

February 13, 2014
Denver International Airport
Denver, CO

Board Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joseph Thibodeau	Chairman
Kenny Maenpa	Vice-Chair
Debra Wilcox	Secretary
Ray Beck	
Jeff Forrest	
John Reams	
William "T" Thompson	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dave Gordon	CDOT – Division of Aeronautics
Christine Eldridge	CDOT – Division of Aeronautics
Greg Goldman	CDOT – Division of Aeronautics
Todd Green	CDOT – Division of Aeronautics
TK Gwin	CDOT – Division of Aeronautics
Scott Storie	CDOT – Division of Aeronautics
Jim Elwood	Aspen/Pitkin County Airport
Mickey Ferrell	CAOA
Steve Lee	Denver International Airport
Leo Milan	Office of the Attorney General
Bill Payne	William E Payne & Associates
Stacey Stegman	Denver International Airport

1. The meeting commenced at 1:15 P.M.

Joseph Thibodeau thanked the airport and staff for the gracious hospitality and especially for the preliminary celebration on behalf of Harold W. Patton. He also noted that the entire Board was present.

2. APPROVAL OF CAB MEETING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 17, 2014 & FEBRUARY 11, 2014 DELIBERATIVE SESSIONS & JANUARY 27, 2014 GRANT HEARING

Dave Gordon brought to the Board's attention the addition of the minutes from the February 11th deliberative session to be approved. Debra Wilcox made the MOTION to collectively approve the minutes from the January 17th, January 27th and February 11th meetings and Jeff Forrest seconded. Ray Beck abstained from the vote.

The MOTION carried unanimously.

Joseph Thibodeau also welcomed the Board's newest member, Ray Beck, and announced the reappointment of Debra Wilcox.

3. BOARD ELECTIONS

Joseph Thibodeau announced a vacancy on the Board in the office of Vice-Chair and welcomed any comments or discussion. Debra Wilcox made the MOTION that Kenny Maenpa be elected as Vice-Chair and William "T" Thompson seconded the motion.

The MOTION carried unanimously.

4. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

The addition of the minutes from the February 11, 2014 deliberative session.

5. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Jeff Forrest and John Reams had nothing to report. Ray Beck advised the Board that he attended an airline summit in Steamboat Springs whose total focus was on the importance of customer service and that he has already shared the information with his City Council and would also like to share it with the Board. He also reported that the Yampa Valley Regional Airport is going through the process of updating their 20-year master plan and getting the community involved. Debra Wilcox reported that, at their confirmation hearing, they were followed at the Senate Transportation Committee by a group of people representing aerospace interests from different perspectives. She added that Aerospace Day at the Capitol will be March 24th, 2014 and invited members from the Board and the community to attend. William "T" Thompson stated that the Air Force Academy would be happy to host next month's Board meeting. Kenny Maenpa stated that from the Colorado Airport Operators Association's perspective, the Grant Hearing conference on January 27th was an outstanding success and he is looking forward to the Spring Conference that DIA is hosting on June 18-20, 2014 in Winter Park.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Elwood spoke a little about the TSA precheck program and that it would be rolled out on February 14th, 2014. He also reported that Aspen Airport's passenger traffic is up about 20% this winter over last winter and that their terminal building is feeling the effects of that increase. They now have non-stop service from Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco, Houston, Denver, Dallas, Atlanta and Indianapolis.

Some discussion took place regarding the accident that occurred at Aspen Airport a month ago. Jim stated that it would be a good opportunity for CAO and others to do some case studies and that the training they received last fall played a key role in how well their emergency response went. The Board of County Commissioners honored all of the responders and, in particular, an airport staff member that was on scene of the accident forty-one seconds after impact. He accredited the State's involvement with the airport's ability to buy a truck that had the capability of doing what it needed to do the day of the accident, resulting in two lives being saved. He also went on to note that because there were people in the terminal that saw the accident and started tweeting about it, he has concerns about how social media is becoming the focal news point of the world. Since 1,300 of their 1,500 gallons of water resources were used to put the fire out, Jim expressed his concern that they would not have enough water in their trucks for an accident involving anything larger. The FAA will only pay for 1,500 gallons for an airport in their size class and they need to think about increasing the size of their truck/water resources. He stated that if the accident had involved a commercial airliner, they would not have had the proper resources. Joseph Thibodeau then asked if the equipment at Aspen Airport is representative of what other airports have and Jim replied in the affirmative. Jim also went on to acknowledge the value of the Board through the Grant and SIB Programs, which have allowed the airports to do things they would not have been able to otherwise do. Since the first responder to the accident was an intern at Centennial Airport, Kenny Maenpa acknowledged the value of continuing education and the airport internship program.

Jeff Forrest asked Jim what he thought could be done to bring awareness to the issue of social media. Jim requested a raincheck and said that he would get back to the Board with some ideas. Stacey Stegman also mentioned that they were in the process of working social media issues with Los Angeles and San Francisco airports and will be providing lessons learned information at the Winter Park Spring Conference.

Joe Thibodeau asked if there was anything on the line in the State House and Mickey Ferrell said they were working on a potential bill with Centennial Airport. Joe inquired about the status on the tax exempt bill and Mickey said they were getting the fiscal note back and they were going to work with it to see if there might be an opportunity to work with the Joint Budget Committee to potentially move the bill forward. In response to Joe's questions, Mickey responded that it would be a statewide tax credit but he would get back to the Board on whether it would also affect Part 21 Operators as well.

Kenny spoke briefly about upcoming legislation for the Meteorological Evaluation Towers (MET).

Joe Thibodeau acknowledged the presence of Attorney General, Leo Milan, and thanked him for attending the meeting.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – DAVE GORDON

Dave Gordon gave a brief update on UAS activity and reported that Bill Payne visited Washington D.C. last week, attending several meetings with the FAA's many different offices, including UAS, NextGen, the FAA Administrator and his upper management staff. Dave said the FAA was very supportive of the Division's leadership role and there is an agreement to go ahead with the project. The FAA can see the uniqueness of the project and that it is something no other state is doing, which puts Colorado at the forefront of innovation. Dave said he also gave a presentation to the MIDAC committee regarding a plan to come up with a test facility for UAS. It was well received and Metro Denver Chamber is extremely excited that the Division is taking an active leadership role. Dave also informed the Board about a meeting he and Debra Wilcox, Joe Thibodeau and Bill Payne had with Don Hunt, Director of CDOT, on the progress to date and direction of the project. Don Hunt supports the Division taking an active role and position for the State of Colorado. Dave said that we need to act quickly because other states are trying to do the same thing and that we are working actively to find one or two spots to create a test facility. Ray Beck added that he was able to go on a tour of AdamWorks and encouraged the Board to find out how the process works in terms of what they build the product out of. He spoke a little bit about the strength and lightness of carbon fiber and how impressive it is.

Dave took a moment to introduce Lenore Manzer as the staff's new temporary Administrative Assistant.

Dave mentioned that he was invited to attend Club 20's planning session next week to brief them on the UAS issue and they are prepared to pass a resolution that supports our efforts in Colorado to support the industry. Dave also informed the Board that next week the American Association of Airport Executives is holding their Annual Airport Planning Conference and the Division will be sending all three of their Aviation Planners, Kaitlyn Westendorf, Todd Green and Scott Storie. Dave also announced that he has been invited to be a panelist on a special session titled, "The Rise of Spaceports and Implications for Airports and the Aviation System" and he believes he can use this forum as a way to promote the Colorado Aerospace industry. Dave also announced that he will be attending the ASHTO / NASAO Annual Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. the week after next, along with Mickey Ferrell.

Dave concluded by informing the Board that DIA's annual State of the Airport Luncheon is April 20th and whoever would like to go, let the staff know so that they can get you registered. Kim Day will be there, talking about the airport, where it's headed and some of the projects. Joe Thibodeau encouraged everyone to attend.

8. FINANCIAL REPORT – GREG GOLDMAN

Greg Goldman didn't have a full financial disclosure at this time. He said there have been no material changes in the aviation fund and that a full update will be prepared and presented for the next Board meeting. Greg did report that Aspen Airport settled two of their outstanding SIB loans as of January 31st, which makes available 13.6 million dollars in the SIB fund. Jim Elwood briefly commented that the reason Aspen paid off their outstanding loans was because mathematically, with the interest rates, it made more sense to do so. Greg pointed out that the current interest rate, as set by the Transportation Commission is 2.0% and that the annualized rate of funds on deposit is less than 1%. Dave Gordon amended that the current interest rate is at 2.5%, so after some discussion, it was agreed upon that the interest rate is actually at 2.5%. Dave also pointed out that at the last meeting there was some discussion regarding making changes and improvements to the SIB process and that there are steps being made, with Kenny Maenpa's assistance, in getting feedback from the airports. Joe Thibodeau thought that process was in CDOT's court right now but Dave said they had to make sure they had the right list of invitees and would host a meeting with those airports to talk about the program and get their input first. TK clarified that the Division is looking for the Board's input and suggestions on anybody in particular that they think would be of benefit and the discussions are planned to be done within the next couple weeks. Mickey Ferrell said he would be working closely with Dave and TK and would like to, not only have a representative from CAO, but would also like to keep the meeting on a smaller scale so that it can be tailored and structured to discuss internal policy directives of CDOT, how they are structured and how the SIB works, not only through Aeronautics, but the rest of CDOT as well.

9. GREELEY 14-GXY-01 SCOPE OF WORK CHANGE – TODD GREEN

Todd Green referred to the information detailed on the memo given to the Board regarding the Greeley Scope Change Request. This request would change their 2014 grant of \$400,000 in State funding to perform pavement maintenance to \$300,000 for pavement maintenance with an additional element of the remaining \$100,000 to perform Airports Geographic Information Systems (AGIS). There was some discussion between Ray Beck and Todd regarding the breakdown of monies and Ray affirmed that he thought it was a reasonable request.

William "T" Thompson made the MOTION to approve the Scope Change Request for Greeley-Weld County Airport and Ray Beck seconded the MOTION. During discussion, Leo Milan asked if Greeley would come back for that \$100,000 for paving and Todd replied that they would probably just have to scale it back a little but, yes, they could possibly come back for future pavement maintenance but would probably attach it to ramp pavement maintenance or another large scale project, rather than have a separate grant. Joseph Thibodeau reiterated that in Todd's opinion the changes and reduced expenditures on pavement maintenance would not compromise the integrity of the structure and Todd agreed.

The MOTION carried unanimously.

10. FUTURE PRIORITIZATION OF CDAG GRANT FUNDING – TK GWIN

TK Gwin readressed the subject of future prioritization of grant funding detailed in the memo provided to the Board and that, with input from the airports and the Board, the Grant Management Manual will be rewritten so that it can be presented at a future Board meeting for approval. He spoke about obtaining a balance in the amounts being given out as compared to what is being taken in and that we are very close to that balance. He stated that the proposed plan would reduce Tier 1 and preserve Tier 2 at its current level to allow the continuation of bigger projects. Some suggested changes in the system would include a higher match on equipment and, in some cases, drive people to utilize used equipment as compared to new. It would also enable some of the smaller airports access to funds that currently aren't receiving FAA funding. Ultimately, the Division's recommendation is to protect Tier 2, while reducing Tier 1, with the understanding that the program is always at the Board's total discretion and that the Division is just making guidelines. TK suggested that it is a necessary change in order to manage the funds so the expectations of the airports can be met. In response to Ray Beck's inquiry, Dave Gordon said the program gave the Board total discretion with no entitlements and TK added that, by agreement with the FAA, there is a 5 year capital improvement plan and the only exception is DIA, because of its size.

Kenny pointed out that it is important to understand that since this plan is scheduled to go into effect by 2016, to make sure deadlines are established as to when it should be presented to the Board and, also, to make sure to include feedback from as many airports as possible. TK responded and said he would like to have the manual updated in the next 90 days and that the modifications are proposed mainly to eliminate the current cafeteria style grants and replace them with the highest and best priorities and move the bar for bigger projects.

Joe Thibodeau wanted to endorse what Kenny Maempa said in that he wanted to make sure the ultimate recipients were being considered in these decisions before being brought to the Board. TK responded by saying there have been many meetings and phone conversations with the airports and everyone thought the Division was right on track and is well trusted in making these changes. Joe requested that when the Manual is presented to the Board for approval, to also provide support to the fact the stakeholders are all on board. Jim voiced his opinion about it being a wonderful opportunity and that there is a lot of interest in getting more detail on these changes. Joe suggested that CAOAs designate a representative group to make sure all of the airport's viewpoints are being represented in conjunction with the Division's formulation of this program. TK said they were always happy to have input from CAOAs. Debra Wilcox had a question regarding the allocation of monies in the new Tier plan and TK responded by saying the proposed plan is just an attempt to get more prioritization between the \$250,000 and what used to be \$400,000 in order to save money for bigger projects. He stated that the Division is doing a closer job on funding level planning and it will give people a little different target in the Tier 1 planning but he also wanted to make it clear that the airports always have the right to disagree with any decisions made and can come to the Board to present their case.

In conclusion, Joseph Thibodeau proposed that the staff, along with Kenny Maempa, establish a representative group to make sure all of the airport's viewpoints are being considered and TK agreed by saying the Division would appreciate the input.

11. PROPOSED CALENDAR

William "T" Thompson has offered to host the next Board meeting at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs on March 13, 2014. Plans are still being made regarding a possible tour of the Academy in the morning, lunch and then the meeting afterwards. The staff will provide the details as soon as they are arranged. The April meeting will take place on April 10, 2014 at Front Range Airport. The May meeting will be held on May 8, 2014 at Lamar Municipal and it will be in conjunction with a SE Regional Meeting. The CAOAs Spring Conference will be held June 18-20, 2014 at Winter Park and the July meeting will be held on July 10, 2014 in Buena Vista.

Debra made a correction to the March 25th date of Aerospace Day at the Capitol that she mentioned at the beginning of the meeting. The correct date is March 24th, 2014.

12. OTHER MATTERS BY MEMBERS

Joseph Thibodeau recognized the Board and staff, in conjunction with DIA, as well as Shahh Sederberg, with the work that went into the display and presentation for Harold W. Patton. Shahh Sederberg wanted to acknowledge Chris Stevens, Art Director of DIA, for his contribution to the display.

13. The meeting adjourned at 2:20 P.M.