

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Madison County Airport Board**  
**Ennis Big Sky Airport**  
**Ennis, MT**

**June 21, 2021**

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Attendees: John Hauck, Tim Cherwin, Scott Payne, and Mary Oliver

Absentees: Jim Frey, Beau Bradley, and Tyler Holland

Commissioners: Jim Hart

Secretary: Jani Flinn

Visitors: Lance Bowser, Robert Peccia & Associates (via phone); Troy Hunter and Mike McFall, Choice Aviation; Mike McCann, Verne Brown, John Padilla, Ken Nass, Bozeman broker, Evert Wierda, and Josh Jones.

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Board Co-Chairman, John Hauck, called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m.

**Public Comment:** Ken Nass, Bozeman Broker, wanted to introduce himself and find out more about the rules, regulations, and rent for hangars.

**Approval of Minutes:** Scott Payne moved to approve the 5-17-2021 meeting minutes as submitted. Mary Oliver seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**1. Report Ruby Valley Field:** Airport is busy, tarmac is 1/3 full. Matts are still working fine.

**2. Report Ennis Big Sky Airport:** IFP is active effective June 17<sup>th</sup> and old NOTAMS cancelled. PCN needed updated, complete. PAPI Board replacements complete and upgraded. AWOS quarterly inspection is scheduled. A Memorial service is planned for Tom Miller on July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 p.m. The Board discussed preparing a plaque to be displayed at the Ennis Airport to honor Tom Miller's years of service and dedication to the airport. Scott Payne moved to approve. Mary Oliver seconded. All voted aye. FBO Report includes 776 gallons Avgas and 11,767 Jet A with 29 jets and 9 turboprops.

- Troy presented a new hangar lease for Choice Aviation to take over the Miller hangar. Scott Payne moved to approve, Mary Oliver seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

**3. Robert Peccia & Associates Project Updates:** Lance reviewed the RPA Airport Board Meeting Notes provided.

- Land Acquisition reimbursement still pending.
- Tisler RTTF on Commissioners Agenda.
- Remaining work items underway for Ennis construction and they are working on final closeout.
- Twin Bridges: Final Master Plan submitted to FAA; new SRE project approved and moving forward.
- Community public water systems for both airports is still a priority. Potential ARPA funding?

**4. Airport Rules and Regulation Edits and Approval:** After discussion, Mary Oliver moved to approve changes as noted. Tim Cherwin seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**5. John Padilla, Hangar Lease:** John expressed concern with his old access. He will be meeting with the Homeowners Association and get back to the Board. Lance will get him a copy of the ALP to show that it was not an approved access. Scott Payne discussed the possibility of a first right of refusal for the Padilla property and also his Twin Bridges hangar. John is working on a reverse mortgage and a way to get the money to build his new hangar.

**6. Verne Brown, Through the Fence access issues:** Water is now a problem because the storm drain is not working. Lance noted that there was fabric under the lid and it stopped taking in water. That has been fixed and there shouldn't be a problem. Lance has taken the recommendation for paving to the Commissioners and it was approved for a cost up to \$14,900. Waiting on a paving quote for Delta taxiway.

**7 Taxilane D, Ennis, and infrastructure proposals:** Bids have been requested from Apex, Knife River, AM Welles, and a Dillon contractor. None of them have any availability this year. Lance will provide a grading plan/engineered drawings with detailed requirements, specifications to assist with bids. Lance will be at the airport the week of July 5<sup>th</sup> and could meet with engineers and answer technical questions. Scott Payne moved to cover Lance's expenses with a Task Order to cover Administrative expense for the paving project. Tim Cherwin seconded the motion. All voted aye. Troy will send an email to all parties with a potential meeting date and coordinate.

There was more discussion on a Public Water supply, well requirements, septic drainfields vs. holding tanks, etc. Should the Airport prioritize land for hangar space vs. septic? After discussion, Scott Payne moved to ask the County Commissioners to prioritize ARPA funding for public water & sewer infrastructure on both airports through Tier 1 and Tier 2 funds. Tim Cherwin seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried. The current Airport Layout Plan was discussed and Lance pointed out that the southern edge of the hangar space is shown as a drainage ditch with all significant water drainage along Bellanca, making it not acceptable for septic drainfields. After more discussion, Scott Payne moved to ask the Commissioners for consideration to allow holding tanks at hangars in lieu of septic wastewater treatments, as the Board would like to maximize hangar space and not use valuable land for septic drainfields. Mary Oliver seconded, all voted aye, and the motion passed. A Public Water Supply well is still recommended for both Airports, with associated infrastructure.

**Other Business:** The Board discussed potential land acquisition including Tisler, Padilla, and others. Mary Oliver moved to discuss Land Acquisition at the next meeting. Tim Cherwin seconded, all voted aye, and the motion carried.

With no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:30 p.m.

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John Hauck, Co-Chairman

Minutes prepared by Jani Flinn, Airport Board Secretary

The next meeting will be held on July 19th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Ruby Valley Field in Twin Bridges.