

KONO Airport Committee Meeting 6/22/2020

Meeting started @:6:09 PM

Present:

Jim Bain
John Freeburg
Shawn Coleman
Shay Myers

Absent:

Dale Cruson -unexcused
Barbara Brody - excused
Jerry Tolard - excused
Luke Keller - excused
Adam Brown, Ex officio member

Others attending:

Norm Crume, Ex officio member City of Ontario
Dan Beaubien, Airport Manager
Toby Epler, JUB Engineer
Tom Frazier, Frazier Aviation FBO
Brian Rindlisbacher & Matt Speelman, BLM
Kelly Coleman, guest

Opening:

Dan B. started the meeting with a touching story that doesn't make the nightly news, impact of COVID-19 and the challenges that aviation has seen.

Approval of Minutes:

Jim B. asked if anyone would approve the minutes from the 2/24. John Freeburg made the motion and Shawn C. 2nd the motion. All approved.

Old Business:

Shawn C.- wants to change the wording on hangar inspection letter. Stated it was upsetting to several hangar owners.

Dan B. explained the intention of the inspections isn't to be punitive rather it is to prevent derelict aircraft and household storage taking up hangars. It is also to make sure that hangar owners have adequate fire extinguishers and adhere to safety protocol that will protect themselves and other hangar owners, it isn't about invasion of privacy. About 20 hangars do not have leases that the city can produce. Dan needs all those hangar owners to bring in a copy of their hangar lease so he make copies for the city. Otherwise Dan will have to have them sign new ones.

John Freeburg made the statement that having Franks Extinguisher come in and mount the proper sized extinguisher to the hangar wall is not very expensive.

Toby Epler talked about every airport having hangar inspections and that there is always some degree of push back.

Dan went back to the letter that he sent out that stated if anyone had questions or concerns that they could call, email or come to the airport in person and not one person did. Kelly Coleman from the audience cut in and interrupted - *(audio wasn't clear enough for me to understand her.)*

Dan explains that the need and reason for knowing what aircraft are in the hangars is based on needing those numbers for reports which is also linked to money that could be available for airport improvements.

Norm C. commented that Dan has reached out and it is on the owners to comply in a timely manner.

Business New:

Dan brought up that other airports operate with a full-time airport manager and that KONO hasn't had a full-time manager for some time now. He has also measured each hangar so that the dimensions are correct for tax purposes as well as lease rate charges. Many hangars had 2 different sizes and both were incorrect. He expects that there will be some hangar owners that may have issues with the changes, especially if their rates go up. The end result though is that the measurements are correct and both the city and the county will have them.

Internet speed with the new internet system has gone from a .7 to 98 uploading capacity. Cameras will now work appropriately - that has been an issue for over a year.

Cash's grass strip was open during Father's Day weekend since there was a fly-in at Garden Valley. The glider club has used the strip which is added safety for them and other traffic using the airport. It frees up the runway from added time they have of hooking up to the tow plane etc.

Permanent irrigation for Cash's grass strip is where Dan would like to see the *Cares Act money* go to on the airport. Now that the grass is up and going the need for efficiency and safety of aircraft landing and taking off is the focus for maintaining the grass strip. The grass strip will be a huge draw for the back-country pilots, such as kitfox that teaches pilots back country flying and do tail wheel endorsements. With the increase of traffic expected the last thing needed is having a wheel line stretched out and potentially creating a hazard for aircraft. Dan suggested having a professional draw up the schematics for a sprinkler system that is efficient and covers the watering evenly. Shawn countered that a cheaper option might be to have the motorized Big Gun sprinkler system. John Freeburg pointed out that selling the current wheel line will help with the cost of the new system as well.

Irrigation Ditch: Dan said that he has done all that he can do and has handed it over to the city and the city attorney given the legal issues that surround liability, easement etc.

Keypads and gates: Boise River Fencing company is going to show up and do maintenance within the next week or so . The main issue seems to be collecting moisture and causing the keypad to short out. Jim B. said he is glad that issue is being addressed and that the gates will be operational because he has had some vandalism around his AG operation recently.

Grant update: Border Board Grant was denied but Dan can resubmit in September. They needed more information and detail. He has had a video conference with a grant writing team that the City of Ontario plans to use in the future and gave them a list of airport needs.

Airport Manager Position: Starting July 1 the airport manager will become full time with benefits. Dan will be on until June 30th of 2021. He would like to see, beginning in January, the start to finding the next airport manager that will have the qualifications that can take the airport to the next level and go forward with the marketing of the airport, grant writing etc. The duties of airport maintenance need to be another individual under direction of the manager. This also encompasses the need for a budget that will support and maintain equipment, spray etc. Norm C. did a quick explanation of Jacob's role with the City on contracted public works and at what level they are involved at the airport.

John Freeburg discussed the financial reports from the city not being easy to understand and not detailed (itemized)~ Dan suggested that Kari Ott from the city could create a report for the airport committee that is itemized and easier to read . John F. would like to see what income is generated from the property leases of individual hangars, commercial businesses, the old golf course, fire station etc. Dan B. said that he has not seen any lease that the city has with the fire station. Norm C. was under the impression that the fire station did pay. Given the fact that there isn't anything certain regarding this, the need for an itemized report that reflects this information is crucial. John F. said regarding the lease and operation of the hemp company and the Kitamura lease of property at the end of runway 33 that information is at

the city office but is not made available to the airport manager or the committee. John brought up the concern of having the farm equipment at the end of the 33 runway is maybe an unnecessary hazard. There was some discussion about the new location for the BLM SEAT Base, access road and design.

Community engagement and promotion of the airport by way of events hosted at the airport are of course on hold until the COVID-19 situation is resolved. Flying clubs, FBO (Frazier Aviation), STEM camps are looking forward to being able to resume activities at the airport that supports aviation.

Toby Epler discussed a grant (\$700K) that the city wouldn't have to match due to full FAA funding for the taxiway and hold apron this year. This is a saving of approximately \$7,000.

Tom Frazier gave update on Frazier Aviation's new self serve fuel island that will have upgraded printer system. The new fuel trucks with increased storage capacity. Glider club is growing and will continue to grow with new members and number of gliders. They did some promotional filming this past week. The grass strip as Dan said is a huge asset for the airport. The aircraft museum is progressing forward. One owner of a war bird being restored is interested in building a large new hangar. The fly-in at Garden Valley was well attended with huge enthusiasm for back country flying which creates a draw to the Ontario airport's grass strip. The need of the city to support and back the airport manager in promoting the airport is needed and will only benefit the city financially.

BLM: Brian R. updated committee on the Air Attack coming on contract 6/12 and the SEAT started 6/19. All fire contracts are 90days but can be extend if needed.

John F. moved to adjourn and Shawn C. 2nd