

Meeting Minutes
Madison County Airport Board
Ennis, Montana
August 8, 2016

Attendees: Tom Miller, Scott Payne, Jim Frey, John Hauck, and Peter Fitzgerald
Absentees: Beau Bradley and Ernest Bock
Commissioners: Ron Nye, Jim Hart and David Schulz
Secretary: Jani Flinn
Visitors: Troy Hunter, Choice Aviation

The meeting was called to order at 6:43 p.m. by Board Chairman Tom Miller.

Approval of Minutes: John Hauck moved to approve the 7/11/16 minutes, as corrected. Peter Fitzgerald seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Report, Twin Bridges Airport. Weeds are still an issue – they will get assistance from the Madison County Weed Department. Larger aircraft are starting to use the airport, although they are still waiting on instrument approach.

Report, Ennis Big Sky Airport: See attached Manager's Report from Choice Aviation. Troy Hunter, Airport Manager, reported that they are out of PAPI lights, but are waiting for the new construction lights to be installed. Construction is almost complete. They have put up a sign in the area where the taxiway has been closed, Troy found a cold joint spot in the paving and that has been milled and patched, and the new drains are working well. A Land Use Agreement was signed to allow use of the old taxiway for heli-base operations for the firefighters' base and eleven helicopters. The Board discussed potential liability coverage, charging for flow fees for commercial operations or a "use fee" for this type of operation because government funds are available for this. Troy will do some more checking with other airports on these issues and bring the information to our next meeting. The Air Fair brought in an estimated 1700 people and 50+ aircraft. Troy has starting working with the Planning department on setting up new hangar numbers. The Board discussed the quality of Verizon Cell service and concerns being raised from visitors about the lack of service. Other options were discussed. FBO Report includes Jet Fuel 20,450, 365 operations, 112 rental cars, 60 hotel rooms booked, and 10 catering orders. 42 jets exceeded weight restrictions.

Robert Peccia & Associates Project Updates: See RPA project update attached. Lance Bowser, Robert Peccia & Associates was unable to attend the meeting. Items discussed included:

- **Twin Bridges Airport:** No change in Instrument Approach Procedure or Aeronautical Land Release. Twin Bridges ALP has been completed and distributed to Madison County.
- **Ennis/Big Sky Airport:** Items discussed included:
 - AWOS III Reimbursement: On the Commissioners' agenda next week.
 - Construction paint application, PAPI's and final seeding are remaining.
 - Master Plan: ALP terminal area drawing submitted to FAA for Airspace review and approval, facility requirements are on-going, Phase II scope of

work is out for independent fee estimate with Morrison & Maierle, and anticipated grant offer will follow.

- Super AWOS: FAA said we could sell if less than \$5,000. RPA recommends offering it to another airport and/or Montana Aeronautics.
- Land Acquisition: David Schulz reviewed land acquisition Task Order proposals from RPA to make sure the Board understands the process and funds that would be required if RPA proceeds with the proposed land acquisition on the east side. After discussion of the progress made by Melinda and the funds available and timing, John Hauck moved to recommend to the Board of Commissioners to have Melinda Merrill continue to negotiate potential acquisitions on behalf of the Airport Board, rather than approve Task Orders authorizing RPA to proceed. Peter Fitzgerald seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. The Airport Board will ask Melinda for an update on her progress at the October Board meeting.

New Business: Scott Payne asked the Board if there is a local Economist who can graph trends in the Madison County. A current study is being done by Montana Aeronautics/FAA and should be available late Fall/early Winter this year. The Board also discussed limitations they can place on existing hangar space leases for no new structures or non-conforming buildings due to the new ALP terminal area drawings being prepared for FAA approval later this year. The Board and County Commissioners will meet with the Madison County Attorney to draft a letter that can be mailed.

Joe Richardson, Hangar at Ennis Airport: Still pending – no final information has been received.

With no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:53 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting will be September 12, 2016, at the Twin Bridges Airport at 6:30 P.M.

Approved and Accepted:

Tom Miller, Chairman
Madison County Airport Board