

Montana Aeronautics Board
Montana Department of Transportation; Auditorium
2704 Prospect Avenue, Helena, MT
Thursday, January 21, 2016

Aeronautics Board

Tricia McKenna, Board Chairman
Chris Edwards, Vice-Chair
Robert Buckles
Dan Hargrove
Bill Hunt, Jr
Fred Lark
Fred Leistiko
Rover Lincoln
Walt McNutt

Department of Transportation

Debbie Alke, MDT Aeronautics
Effie Benoit, MDT Aeronautics
Wade Cebulski, MDT Aeronautics
Tim Conway, MDT Aeronautics
Carol Grell-Morris, MDT Legal

Guests

Bruce Anderson, Deer Lodge City-County
Airport
Mike Beckhoff, DOWL
Lance Bowser, Robert Peccia & Associates
Kristie Brabeck, Glasgow Wokal Field
Bill Burkland, Robert Peccia & Associates
Nigel Davis, Morrison-Maierle, Inc.
Rick Donaldson, Robert Peccia & Associates
Scott Eaton, Federal Aviation Administration
Travis Eickman, Morrison-Maierle, Inc.

Nancy Faroni, Federal Aviation Administration
Andy Galen, Morrison-Maierle, Inc.
Jim Greil, DOWL
T.J. Kerttula, Robert Peccia & Associates
Lucas Locke, Glasgow Wokal Field
Rick Newman, Lake County Airports
Tim Orthmeyer, Morrison-Maierle, Inc.
Tyler Reed, Morrison-Maierle, Inc.
Nathan Schroht, KLJ
Jeff Walla, KLJ

Call to Order

- Chairman McKenna called meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Pavement Preservation Grant Allocations

- \$56,000 is available for pavement preservation grants to be equally distributed between the eight primary airports for a total of \$7,000 per airport.
- ***Fred Lark made a motion to approve allocation of \$7,000 pavement preservation grants to the eight airports. Fred Leistiko approved the motion that passed unanimously.***

Board Reminders

- The board is able to fund retroactive federal projects.
- The priority index that is used by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Aeronautics is a priority index by the different types of work. Aeronautics used a threshold of 45 for 2016 and if the priority index fell below the threshold, aeronautics did not recommend funding for that

project. The board does not have to use the index and is used and for informational purposes. The board usually has a priority on safety.

- Scott Eaton with the FAA clarified that projects that are not federally funded at this point, could become federally funded in the future. The FAA will not stand in the way of an approved project when the local community has the local match. Even if a project is not funded this year, it may be funded in future years.
- Tim Conway explained the electronic application and work type vs project. The different types of work need to be broken out by project because of the different priority index and so that the board can act on the different projects.
- If an airport received fiscal year 2015 funds, they have to provide a status report by July 1st to be able to apply for a new grant or loan.

Public Comment

- Kristie Brabeck with Glasgow Wokal Field:
 - “I just wanted to say that we are greatly appreciative you are looking at our projects. We have done a lot, it’s been a hit the ground running kind of year. Right now we are in the midst of getting a new fuel farm system put into the airport. Bids went out, and right now we are in the process of getting our ducks in a row and getting this taken care of as soon as possible. With the system right now ... you have heard over the years that we have a lot of problems with it and is approaching end of life, if not 20 years past end of life. And we’ve kept it going up to now, but we have had some failures and everything so we need to get our projects falling into place, and we had to do it first before we can get our taxiways and everything. But, with the FAA coming up with funding we can get away with keeping on track with our master plan and all that. We’ve kept on track as much as possible.”
- Lucas Locke, Glasgow Wokal Field Airport Manager:
 - “Someone asked me about our project and that our budget is pretty high. That is because the county took over managing the FBO on the whole airport two years ago. Plus our fuel purchases and employees ...”
- Kristie Brabeck with Glasgow Wokal Field:
 - “And we are doing pretty dang good. We went into that with knowing nothing, and it was a very hard learning curve, but we learned. And we have a wonderful flying community and our county supports us, which is great. We have a great group of commissioners that have been able to come out of nowhere with a few fellow chair members to help us get along.”

Applicant Presentation and Review of Loan/Grant Applications

- **Bridger Municipal Airport** did not make a presentation. There were no additional board comments or questions.
- **Broadus Airport** - Nathan Schroht with KLJ provided the board with a presentation on the Broadus Airport projects. There were no additional board comments or questions.
- **Canyon Ferry Airport** did not make a presentation. The board commented that this is the second year that the airport applied for the same fencing project.

- **Chinook - Edgar G. Obie Airport** - Nigel Davis with Morrison-Maierle, Inc. (MMI) provided the board with a presentation on the Chinook airport projects. There were no additional board comments or questions.
- **Choteau Airport** - Mike Beckhoff with DOWL stated that Choteau Airport wanted to withdraw their application from the loan and grant process.
- **Columbus - Wolterman Memorial Airport** - Travis Eickman with MMI presented the board with a presentation on the Columbus Airport projects. The board asked what the airport would be able to do without the grant. Mr. Eickman responded that the cracks are about every 65 feet and they will take any help they can receive. There will be no phasing, all work will be completed in the summer of 2017.
- **Deer Lodge-City-County Airport** - Travis Eickman with MMI presented the board with a presentation on the Deer Lodge Airport projects.
 - The airport is retracting the request to extend, widen, strengthen the runway to meet FAA standards, to light, mark, or remove hazardous obstructions, and to acquire land and easement for approaches. Due to lack of space for parking, the airport is not going to be able to proceed with these projects.
 - The board discussed with Mr. Eickman the pavement strength's ability to handle the weight of larger private airplanes and the ability of the airport to charge the community landing fees.
- **Dillon Airport** - Lance Bowser with Robert Peccia & Associates (RPA) presented the board with a presentation on the Dillon Airport projects. There were no additional board comments or questions.
- **Ennis - Big Sky Airport** - Lance Bowser with RPA presented the board with a presentation on the Ennis Airport projects. There were no additional board comments or questions.
- **Eureka Airport** – Tim Orthmeyer with MMI presented the board with a presentation on the Eureka Airport projects. There were no additional board comments or questions.
- **Fairfield Airport** - Mike Beckhoff with DOWL presented the board with a presentation on the Fairfield Airport projects. The board and Mr. Beckhoff discussed that if the Fairfield Airport did not receive the funding in full, the project would not proceed.
- **Glasgow - Wokal Field, Glasgow/Valley Co Airport** - Mike Beckhoff with DOWL presented the board with a presentation on the Glasgow Airport projects. The board discussed with Mr. Beckhoff that the project was funded by the FAA in fiscal year 15, but the project has not yet started.
- **Hamilton - Ravalli County Airport** - Rick Donaldson with RPA presented the board with a presentation on the Hamilton Airport projects. The board discussed with Mr. Donaldson that the airport supports a lot of airtraffic with mixed use such as firefighting, U.S. Forest Service, and cattle ranching. Additionally, the airport is looking at building a new runway, but it has been an area of contention with the county as they are worried about lawsuits.
- **Hardin - Fairgrounds Airpark** - Andy Galen with MMI presented the board with a presentation on the Hardin Airport projects. The board discussed the current fuel system and ownership with Mr. Galen.
- **Havre City-County Airport** - Jeff Walla with KLJ presented the board with a presentation on the Havre Airport projects. There were no additional board comments or questions.

- **Laurel Municipal Airport** - Jeff Walla with KLJ presented the board with a presentation on the Havre Airport projects. There were no additional board comments or questions.
- **Lewistown Municipal Airport** – Nigel Davis with MMI and Pete Smith presented the board with a presentation on the Lewistown Airport projects. The board discussed with Mr. Davis and Mr. Newman the airport funding situation in regards to advertising revenue and if there was a current fixed base operator at the airport.
- **Libby Airport** – Tim Orthmeyer with MMI presented the board with a presentation on the Libby Airport projects. There were no additional board comments or questions.
- **Livingston - Mission Field Airport** – Lance Bowser with RPA presented the board with a presentation on the Livingston Airport projects. There were no additional board comments or questions.
- **Malta Airport** – Jeff Walla with KLJ presented the board with a presentation on the Malta Airport projects. There were no additional board comments or questions.
- **Plains - Penn Stohr Airport** – Bill Burkland with RPA presented the board with a presentation on the Plains Airport projects. The board discussed with Mr. Burkland the current mill levy tax that did not pass.
- **Polson Airport** – Jeff Walla with KLJ and Rick Newman, Lake County Airports Board Member, presented the board with a presentation on the Polson Airport projects. The board discussed with Mr. Newman how the county funds the airports.
- **Ronan Airport** – Jeff Walla with KLJ and Rick Newman, Lake County Airports Board Member, presented the board with a presentation on the Ronan Airport projects. The board discussed county funding and the ability to show funding for each airport with Mr. Newman.
- **Roundup Airport** – Nathan Schroht with KLJ presented the board with a presentation on the Roundup Airport projects. There were no additional board comments or questions.
- **St. Ignatius Airport** – Jeff Walla with KLJ and Rick Newman, Lake County Airports Board Member, presented the board with a presentation on the St. Ignatius Airport projects. The board discussed the movement of the fencing with Mr. Newman.
- **Shelby Airport** – Rick Donaldson with RPA presented the board with a presentation on the Shelby Airport projects. The board discussed with Mr. Donaldson that the airport is very close to the Canadian boarder, but is not a port of entry.
- **Stevensville Airport** – Tyler Reed with MMI presented the board with a presentation on the Stevensville Airport projects. The board discussed with Mr. Reed the possibility of Hamilton Airport and Stevensville Airport coming together to build a new airport in between the two cities because they are within 30 minutes of each other. There was additional discussion about the large aircraft that is landing and that the current pavement can just hold the weight and new pavement will need to be installed in the future.
- **Thompson Falls Airport** – Bill Burkland with RPA presented the board with a presentation on the Thompson Falls Airport projects. The board discussed current beacon and entitlement funds with Mr. Burkland.
- **Three Forks Pogreba Field Airport** – Travis Eickman with MMI presented the board with a presentation on the Three Forks Airport projects. The board discussed the electrical design with Mr. Eickman.
- **Turner Airport** - Nigel Davis with MMI presented the board with a presentation on the Turner Airport projects. There were no additional board comments or questions.

- **Yellowstone Airport** - Travis Eickman with MMI presented the board with a presentation on the Yellowstone Airport projects. The board discussed winter revenue and terminal issues with Mr. Eickman.

Loan/Grant Allocations

- The board agreed to make grant and loan awards with safety as the priority and then maintaining current properties before designing new properties.
- **Bridger Airport**
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$1,750 grant awarded
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$1,167 grant awarded
- **Broadus Airport**
 - Rehabilitate runway - \$6,820 grant and \$6,820 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$1,640 grant and \$1,640 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$940 grant awarded and \$940 loan awarded
- **Canyon Ferry Airport**
 - Acquire security equipment and install perimeter fencing - \$4,000 grant awarded
- **Chinook – Edgar G. Obie Airport**
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$4,363 grant and \$43,825 loan awarded
- **Columbus Wolterman Memorial Airport**
 - Rehabilitate runway - \$0 awarded
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$0 awarded
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$0 awarded
 - *The board unanimously agreed that since the project is not going to be done until 2017, the airport should reapply in fiscal year 2018, no funding awarded in fiscal year 2017.*
- **Deer Lodge Airport**
 - Acquire land/easement for approaches - \$31,193 loan awarded
 - Conduct environmental assessment/environmental impact - \$10,000 loan awarded
- **Dillon Airport**
 - Acquire snow removal equipment - \$11,250 loan awarded
 - Install apron lighting - \$3,750 grant and \$3,750 loan awarded
- **Ennis Big Sky Airport**
 - Acquire land/easement for development/relocation - \$0 awarded
 - Conduct/update airport master plan study - \$0 awarded
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$10,368 grant awarded
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$7,659 grant awarded
 - Construct apron - \$0 awarded
 - Install weather reporting equipment - \$7,500 grant awarded
 - Install/rehabilitate airport beacons - \$1,100 grant awarded
 - Install guidance signs/runway incursion caution bars - \$0 awarded
 - Install runway visual guidance system - \$2,750 grant awarded
 - *The board unanimously agreed that the rehabilitation and safety projects should be awarded while the land acquisition and apron construction should not be awarded.*

- **Eureka Airport**
 - Conduct/update airport master plan study - \$0 awarded
 - *The board voted not to award any grants or loans because it was not a safety or rehabilitation project.*
- **Fairfield Airport**
 - Construct apron - \$0 awarded
 - *The board voted not to award Fairfield Airport a grant for this new construction with Trish McKenna voting to award some of the funding in a grant and award the balance as a loan.*
- **Glasgow Wokal Field Airport**
 - Rehabilitate runway - \$10,416 grant and \$16,025 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$3,504 grant and \$5,390 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$35,750 grant and \$55,000 loan awarded
- **Hamilton Airport**
 - Conduct environmental assessment/environmental impact - \$0 awarded
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$0 awarded
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$0 awarded
 - Construct apron - \$0 awarded
 - *The board voted not to award the rehabilitation of the apron and taxiway because they are in the design phase, not construction phase. Additionally, the construction of the apron is new construction and the environmental assessment does not meet the safety or maintenance criteria set by the board.*
- **Havre Airport**
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$10,400 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$8,600 loan awarded
- **Laurel Airport**
 - Install weather reporting equipment - \$7,500 grant awarded
- **Lewistown Airport**
 - Snow removal equipment - \$0 awarded
 - *Fred Lark recused himself from this vote due to conflict of interest.*
 - *The motion to fund this request failed due to a tie vote:*
 - *Voting to fund the request was Bill Hunt, Dan Hargrove, Fred Leistiko, and Walt McNutt.*
 - *Voting not to fund the request was Chris Edwards, Roger Lincoln, Robert Buckles, and Tricia McKenna.*
- **Libby Airport**
 - Light/mark, remove obstructions - \$0 awarded
- **Livingston Airport**
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$845 grant and \$1,755 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate runway - \$4,550 grant and \$9,450 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$1,268 grant and \$2,632 loan awarded
- **Malta Airport**
 - Install weather reporting equipment - \$7,500 grant awarded

- **Plains Airport**
 - Rehabilitate runway - \$4,852 grant and \$9,516 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$603 grant and \$1,254 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$1,174 grant and \$2,439 loan awarded
 - Construct/expand/improve/modify/rehabilitate access road - \$216 loan awarded
- **Polson Airport**
 - Conduct/update airport master plan study - \$0 awarded
 - Acquire land/easement for development/relocation - \$0 awarded
 - Rehabilitate runway - \$7,614 grant awarded
 - *The board voted not to fund the master plan study and the land acquisition because they do not meet the safety or maintenance criteria set by the board.*
- **Ronan Airport**
 - Conduct/update airport master plan - \$37,000 loan awarded
- **Roundup Airport**
 - Rehabilitate runway - \$5,603 grant and \$8,620 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$608 grant and \$935 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$972 grant and \$1,495 loan awarded
- **St. Ignatius Airport**
 - Rehabilitate runway - \$21,000 grant and \$7,000 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$6,000 grant and \$2,000 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$3,000 grant and \$1,000 loan awarded
- **Shelby Airport**
 - Rehabilitate runway - \$6,829 grant and \$14,185 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$2,062 grant and \$4,282 loan awarded
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$1,130 grant and \$2,347 loan awarded
 - Construct/expand/improve/modify/rehabilitate access road - \$0 awarded
 - Construct/improve/repair fuel farm - \$0 awarded
 - Improve airport drainage/erosion control - \$0 awarded
 - *The board voted not to fund the access road, fuel farm, or the drainage control because they do not meet the safety or maintenance criteria set by the board.*
- **Stevensville Airport**
 - Rehabilitate runway - \$22,680 grant and \$71,000 loan awarded
 - Install weather reporting equipment - \$4,000 grant awarded
- **Thompson Falls Airport**
 - Construct/improve/repair fuel farm - \$10,000 grant and \$10,000 loan awarded
 - Install runway vertical visual guidance system - \$7,500 grant and \$7,500 loan awarded
 - Install/rehabilitate airport beacons - \$2,000 grant and \$2,000 loan awarded
- **Three Forks Airport**
 - Extend taxiway - \$0 awarded
 - *The board voted not to fund the extension of the runway because it is new construction and does not meet the safety or maintenance criteria set by the board.*

- **Turner Airport**
 - Construct taxiway - \$0 awarded
 - *The board voted not to fund the construction of the runway because it is new construction and does not meet the safety or maintenance criteria set by the board.*
- **Yellowstone Airport**
 - Rehabilitate apron - \$9,472 grant awarded
 - Rehabilitate taxiway - \$9,472 grant awarded
- *Bill Hunt made a motion to accept the loans and grant as presented. Fred Leistiko seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

Being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Tricia McKenna, Chairman

Roger Lincoln, Secretary