

PRESENT: Committee members Chair Jeremy Young, Dayle Harris, Gennaro Avolio, Bill Vetch, John Benton, FBO Denny Kindig, Port Executive Director Michael McElwee and Port Marketing Manager Mike Doke. Guests: Scott Gifford, Nostalgaire.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Jeremy Young called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

AIRPORT MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Mike Doke provided an update of the Oct. 22 Hood River County Planning Commission work session, which was the first opportunity for that body to consider the document in a public meeting. Doke noted information from the Sept. 25 airport master plan open house was distributed with the agenda for this Airport Advisory Committee meeting.

Doke noted the planning commission work session went well, but identified tasks that need to be completed. The master plan's Airport Layout Plan will be updated to remove instrument approach language in favor of the current visual approach status, but the county commission does not want to look at the master plan a second time until that work is completed.

Some new projects were identified at the county planning commission work session, including a \$6,900 traffic study. The Port is currently considering an expanded scope of work for Columbia Planning and Design, which is leading the master plan review. The Port and county officials will review that new scope at a meeting Friday, Nov. 14.

The Port will notify Airport Advisory Committee members when the next county planning commission work session is scheduled.

AIRPORT MANAGEMENT CHANGE

Doke noted the Oct. 23 deadline to submit proposals for a new airport Fixed Base Operator arrived with one proposal received. It came from Scott Gifford of Nostalgaire, who operates an aviation mechanic business. Gifford was in attendance at the meeting. He said he plans to maintain the same services as present FBO, Flightline Services. He would like to add jet fuel and more scenic flights. John Benton asked if there was enough mechanic business in the area. Scott replied there was, when Hood River and planes based at other regional airports were considered.

TIEDOWN UPDATE

Jeremy Young said it appears Port maintenance still needs to work on recently installed airplane tiedown on the airport's northern tiedown area. Concrete on the top of the tiedowns is elevated above the surrounding asphalt, and some of the tiedown chain is embedded in this concrete. Port maintenance will be contacted.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Doke reported that he followed up on the recommendation from the previous advisory committee meeting to develop plans to enhance and expand the airport's northern

tiedown area. Century West Engineering has submitted a \$365,531 proposal for design, bid and construction management (\$43,290 for design, \$47,291 for bidding and construction management) and \$274,950 for construction. The project can be phased so that it optimizes FAA annual grants of \$150,000.

Committee members debated the merit of asphalt vs. grass tiedowns, citing the expense of the asphalt. Doke noted design work must be underway in early 2009 so that construction could begin prior to September that year, when \$150,000 in grant funds would expire. The committee eventually supported asphalt tiedowns.

Benton followed with a discussion of improving the area on the airport's north side and the area east of the "C" T-hangars for occasional camping needed by pilots and firefighters.

SECURITY LIGHTING, SIGNS

Young requested that bulbs be replaced in existing exterior light sockets across the airport, and suggested a new light on the northeast corner of the northern tiedown area.

He noted "low-airplane" signage is needed along Orchard Road east of the runway. Doke said he would contact Port maintenance and county public works on both issues.

GRASS RUNWAY

Committee members received engineers' drawings for a new grass runway, and the Port is working to secure materials from the contractor involved in the Windmaster sewer project, Doke reported.

WINDMASTER SEWER PROJECT UPDATE

Doke reported that the project continues, and a completion date has not been confirmed. The Port will pass along any new information it gathers.

NEXT MEETING

No meeting date was set.