

Hurricane City Municipal Airport
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2024

Present: Dave Houstin, Jim Lemmon, Kate Wadsworth, Brett Poulsen, Cathy Clark, John Williams, Clark Fawcett Mike Vercimak, Mayor Billings.

Item #1: Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Prayer

Jim Lemmon called the meeting to order at 9:01 am. Kate Wadsworth performed the pledge of allegiance; Mayor Billings performed the prayer.

Item #2: Review and update new members on current CIP

Dave Houston explained components of the plan and suggested changes. Originally the North aprons would be constructed in 2025 and the South ones in 2027. He suggested that they switch the south aprons to 2025 and north to 2027 as the south is in worse condition. Mike Vercimak will review edits.

Dave Houston also suggests adding run-up pads at the end of the runway for pre-checks, so the taxi lane does not get tied up. Mike Vercimak states that they may be able to include that in the ramp reconstruction in 2026-2027. Will need to budget with the FAA funding/grants.

Scott Freeman asked questions to clarify the pavement preservation plan. Mike Vercimak helped to clarify the plan and how funds are allocated from excess funds to work on pavement. Scott suggested they do more extensive pavement correctly, in smaller increments to reduce when it would be needed. Mike and Dave explained that the cost of that would use most of the funds.

Discussion ended.

Item #3: Discussion and possible recommendation to the City Council to amend hanger lease template for extended time from 2 years to 4 years to build the hanger.

Dave summarized the extension Scott Stratton had requested and was approved through City Council and suggested that the template be changed so no variances would be needed in the future. But they have to have to make it so the renter is required to build. Steve Lemmon brought up that the delay in building is needed as power transformers are backlogged for two or more years. The mayor explained the intent of the time limit. Dave suggests the 4-year time limit is reasonable.

Brett made a motion to recommend approval of the lease template change to extend the building time to 4 years. Kate Wadsworth seconded, unanimous. Motion passed.

Item #4: Discussion on tumbleweed mitigation.

Clark Fawcett explained the extensive issues with the tumbleweeds and that a plan is needed for quick cleanup and possible mitigation. Dave Houston presented the plan to use the equipment and rake given to rake them up prior to them breaking loose. The problem is that not all parts of the airport are suitable for raking as they have a lot of rock. Scott Freeman stated that the tumbleweeds and rocks on the runway are a problem and that there is no one assigned or allotted the time to take care of these tasks. Suggested hiring a part-time worker such as a high school student to clean.

Steve Lemmon would like to build a barbed wire fence at his own expense, to catch them and be able to burn them without having to get them off of the airport fencing. Mayor asked if weed killer would be an option, Mike Vercimak said they could look into it and find a way to spray them faster so they could kill more. Mike states the biggest problem is there are no full-time employees to maintain it but that it is not in the city budget to hire for that position. The parks and streets departments have helped in the past, but it is only if they have spare time after performing their normal work duties, but with the equipment the liability insurance will not cover anyone who is not a City employee. The mayor suggests we look into being able to add additional people to the insurance that are not employees. Clark stated that volunteers used to be able to be included in workman's comp and maybe the insurance would allow the same.

Discussion ended.

Item #5: FAA administrative update and grant application discussion.

The mayor presented a grant application they may want to apply for. Kurt McDaniel clarified that the grant was for commercial airports and Hurricane would not qualify. Discussion ended.

Item #6: New Business

Steve Lemmon spoke on Airport Days and went over the approvals they received and the layout. He provided a stage, and everything was ready to go for April 27th. He explained where he cleared parking along the fence on 2300 S.

Mike Vercimak spoke on the plans to complete curb and gutter at the fence to eliminate the parking that is currently allowed there. Cathy believes this may cause a problem as Rainbow Canyon residents do not have a lot of parking area in the neighborhood and may want to have discussions with the HOA on letting people park in the Rainbow Canyon clubhouse lot, since eliminating parking on 2300 S would cause a lot of issues.

Steve Lemmon brought up some information on the St George airport adding a control tower in the next 2-3 years and how that would benefit the Hurricane airport as well.

Item # 7 Adjourn

Jim adjourned the meeting at 10:00 am