. It is now set up at the fuel farm that an individual can choose between non-Prist jet A and Jet A with Prist.

Another point Gary brought up is that at present the airport does not charge for Prist. He stated that there is a way that one can charge for the Prist that is being used. The board will discuss this at a later date.

Gary also stated that when the calibration was carried out, the pulse rate on the pumps was changed. Avgas was set to 100 pulses and Jet A set to 1000 pulses. This resulted in the incorrect dispensing of fuel. He spoke with QT and the only cause for the discrepancy was felt to be due to the recalibration. He was instructed on how to reset the pulses. The system now seems to be working properly. Both fuels are set to 100 pulses.

The Airport should be reimbursed for at least part of the lost profit by the company. Gary also spoke to the State Weights and Measures and they told him that the State does not have to recertify or recalibrate the system.

Gary also stated that the QT system went down yesterday. It was a system-wide failure. It is up and running today.

He stated that he is also looking into the icing and puddling issues on the asphalt.

Rob then asked Tim from Gem Air if there were any water pooling issues. Tim stated that there was a big pool of water in the middle of the taxi way. Rob recommended that Gary do some marking to show the area and if there is any expansion of the puddling. It is believed that there are 2 places that would have to be repaired. Gary stated that he has taken pictures of the areas of concern. It was questioned what the Airport does when it freezes over. Salt cannot be used. It may be possible to use TK S. Rob asked Jim to look into possibly placing a NOTAM about that area when it freezes. Rich stated the HK should be repairing the areas of concern come spring.

Financial report

Charles gave the financial report. As of October 1 the board switched over to using the County instead of Allen accounting.

Charles stated that the new report will be a little bit different than previously now that we are no longer using Allen accounting. He stated that we still have the present checking account for approximately 1 more month before monies are turned over to the general fund. The Board does have a budget to spend.

Total bills came to \$6508.43. Charles listed the bills. He stated that the bills included salaries and all miscellaneous. The negative amounts that are on avgas and jet A are felt to be money that was returned. Charles states that it means we received money back. We received \$ 715.11 and we received \$1238. It could be credit card receipts that are coming back. Charles is not sure what this means and will therefore contact Brenda about this. Rob pointed out that when the fuel system is used, World Fuel is paid, and then they reimburse the Airport.

Rob updated everyone on how the new system is working: The airport has a mail box in the County vault. Rob explained how the new system works: If there is an invoice for the Airport, a cover sheet is applied to the invoice. On the cover sheet is listed the date, who is being paid and, what it is for. Rob then signs approving it. Theresa then signs it. Rob then assigns it to a category in the Airport budget. Theresa then gives it to the Commissioners and they pay bills once a month.

Charles stated that now, for example, filling the fuel tanks, we no longer have a checking account. We are bound by our budget. So, in theory, the Board could spend the money without having it at that point in time. Charles gave an example: if the Board would like to fill the tanks and does not have the money at present, the Board could do so as long as the Board stayed within the Airport budget.

Charles stated that the Board no longer approves the bills because now those bills are being paid by the County.

Public input:

No public input.

Old Business

Snow Plow

Rob stated that he, Jim and Gary went to Rigby. It was a great truck. It was a 6 wheeler. The vehicle was \$45,000 and had 25,000 miles. They stated they wanted the truck but they needed to speak to the person with the plow. The concern of the plow man was that the front axle was rated at only 12,000 pounds. The gentleman stated it would be possible to beef up the leaf springs. He also stated that there was an inventory shortage of plows. He stated the hydraulic system on the truck was good for the dump part of the truck but not sufficient for the dump and the plow. The gentleman offered a hydroelectric plow system called the expressway plow. The gentleman, Jake, works for Metroquip Inc. located in Meridian Idaho. Rob stated that the entire system with labor to install would put the Board over the budget. Rob discussed this this morning with the County Commissioners. The Board could continue to proceed and take \$20,000 out Airport savings to allow us to move forward.

Rob also looked at other websites as well. There are older systems available. The County Commissioners do not like the idea of an older system because they had some issues with what was previously acquired.

The Department of Roads and Bridges thinks the truck and plow would be sufficient to handle the taxi way and runway. Rob stated that if the Board were to proceed, we still would not get the plow for about another 5 or 6 months. Rob stated that the grant money that we received from the government is good through 2024.

Rich thought that we should wait because the price that went up a lot this past year should come down. Charles stated that he spoke with their truck supplier at work and that person stated that the people who ordered new equipment are taking delivery of it now. That means, that there will be more used equipment on the market and possibly, more reasonably priced. Charles further stated that the equipment that we see now is equipment that has been left over since the summer. Charles felt as well that we should wait to purchase the equipment. Charles recommended that the Board stay away from the new trucks that use def. Charles stated that their company has had a lot of problems with these trucks.

Rich recommended that the Board purchase the truck with the plow already mounted. That way we know that the unit works together.

Charles stated that he has contacted some of their suppliers to see about equipment if it becomes available. Rob stated he will keep looking for equipment as well.

Power to the Leadore Airport Beacon

Jim stated that he and Rob met with Idaho power out at the airport to sort out the power supply. Jim stated that east of the runway the boundaries are very confusing. However, on the west side with side of the runway, south of the hanger, it is all County property. Also, there are runway lights that are not working.

It was suggested that the old Lemhi County Airport beacon be moved out to west side and be placed south of the hanger that is there now. Also, the windsock will be moved there as well. The County Commissioners agreed but they were in no hurry to do it. They recommend that it be performed next year. All of this would be performed at the County's expense. It will not come out of the Airport budget. Rob mentioned that the helipad that is out there will need to be moved as well because it is on private land.

AMCG:

The report has not been finalized as of yet. Jim and Rob sat down with Bruce Withers. AMCG is still asking for more information. Rob stated he provided them with this year's budget. The company is still not prepared to present anything to the Commissioners as of yet.

(Rob handed out leadership study questionnaire from the County Commissioners for the Board members. The members are to fill them out at their leisure. They will be picked up at the next meeting.)

New Business

Fuel Farm Anomalies

Rob stated that a lot of this was already discussed under fuel and facilities.

The labeling was wrong on some of the receipts.

Rich asked what is happening with the cover for the QT station. Rob stated that the cover had to be modified to handle the wind because the cover did not fit around the conduit. The thought is to sew in a zipper so that it can go around the conduit easily. Rob stated that the front of it is a Velcro flap that the fuel purchaser has to lift to run the credit card. He stated that it is not a perfect system but should be satisfactory.

Some pilots have pulled out the grounding cables and not allowed them to return. Gary thought the grounding cables should be extended. Another possibility is to paint areas on the ground where an aircraft needs to be so the cables reach.

Rob reminded everyone that elections will be held next month.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:00