

MINUTES
Nebraska Aeronautics Commission
May 6, 2022

The Nebraska Aeronautics Commission held their regular meeting at the airport conference room at the Western Nebraska Regional Airport in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. The legal ad was published in the April 26, 2022 editions of the Lincoln Journal Star and Star Herald newspapers and is posted on the website <https://dot.nebraska.gov/aeronautics>. The Commission Book and Public Meetings Act were also posted on the website. Chairperson Scott Tarry called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. MST. Commissioners Tom Trumble, Michael Cook, Diana Smith and Dick Trail attended. Also present were Director Ann B. Richart, Deputy Director/Legal Counsel Andre Aman, and Engineering Division Manager Anna Lannin.

Public Comment

Mike Olson, President of Nebraska Aviation Council, stated concerns about a lack of state investment in Nebraska's aviation system. He said that NAC is considering the following changes to existing law:

1. Aircraft sales tax go to Aeronautics Account instead of General Fund – Top priority.
2. Authorize Aeronautics Commission to set aviation fuel tax.
3. Consider recreating Department of Aeronautics

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Trail to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2022 meeting. Second by Commissioner Cook. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Commission Approval for New State Pilots

Motion by Commissioner Trumble to approve Kelli Nichelson and Michael Schmitt as new State Pilots. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried. Michael Schmitt is provisional until he meets the requirement.

Gering School Presentation

Lance Weisse presented the new Gering School Aviation Program.

Aeronautics Director's Report

Commissioner Trail talked about an award he won in 1967 which is now housed in the Smithsonian.

- Richart described recent changes in Aeronautics staffing. Jon Large has retired. We have created a new position so as we recruit for Jon's replacement we will actually make

two hires: Airport Services Manager and Aviation Planning Manager. Roman Kulbashnyi, who had been an intern from UNK and then transitioned to becoming Assistant to the Director has resigned to take a position in Airport Operations at Teterboro Airport in New Jersey.

- With Jon Large's retirement we're also in need of a project manager to oversee our Nebraska State Aviation System Plan. Richart has taken over this role. The System Plan had been delayed by the Pandemic and also by changes in staffing on the consultant's side. It is expected that the plan will be completed in the Spring of 2023.
- Richart reviewed for the Commission Aeronautics' plans for the 2023 Legislative Session. There are two pressing issues that need to be resolved 1) Funding and, 2) Integration of NDOT.
 - Lack of State funding of Aeronautics has resulted in a dire situation. Important programs that are no longer funded include:
 - Local Match for AIP Grants
 - Pavement Maintenance
 - Air Service Development
 - Aviation Education and Workforce Development
 - Richart's Legislative proposal to NDOT leadership to fully integrate Aeronautics into NDOT includes:
 - Elimination of statutory barrier that prevents use of Highway Fund resources on Aeronautics programs only for central services and administrative overhead
 - Highway Fund resources will continue to be barred from being used to fund aviation infrastructure projects
 - Aeronautics main office will move to the Central Complex of NDOT on Highway 2 by July 1, 2023 (at the expiration of our current lease with the Lincoln Airport Authority)
 - Aeronautics will receive all the same services and support as every other NDOT division.
 - In recognition that full integration with NDOT may change Aeronautics' financial situation and in order to create a manageable workplan, Aeronautics WILL NOT request any additional funding in the 2023 Session and will, instead, only work on the Legislative fix to the creation of NDOT.

Commissioner Trail moved for acceptance. Second by Commissioner Trumble. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Aeronautics Commission Report on Status of Nebraska Aviation System

As a follow-up to the Director's Report, the Commissioners discussed their concerns with the status of the Division, including the fact that the revenues generated by a sales tax on aircraft accrues to the General Fund and not the Aeronautics Fund, the lack of any increases to the aviation fuel tax with no process for the Commission to implement any changes to the aviation fuel tax rate, and a lack of vision within NDOT leadership about how to effectively support Aeronautics.

Commissioner Smith made a motion that Commissioner Tarry create Subcommittee of Commissioners Tarry and Trumble. Second by Commissioner Trail. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Hangar Loan Program

Anna stated that August agenda will include proposed revisions to the current hangar loan program. The last major revision was done in 2012.

Report of State Funds Available

Andre Aman presented a written report of state funds available.

Nebraska Aeronautics Commission
May 6, 2022

PROJECT GRANT FUND

Funds available January 31, 2022	\$18,358.94
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Commission Actions (2/11/2022 meeting)

None

Subtotal	\$0.00
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Other Actions

None

Subtotal	\$0.00
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Funds available April 30, 2022	\$18,358.94
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Funds available at April 2021 meeting: \$1,058.94

STATE OWNED AIRFIELDS (SOA) DIVERSION GRANT FUND

Funds available January 31, 2022	\$0.00
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Commission Actions (2/11/2022 meeting)

None

Funds available April 30, 2022 \$0.00

Funds available at April 2021 meeting: \$0

SEAL COAT GRANT FUND (Pavement Preservation Program)

Funds available January 31, 2022 \$405,792.18

Commission Actions (2/11/2022 meeting)

None

Subtotal \$0.00

Other Actions

None

Subtotal \$0.00

Funds available April 30, 2022 \$405,792.18

Funds available at April 2021 meeting: \$405,792.18

HANGAR REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Funds available January 31, 2022 \$1,957,252.17

Commission Actions (2/11/2022 meeting)

None

Subtotal \$0.00

Other Actions

None

Subtotal \$0.00

Receipts

February \$0.00

March	(February and March receipts)	\$38,705.00	
April		\$19,771.00	
Subtotal			\$58,476.00

Funds available April 30, 2022			\$2,015,728.17
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Funds available at April 2021 meeting: \$778,239.23

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

FUEL STORAGE LOAN FUND

Funds available January 31, 2022			\$312,363.59
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Commission Actions (2/11/2022 meeting)

None

Subtotal

Other Actions

None

Subtotal

\$0.00

Receipts

February		\$0.00	
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March	(February and March receipts)	\$1,916.66	
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April		\$958.33	
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Subtotal

\$2,874.99

Funds available April 30, 2022			\$315,238.58
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Funds available at April 2021 meeting: \$302,780.29

Total amount in Fuel Storage fund: \$336,500

NON-PRIMARY ENTITLEMENT TRANSFER PROGRAM

Funds available January 30, 2022			\$936.75
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Commission Actions (2/11/2022 meeting)

None

Funds Disbursed

Red Cloud		-\$100.00	
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Subtotal

-\$100.00

Funds available April 30, 2022

\$836.75

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

Federal Aid Project Requests

The following projects were provided to the Commission for their review and approval prior to forwarding them 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.

Alliance B-02

Scope: Construct New Terminal Building

Total Estimated Cost: \$10,000,000

The existing airport terminal building was constructed in 1943 and has reached the end of its useful life. The airport desires to construct a new terminal building to the west of the existing terminal building. The new terminal will include additional space for TSA screening and holding areas, pilot's lounge, flight planning, commercial air service space, lobby, baggage handling, FBO space, bathrooms, and vending areas. The airport intends to apply for "Bipartisan Infrastructure Law" funding for the project.

David City R-03

Scope: Runway Reconstruction

Total Estimated Cost: \$3,700,000

This request is reconstruct Runway 14/32. The existing asphalt runway needs rehabilitation due to age, and other conditions such as high-water table, oxidation, cracking which is causing ultimate pavement failures in some locations.

In 2019 a 500-year flood had affected the airport and surrounding area. This caused the high-water table to rise to the surface throughout the airport and runway pavements. This has further accelerated the pavement deterioration. The design will take extra considerations on how to handle the very high-water table to protect new pavements.

David City L-02

Scope: Land Acquisition

Total Estimated Cost: \$472,500

The land (approximately 66 acres) is required for protection of the airport from compatible land uses and potential future Runway 32 extensions. The current owner was going to construct a body

of water at this location to attract ducks and other waterfowl for future hunting. Since the county that the airport is located in does not have any type of zoning, acquisition was the best option to stop any incompatible land uses adjacent to the airport.

Grant M-01

Scope: New Self-Serve Fuel Farm

Total Estimated Cost: \$350,000

The Sponsor would like to install a new 10,000 gallon 100LL self-serve fuel farm system for aviation operations at the Grant Municipal Airport. The airport currently does not own a fuel system. The new system would provide 24-hr fueling options for based and transient aircraft. The airport requests use of the "BIL" funding for this project.

Hastings A-01

Scope: Rehabilitate Apron

Total Estimated Cost: \$765,000

The existing apron pavement is over 40 years old and in need of rehabilitation. The project consists of select panel remove and replacement, resealing of concrete joints, and tie-down markings.

Hastings G-05

Scope: Replace Runway 14/32 Lights and REIL

Total Estimated Cost: \$690,000

In general the project will consist of replacing the existing airfield lighting for Runway 14/32.

- Runway regulator (Runway 14/32)
- Runway lighting and REILs with new LED fixtures
- New conduit and wire

The airport manager has reported several issues with the current system mostly due to the age.

North Platte D-01

Scope: Construct Access Road

Total Estimated Cost: \$860,900

This project includes construction of a new access road and utility extensions to a site between the cargo apron and terminal apron. This infrastructure will support hangar and general aviation facility development. The project requires construction of approximately 855 linear feet of 25-foot wide roadway and approximately 860 linear feet of water, sewer, gas, electrical, and communication utility extensions. In addition, approximately 1,900 linear feet of airport security fence must be relocated to facilitate this development and two new automated, cantilever gates will be installed. The improvements are needed to satisfy aeronautical demand for hangar space and to replace aging general aviation infrastructure on the field.

Omaha D-03

Scope: Improve Terminal Building/Modify Access Road Additional Phase

Total Estimated Cost: \$1,040,000

This is an additional phase to the current project under construction that adds an additional traffic lane to relieve congestion as the terminal drive approaches the curb front area of the terminal. The additional lane will require relocation of an aircraft blast fence, security fencing, modification to aircraft parking, and relocation of lighting and utilities.

Seward B-07

Scope: Construct 10-Place T-Hangar

Total Estimated Cost: \$2,070,000

The airport currently has no available hangar space, additional stalls will provide pilots safe aircraft storage.

Seward B-06

Scope: Construct 10-Place T-Hangar

Total Estimated Cost: \$2,120,000

The airport currently has no available hangar space, additional stalls will provide pilots safe aircraft storage.

Wayne B-01

Scope: Construct 2-Bay Corporate Hangar

Total Estimated Cost: \$1,320,000

The airport has a waiting list of three people needing a space to store their aircraft at the airport and is in need of additional space for aircraft storage and is requesting a new 2-day Executive Hangar to meet the needs for their aircraft storage requirements.

Motion by Commissioner Trumble to approve the CIP data sheets and forward them to the FAA. Second by Commissioner Smith. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Closed Projects

**Closed Projects
 May 6, 2022**

<u>Airport</u>	<u>Original State Allocation</u>	<u>Increase in State Funds Required</u>	<u>Decrease in State Funds Required</u>
Fremont 12 (New Apron)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Hebron 10(Rehab runway, taxiway
and apron—C & J seal)

\$	0.00	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
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Sidney 06

(ALP)

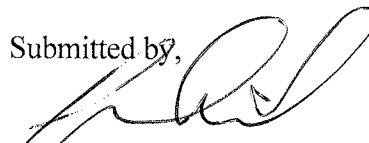
\$	0.00	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
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Totals	\$	0.00	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
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The next meeting is tentatively set for Friday, August 5, 2022 at 1:00 pm CDT in Lincoln, Nebraska. Motion by Commissioner Smith to adjourn the meeting. Second by Commissioner Cook. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Submitted by,



Ann B. Richart, AAE
Director

PILOT QUALIFICATION SHEET

In accordance with Paragraph 3-104 of Nebraska Statutes, the below listed individual seeks approval from the Nebraska Aeronautics Commission to be employed as a pilot by the State of Nebraska.

Name KELLE NZCHELSON Date April 28, 2022

Address 1503 E. 5TH NORTH PLATTE, NE 69101

Agency NEBRASKA STATE PATROL

Requests approval of a Class I Pilot. List FAA Airmen certificates and ratings currently held:

Airmen Medical Certificate Date 11/24/21 Class 2

Flight Experience	NDA Recommended Flight Time	Applicant's Flight Time
Total flight hours	<u>250</u>	<u>271.8</u>
Pilot in command	<u>150</u>	<u>150.2</u>
Cross country	<u>-</u>	<u>108.2</u>
Inst. Time (actual & Sim)	<u>-</u>	<u>7.1</u>
Multi-engine PIC	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Night time	<u>10</u>	<u>10.5</u>

I certify the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Kelle Nzchelson
Signature of applicant

Recommendation of Director

I have reviewed the qualifications and find the above applicant (meets) (does not meet) the qualifications established by the Nebraska Aeronautics Commission to act as pilot of a State owned aircraft. Further I (do) (do not) recommend Commission approval of the applicant as a Class I Pilot.

[Signature]
Director, Nebraska Department of Aeronautics Division

If the applicant is not recommended it is due to the following:

The applicant is (approved) (disapproved) by the Nebraska Aeronautics Commission as a Class I Pilot.

Rev. Mar 2001 [Signature]
Chairman, Nebraska Aeronautics Commission

PILOT QUALIFICATION SHEET

In accordance with Paragraph 3-104 of Nebraska Statutes, the below listed individual seeks approval from the Nebraska Aeronautics Commission to be employed as a pilot by the State of Nebraska.

Name Michael Schmitt Date April 27, 2022
Address 3509 Hummingbird Dr., North Platte, NE 69101
Agency Nebraska State Patrol

Requests approval of a Class II Pilot. List FAA Airmen certificates and ratings currently held:

Private Pilot

Airmen Medical Certificate Date May 2021 Class II

Flight Experience	NDA Recommended Flight Time	Applicant's Flight Time
Total flight hours	<u>250</u>	<u>102</u>
Pilot in command	<u>150</u>	<u>27</u>
Cross country	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Inst. Time (actual & Sim)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Multi-engine PIC	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Night time	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>

I certify the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

M. C. Schmitt
Signature of applicant

Recommendation of Director

I have reviewed the qualifications and find the above applicant (meets) (does not meet) the qualifications established by the Nebraska Aeronautics Commission to act as pilot of a State owned aircraft. Further I (do) (do not) recommend Commission approval of the applicant as a Class _____ Pilot.

Director, Nebraska Department of Aeronautics Division

If the applicant is not recommended it is due to the following:

The applicant is (approved) (disapproved) by the Nebraska Aeronautics Commission as a Class _____ Pilot.

Rev. Mar 2001 _____
Chairman, Nebraska Aeronautics Commission

