

MINUTES
Nebraska Aeronautics Commission
December 18, 2020

The Nebraska Aeronautics Commission held their regular meeting virtually. The legal ad was published in the December 8, 2020, edition of the Lincoln Journal Star and is posted on the website <https://dot.nebraska.gov/aeronautics>. Chairperson Diana Smith called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. CDT. Commissioners Scott Tarry, Michael Cook, Tom Trumble, and Dick Trail were in attendance. Also present were Engineering Division Manager Anna Lannin, Deputy Director/Legal Counsel Andre Aman and Director Ann B. Richart.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Trumble to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2020, meeting. Second by Commissioner Trail. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Aeronautics Director's Report

- Richart thanked the Aeronautics Commission for their generous assistance and patience through this challenging year.
- Aeronautics has made some huge strides in integrating into the NDOT structure:
 - We tried transitioning to the NDOT financial accounting system, found it didn't work, and backed out. The current system is working well
 - The NDOT drone program took on a pilot project to use drone photography to assist with our airport inspection program
 - Aeronautics has included an NDOT attorney to participate in aviation legal continuing education along with Andre Aman, our Deputy Director and Legal Counsel
 - NDOT has included Aeronautics activities in their ongoing public outreach and social media campaigns
 - NDOT Communications Division has taken over management of the coordination details for the Aeronautics Commission meetings, a service they have long performed for the Highway Commission
- We have continued efforts to ensure Nebraska's aviation system has appropriate and professional planning guidance in place:
 - We completed the Nebraska Aviation Economic Impact Study
 - We began the State Aviation System Plan
- We've explored and implemented ways to modernize, streamline, and improve our processes:
 - We currently examining or process for forwarding FAA grant funds to airports and expect to implement time-saving improvements in the coming year

- We have implemented changes to our airport inspection program which provide clear guidance and encouragement to airports to mitigate safety hazards. As a result the number of airport license waivers we have issued have been significantly reduced
- We have entered into a no-cost agreement with a firm to develop an automated database-driven process to enter airport inspection information and track actions taken

- We've completed an organizational restructure and filled vacancies. There are two more recruitments underway presently

- We have successfully issued and managed not only our regular grant load this year, but also the additional CARES Act grants to Nebraska airports

- All of this has been accomplished during the Coronavirus Pandemic which has been described as the largest disrupter of the global aviation industry ever. During the pandemic our team had to restrict travel, explore working remotely, learn to skills such as WebEx meetings, deal with ever-changing personal dynamics such as having kids attending school remotely, and look out for their own health. Two Aeronautics employees have actually contracted the virus. All of this has been done with positive attitudes and a remarkable team spirit. Your staff should be congratulated on their exceptional performance during this year.

- In 2021 we will look to stabilize operations as we emerge (hopefully!) from the pandemic.
 - We'll be prepared to orient to the new NDOT Director to Aeronautics' mission
 - We will develop strategies to seamlessly manage anticipated retirements over the coming years
 - We will continue to look for ways to leverage the aviation consulting industry to streamline our processes where possible
 - We'll explore better ways to communicate with our customers
 - We'll continue to identify process that can be modernized
 - We'll be prepared to review procedures put in place during the pandemic and evaluate if they are appropriate in a non-pandemic environment
 - We'll re-arrange the floor plan of the Lincoln office to better match our new organizational structure
 - We'll endeavor to hold Aeronautics Commission meetings outside of the Lincoln area to ensure that our customers have opportunities to observe the work of the Commission.

Report of State Funds Available

Deputy Director Andre Aman presented a written report of state funds available.

Nebraska Aeronautics Commission
December 18, 2020

PROJECT GRANT FUND

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Funds available September 30, 2020 | \$269,340.69 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|

Commission Actions (10/23/20 meeting)

| | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Allocation - Beatrice beacon replacement | -\$66,960.00 | |
| Allocation - Bloomfield runway rehab | -\$265,000.00 | |
| Subtotal | | -\$331,960.00 |

Other Actions

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Closed project - Aurora 12 | \$423.28 | |
| Closed project - Blair SA-08 | \$9,128.51 | |
| Closed project - David City SA-06 | \$12,223.47 | |
| Closed project - Hastings SA-06 | \$26,061.19 | |
| Closed project - Plattsmouth 11 | \$1,359.24 | |
| Closed project - Plattsmouth 12 | \$14,482.56 | |
| Subtotal | | \$63,678.25 |

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|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Funds available November 30, 2020 | \$1,058.94 |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

Funds available at December 2019 meeting: \$4,257.24

STATE OWNED AIRFIELDS (SOA) DIVERSION GRANT FUND

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Funds available September 30, 2020 | \$0.00 |
|------------------------------------|--------|

Commission Actions (10/23/20 meeting)

None

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|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Funds available November 30, 2020 | \$0.00 |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

Funds available at December 2019 meeting: \$0

SEAL COAT GRANT FUND (Pavement Preservation Program)

Funds available September 30, 2020 \$405,792.18

Commission Actions (10/23/20 meeting)

None

Subtotal \$0.00

Other Actions

None

Subtotal \$0.00

Funds available November 30, 2020 \$405,792.18

Funds available at December 2019 meeting: \$405,792.18

HANGAR REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Funds available September 30, 2020 \$587,721.23

Commission Actions (10/23/20 meeting)

None

Subtotal \$0.00

Other Actions

None

Subtotal \$0.00

Receipts

October 2020 \$22,023.00

November 2020 (Aero paid \$60,000 on Harvard loan) \$82,023.00

Subtotal \$104,046.00

Funds available November 30, 2020 \$691,767.23

Funds available at December 2019 meeting: \$649,811.90

Total amount in Hangar Loan fund: \$3,768,360

FUEL STORAGE LOAN FUND

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Funds available September 30, 2020 | \$297,030.31 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| Commission Actions 10/23/20 meeting) | |
|--------------------------------------|--|

None

Subtotal

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Other Actions | |
|---------------|--|

None

Subtotal

\$0.00

Receipts

October 2020

\$958.33

November 2020

\$958.33

Subtotal

\$1,916.66

Funds available November 30, 2020

\$298,946.97

*Funds available at December 2019 meeting: \$287,729.51**Total amount in Fuel Storage fund: \$336,500***NON-PRIMARY ENTITLEMENT TRANSFER PROGRAM**

Funds available September 30, 2020

\$1,036.75

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| Commission Actions (10/23/20 meeting) | |
|---------------------------------------|--|

None

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|-----------------|--|
| Funds Disbursed | |
|-----------------|--|

None

Subtotal

\$0.00

Funds available November 30, 2020

\$1,036.75

(Insert)

Motion by Commissioner Tarry to accept the report of State Funds. Second by Commissioner Trail. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Federal Aid Project Requests

Manager Anna Lannin presented the following projects for Commission approval to forward to the FAA with requests for funding, as required by state statutes. The FAA considers the request for future federal funding as funds become available. No state funds are requested at this time.

Ainsworth G-03

Scope: Install PAPIs on Runway 13/31
Total Estimated Cost: \$211,800

The existing VASIs have served their useful purpose and have exceeded their life span. Installation of new PAPIs on Runway 13/31 will provide guidance to pilots on final approach and improve safety at the airport.

Ainsworth G-04

Scope: Replace MALSR Lights on Runway 17/35
Total Estimated Cost: \$240,000

The existing sequenced flasher array portion of the MALSR lighting system to Runway 17/35 have begun to malfunction and parts are hard to find. Replacement of the existing sequenced flasher array portion of the MALSR lighting system will create a better functioning MALSR system at the Ainsworth Regional Airport.

Chadron M-06

Scope: Construct Wildlife Fence
Total Estimated Cost: \$1,000,000

The current perimeter fence is old and in poor condition and requires continuous maintenance to maintain the fence being electrified. Also, with it being the stranded electrified fence type, when not electrified it is easy for wildlife to access the airport and movement areas. A new wildlife fence will ensure unwanted animals will be kept out and improving safety for moving aircraft.

David City P-01

Scope: Update Airport Layout Plan
Total Estimated Cost: \$200,000

The current Airport Layout Plan (ALP) was developed prior to September 2009. Since its development there have been updates to design standards, runway length requirements, and other related activity at the airport. The new ALP will follow the requirements of AC 150/5300-13A change 1, and the AGIS Aeronautical Survey will follow the requirements of AC 150/5300-18B change 1.

Kearney B-04

Scope: Two 10-Place T-Hangars & Taxilane Overlay

Total Estimated Cost: \$3,000,000

With an increased hangar space demand for small twin general aviation aircraft, the airport would build two new 10-unit T-hangars on the north side of the apron, replacing one existing T-hangar building that has been damaged in storm events. The damaged existing hangar has become an ongoing maintenance issue and a potential safety concern. In addition to the erection of the two new buildings, the apron pavement around the buildings and east to the limits of the parallel TW reconstruction project (AIP -032) would be rehabilitated. The proposed development will follow the airport's approved ALP.

Kearney B-05

Scope: Terminal Building Expansion and Removal of Old ARFF Building

Total Estimated Cost: \$6,690,000

With the addition of United Express jet service, the airport has seen a record high increase in enplanements, resulting in overcrowding of passengers in the current terminal building. The existing terminal building will be expanded to increase the useable square footage in response to the increase of passengers. To create space for the expansion of the terminal building, the old ARFF building to the southeast of the terminal will be removed.

Kearney D-01

Scope: Terminal Parking Lot Expansion

Total Estimated Cost: \$970,000

With the addition of United Express jet service, the airport has seen a record high increase in enplanements, resulting in an increased need for passenger parking. Current operational volumes have required passenger vehicles to spill over into grassed areas for short- and long-term parking needs. The current existing parking areas will be expanded to the north and south, creating over 3,900 square yards of additional paved area increasing the current number of available parking spaces by more than 50%.

Commissioner Cook expressed his opposition to the federal CARES Act grant funding requests from the Kearney Airport. Commissioner Cook is opposed to much of the CARES Act funding on principle. Commissioner Cook also expressed concern that taxpayers would be charged for use of the terminal parking lot built with taxpayer dollars. Engineering Division manager, Anna Lannin, stated that the FAA does not allow airports to charge for use of parking lots constructed with federal AIP funds.

Motion by Commissioner Cook to approve the CIP data sheets for all but the Kearney projects, and forward them to the FAA. Second by Commissioner Trail. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Cook to disapprove the CIP data sheets for Kearney B-04 T-Hangar construction and taxilane overlay, Kearney B-05 terminal expansion, and Kearney D-01 terminal parking lot expansion as wasteful appropriations. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion by Commissioner Trumble to approve CIP data sheets for Kearney B-04 and Kearney D-01 and forward them to the FAA. Seconded by Commissioner Tarry. Roll call vote. Commissioners Smith, Tarry, Trail, and Trumble all voted aye. Commissioner Cook voted nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Trumble to approve the CIP data sheets for Kearney B-05 terminal expansion and forward them to the FAA. Seconded by Commissioner Cook. Roll call vote. Commissioners Smith, Tarry, and Trumble all voted aye. Commissioners Cook and Trail voted nay. Motion carried.

Election of Chairperson for 2021

Motion by Commissioner Trail to nominate Commissioner Mike Cook as Chairperson for 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

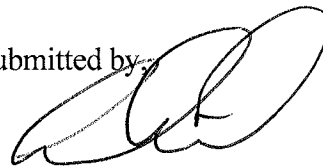
Tentative Commission Meeting Dates for 2021

May 7
August 6
October 22
December 3

The next meeting is tentatively set for Friday, February 5, 2021 at 1:00 pm CST. Motion by Commissioner Cook to adjourn the meeting. Second by Commissioner Trumble. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

Submitted by



Ann B. Richart, AAE
Director