



KELSO-LONGVIEW REGIONAL AIRPORT

“Molt Taylor Field”

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Thursday, August 14, 2008

Call to order:

Chairman Kathleen Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m., at the FBO, 2215 Parrott Way, Kelso WA.

Those present were as follows:

Airport Board Members

Darold Dietz, Port of Longview
Ken Botero, City of Longview
Gerald Malella, City of Kelso
Kathleen Johnson, County Commissioner

Staff

David Sypher, Public Works Director
Denny Wise, Airport Manager
Becky Hill, Department Assistant
Don Bell, Assistant Airport Manager

Also in attendance were :

Jerry Sorrell, CWCOG
Mike Griffiths, Life Flight

Approval of Minutes:

Acknowledgement of Expenditures: No acknowledgement of expenditures. Report was not ready. Mr. Sypher gave the board a brief clarification of this procedure. When they are available, the Finance Director will send them down through interoffice mail to Operations office for the meeting.

Public Comments: Dennis Wise, Kelso Flight Service, 2215 Parrott Way, introduced Mike Griffiths, the Executive Director for Life Flight, an Air Ambulance Company that covers most of Oregon and SW Washington.

Mike Griffiths:

Life Flight is a non-profit organization and has been in business in Portland for about 30 years. We are owned by Oregon Health Science University, Legacy, and Providence all out of Portland, Oregon. We are run by these hospitals and we just opened up branch bases in Dallesport at the Gorge and Eugene recently.

We have had some folks who have come into our area (Portland) who have a goal to have Life Flight go away. These people can be very aggressive competitors. So we are in a position now where we need to think about competition. We have seen an increase in activity in this area, specifically with St. John Medical Center; they are partnered with OHSU for Cardiac Care. In addition we do quite a lot of work at the coast (Astoria, Ilwaco). We respond to Kelso and the coast from Hillsboro Airport. Locating the

helicopter service here would shorten time to St John as well as trips to the coastal areas would be cut almost in half. So because of all of this, we have moved plans for expansion up quickly and would like to move into this area within a year. However, we feel if we don't do this, we know folks who would do it. We are issuing a press release tomorrow (8/15) and it says we are going to the Kelso-Longview Airport, and we understand that by no means that the Airport Board is not making any promises or guarantees that this will happen.

Kathleen suggested that he put in the press release that the Airport Board has given their recommendation in support of this expansion.

Motion was made to make a recommendation to Kelso City Council to facilitate Life Flight basing at Kelso Airport contingent on staff recommendation. Motion was seconded. Motion passed.

FBO Report: Summer is finally here and flying has picked up. All 3 fire patrols are up now. Flight instruction is up as always happens in the summer months. Maintenance people are all stocked up with things to do with 5 employees and maybe adding one more.

Hanger Vacancy Update:

- There are still 36 on the list. The \$25.00 deposit is now in force for those being added to the hangar waiting list and no new additions.
- No repairs on hangars.

Airport Manager Report: Wildlife is pretty much gone except for the Female Coyote and her pups. The USDA is coming to do the survey on the 28th. This is one that we have been trying to get their attention and that is Wildlife Department.

There was a request to paint over the old Windssock Café sign on the hangar and the city crews have done that and it looks good.

I sent in a Citizen Concern Form about the ant infestation in the old FBO upstairs area and have not heard back. David thought that the area has been sprayed.

Also someone went thru the fence, the person who went thru the fence called and admitted doing the damage to the fence. We have already received the check from his insurance company for repairs. Contractor should start the repair on 8/15.

Other Business:

- **Airport Security Plan/Airport Manager Contract Update**– We will address at the next meeting. David wants this as a standing item.
- **Master Plan Update** - Jerry Sorrell reported on the scope envisioned by the Master Plan Consultant. It is important to get good information on what types of aircraft are currently using the airport and on aircraft that could be using this airport. We need a good document and data base to support the runway expansion. Our next meeting with the Technical Committee and the consultant is scheduled for October 9th at the Kelso City Council Chambers at 1:00 with your board meeting to follow. He believes you will get some preliminary information that has been done to date. But that might take a bit longer than the October meeting.
- **Report on construction of the new hangars:** The consultant submitted plans and it is now in the hands of SEPA, which is the environmental portion of the packet.

- **Budget Input:** David Sypher requested input from the board for items which should be considered as well as recommendations as to priority for a 2 year budget.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.

Becky Hill, Recording Secretary

Kathleen Johnson, Chairperson