

Montana Aeronautics Board
Helena, MT
January 21, 2014

Aeronautics Board

Tricia McKenna, Board Chair
Rob Buckles
Chuck Manning
Walt McNutt
Fred Lark
Roger Lincoln
Fred Leistiko
Bill Hunt

Department of Transportation

Debbie Alke, MDT Aeronautics
Patty Kautz, MDT Aeronautics
Pat Wise, MDT Directors Office
Carol Grell Morris, MDT Legal
Tim Conway, MDT Aeronautics
Wade Cebulski, MDT Aeronautics
Jeff Kadlec, MDT Yellowstone Airport

Guests

Scott Eaton, FAA Helena Airports District Office
Dave Noble, FAA Helena Airports District Office
Rick Donaldson, Robert Peccia & Associates
Jeff Walla, KLJ Engineering
Fred LeLacheur, Morrison Maierle Engineering
Dave Anderson, Cut Bank
Kristie Brabeck, Valley County Airport Board

Call to order/MDT Update/Approval of Minutes – 1:00 p.m.

- Pat Wise gave a Montana Department of Transportation update. She said the department is working at the federal and state level for a way to fund the Yellowstone Airport and keep it going. She let the board know the Mission Statement is being redeveloped.
- Debbie Alke said the Powder River MOA is still alive, they may be re-drawing map to accommodate concerns. As she gets more information she will let the board know. Debbie said the Federal Aviation Administration has named six test sites for drones. Not a lot of activity in Montana, they are testing in the Flathead. The department just rolled out an on-line registration for aircraft and pilots we have had great participation. Debbie said concerning Essential Air Service, service to Lewistown and Miles City was lost. The contract was up for bid, Silver Airlines did not bid. Cape Air was selected, offering good fares, no complaints, numbers are up.
- Tim Conway updated board on the Loran Tower. Roger Lincoln said as of Saturday evening it was functioning.
- Tim Conway said in regards to Met Towers we have seventeen obstructions identified on our webpage. Also includes a link to identify a new met tower or to remove an existing met tower. Debbie said we would put something in the newsletter on the Met Towers.
- Tim Conway said we had an audit of Bridger and Hardin for fiscal years 11, 12 & 13. Expect an audit report by February 1.
- Patty Kautz gave update on conference asked Board to register if interested in going and she will make room reservations.

- *Chairman McKenna asked for motion, comments or discussion on the June 12, 2013 minutes. Roger Lincoln made a motion to approve the June 12, 2013 as distributed. Chuck Manning seconded the motion that passed unanimously.*

Board Updates

- Each board member gave a brief update on the group they represent for the Aeronautics Board.

Review Loan/Grant Applications

- Big Timber – Request is for a \$9,689 grant. Rob Buckles noted that they were asking for more than they are eligible for the most the board can do is \$5,687. Chairman McKenna said the project is good to go with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
- Canyon Ferry – Request is for a \$5,000 grant. Chairman McKenna said this is a non-federal project. Low priority.
- Cut Bank – Request is for a \$170,000 loan and grant. Chairman McKenna said this project is good to go with the FAA.
- Dillon – Request is for \$13,400 loan and grant. Tim Conway explained that he broke out into priorities with the paved access road being a lower priority.
- Eureka – Request is for a \$19,825 grant. Tim Conway said the also broke this project into priorities. Chairman McKenna said project is good to go with FAA.
- Fort Benton – Request is for \$3,400 loan and grant. Chairman McKenna said this is a high priority project, good to go with FAA.
- Glasgow #1, #2 & #3 – Fred Leistiko said in 2013 he provided consultant services for Valley County/Glasgow. He was not involved with any of these projects; he would like to know if the board would like him to recuse himself. Carol Grell-Morris asked if he planned to speak in favor of the projects. Fred Leistiko said one of the three was his recommendation. Carol Grell-Morris said she would advise the board to have Fred Leistiko recuse himself on that one. Chairman McKenna said for Fred to remind her when they vote on that tomorrow. Request #1 is for a \$4,940 loan and grant. Request #2 is not good to go with the FAA Aeronautics did not recommend funding. Request #3 they are requesting a \$100,000 loan and grant. Tim Conway said they recommend funding for Glasgow #1 and not #2 and #3 because low priority.
- Glendive – Request is for \$33,775 grant. Chairman McKenna said project is good to go with FAA.
- Hamilton – Request is for a \$10,700 grant. Tim Conway said the FAA is good to go with this project. He wondered if the board decides to fund portions of the application if they should specify what portion they are funding. Chuck Manning asked if the board could do that don't they have to fund according to the application. Rob Buckles asked if they should modify the application next year so everything is broken down. Debbie said with new online system next year it will be broken down. Tim Conway asked if the board could award the grant with stipulation. Carol Grell-Morris the board does not have the statutory enforcement ability in that direction. The board doesn't have any enforcement mechanism so no point in doing that.
- Hardin – Request is for \$20,000 grant. Tim Conway said this is a non-federal project, lower priority. They have an existing airport with hangars and a new airport they want to transition to that doesn't have hangars. The feds are not going to fund the hangars at the

new airport until it is functional. Fred LeLacheur of Morrison Maierle explained that the county will pay to build hangars so they have a place to move the tenants. Low propriety for FAA but high priority for the county.

- Harlem – Request is for a \$26,250 grant. Tim Conway said he broke this into three sub-classes. Good to go with the FAA.
- Harlowtown – Request is for \$5,000 grant. Tim Conway said FAA is good to go and Aeronautics recommends funding.
- Hot Springs – Request is for a \$30,000 grant. Tim Conway said this is a non-federal project. Aeronautics recommends \$15,000 loan and \$15,000 grant as average priority.
- Jordan – Request is for a \$6,000 loan and grant. Tim Conway said FAA is good to go with this and Aeronautics recommends full funding.
- Lewistown #1 – Request is for an \$18,900 grant. Tim Conway said FAA is good to go since pavement maintenance Aeronautics recommends funding.
- Lewistown #2 – Request is for a \$7,500 grant. Tim Conway said good to go with FAA, moderate with Aeronautics recommends \$3,600 grant.
- Lewistown #3 – Request is for \$3,950 grant. Tim Conway said good to go with FAA, moderate priority with Aeronautics they do not recommend funding.
- Libby – Request is for \$13,510 grant. Tim Conway said good to go with FAA, moderate for Aeronautics.
- Lincoln – Request is for \$4,250 grant. Tim Conway said good go to with FAA, Aeronautics recommends funding for pavement maintenance.
- Livingston – Request is for \$19,250 loan and grant. Tim Conway said Aeronautics broke down into Building and Equipment. Aeronautics would recommend funding for equipment no the building. FAA is good to go with this entire project.
- Polson #1 – Request is for \$10,000 loan and grant. FAA not participating at this time as they need to acquire a property lease. Aeronautics does not recommend funding.
- Polson #2 – Request is for a \$13,000 loan and grant. FAA not participating at this time as they need to acquire a property lease. Aeronautics does not recommend funding. Jeff Walla of KLJ Engineering said they have been working with the tribe to get the easement executed, hoping for April but has been a long process. One-third of the airport is on tribal land. We have been through 6 years of negotiations with the tribe. We have tribal council approval. Both projects are essential for this airport to survive.
- Red Lodge – Request is for a \$9,000 grant. Tim Conway said this is a non-federal project. The county will do the work. Aeronautics recommends funding.
- Sidney – Request is for a \$12,288 loan and grant. This is for pavement maintenance Aeronautics recommends funding. The recently became a primary airport, eligible to use any unused non-primary entitlements.
- Saint Ignatius – Request is for \$12,000 grant and a \$10,000 loan. Tim Conway said non-federal airport. Moderate priority for Aeronautics.
- Stanford – Request is for \$5,500 grant and loan. Tim Conway said FAA is good to go with this, Aeronautics recommends funding.
- Stevensville #1 – Request is for an \$8,325 grant. Tim Conway said FAA is good to go with this, Aeronautics recommends funding.
- Stevensville #2 – Request is for a \$6,200 grant. Tim Conway said FAA is good to go with this, Aeronautics recommends funding.

- Superior – Request is for a \$50,000 grant. Tim Conway said this is a non-federal project. Low priority for Aeronautics does not recommend funding. Chairman McKenna noted they need the funding for the project to happen.
- Terry – Request is for \$9,000 loan and grant. Tim Conway said this project is good to go with FAA, Aeronautics recommends funding.
- Three Forks – Request is for \$27,219 grant. Tim Conway said this project is good to go with FAA. Aeronautics split project and recommends funding taxi lane construction and not the pivot gate. The feds won't fund the gate since they already have a gate. Scott Eaton of the FAA said that is correct. Chairman McKenna said the reason they only requested 5% is because they are getting 5% from the county if they don't get funding from board they will not get the 5% from county.
- Troy – Request is for \$50,000 grant. Tim Conway said this is a non-federal airport. Aeronautics recommends a \$25,000 grant and a \$25,000 loan.
- Twin Bridges – Request is for a \$225,000 grant. Aeronautics split into two sub-classes, recommends funding for both. This project is good to go with FAA.
- Wolf Point – Request is for \$180,000 grant. Aeronautics split into two sub-classes and recommend funding. This project is good to go with FAA.
- Yellowstone – Request is for a \$23,750 grant. Tim Conway said FAA is good to go with this project. Aeronautics recommends a \$9,619 grant.
- Chairman McKenna reminded the board they will start at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow.
- Carol Grell-Morris said for the board to refer to their statutes and rules as those guide them to all they do. She highlighted some of the statutes and rules for the board. Letting the board know they need to consider the entire application regardless if they were broken down for prioritizing by Aeronautics staff. The money is subject to audit to ensure it is spent as applied for.
- ***Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.***

Tricia McKenna, Chairman

Roger Lincoln, Secretary