

MINUTES  
Nebraska Aeronautics Commission  
December 6, 2019

The Nebraska Aeronautics Commission held their regular meeting at the department's offices, Lincoln, Nebraska. The legal ad was published in the November 26, 2019, edition of the Lincoln Journal Star and is on the website <https://dot.nebraska.gov/aeronautics>. Chairperson Tom Trumble called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. CDT. Commissioners Terri Wachter and Diana Smith were in attendance. Also present were Director Ann B. Richart, and Planning/Programming Division Manager Anna Lannin. Deputy Director/Legal Counsel Andre Aman, Commissioners Dick Trail and Michael Cook were absent.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Commissioner Diana Smith to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2019, meeting. Second by Commissioner Terri Wachter. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

**Division Report**

- NDOT Aeronautics is in a period of staffs transition
  - Russ Gasper, Project Management Division Manager is officially out of NDOT payroll system. The position would be modify from Engineering Project Manager to Airport Service Manager, thus an engineering title is not needed for the person who filled in the position. The position should be filled in early next spring.
  - Kai Yueh Chin, Engineer I is moving on to a new position after working with NDOT Aeronautics Division for about a year. Her position is currently posted by NDOT human resources. Austin White from NDOT would be coming in to help out until the position is filled in.
  - Richard Crawford, Electronics Specialist at NAVAIDS would no longer be working with NDOT Aeronautics Division. NDOT would be posting this position too. There are a few challenges in finding people to fill in this position as the type of technology rarely attracts new generations, and the location of the position. Ann Richart has also contacted some Universities to find potential candidates.  
NDOT Aeronautics is currently working closely with NDOT human resources in finding people to fill in these positions. NDOT human resources have been very helpful in the hiring process, and it is one of the big advantages the Merger has provided.
  
- Financial Transition
  - NDOT Aeronautics has been working with NDOT Controller and the Process Improvement Office to speed up the process. Currently we are making good progress now.
  
- Airport licensing and waiver

- NDOT Aeronautics has developed a spreadsheet to show the status of licensing of each Nebraska Public Use Airports. With the spreadsheet, it would be easier to identify common licensing issues of each airports.
- Once notify airports regarding their licensing issues, NDOT Aeronautics would work with Airport in solving the issues. If an airport could not fix the issue before the year is over or believe the issues stated is not an issue, they can request a waiver form. Once the waiver is in place, NDOT Aeronautics would review the waiver request and determine whether to accept it. If accepted, Aeronautics would still help the airports to get into compliances.
- Monthly Conferences with Airports
  - Director Ann Richart has started a conference meeting among all the air carrier airports to share information and discuss about current airports issues.
  - The issues that were discussed in the past meeting includes the issues caused by the usage of firefighting foam, TSA new ID requirement, Updates on economic impact studies, and many more.
  - Currently the monthly meeting is only for a small group of airports but eventually Director Ann Richart hopes that it would grow to a larger group to connect all airports in Nebraska.
- Nebraska Aviation Symposium
  - The Symposium is going to occur in January 22 to 25, 2019, and the registration deadline to sign up is January 3, 2019.
  - The airport community is encouraged to sign up for the symposium and inform Jan Keller if possible so she can have a preliminary headcount.
- NDOT Director Kyle Schneweis was planning in participating in this meeting. However, due to his meeting in Denver, he could not make it. He is supportive of the Aviation Community and would try to participate in the Commission Meeting in the future.
- Economic Study Impact Progress
  - The Study would be unveil during the Symposium
  - Currently, the Study is still being revised. NDOT Aeronautics is expecting to have the final revised draft in the coming week.
  - Diane Hofer from Olsson stated that she plans to work on it during the weekend and get it done by next Monday.
  - One of the issue pointed out by Commissioner Diana Smith is that the pictures of the Study does not matches the related Airport, some photos belongs to another airport, and some pictures are just a generic picture.

### **State Funds Available**

Manager Anna Lannin presented a written report of state funds available.

December 6, 2019

**PROJECT GRANT FUND**

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Funds available September 30, 2019 \$743,371.24

Commission Actions (10/25/19 meeting)

Allocation - Blair - taxilane extension	-\$152,190.00	
Allocation - Bloomfield - runway crack rep.	-\$45,000.00	
Allocation - Creighton - obst. removal	-\$11,367.00	
Allocation - David City - construct taxiway	-\$87,300.00	
Allocation - Hartington - obst. removal	-\$10,170.00	
Allocation - Hebron - obstruction removal	-\$32,400.00	
Allocation - Hebron - replace beacon	-\$45,000.00	
Allocation - Loup City - obst. removal	-\$4,185.00	
Allocation - So. Sioux City - obst. removal	-\$34,200.00	
Allocation - Tecumseh - obst. Removal	-\$7,902.00	
Allocation - Wahoo - obstruction removal	-\$14,400.00	
Allocation - Thedford - replace beacon	-\$45,000.00	
Allocation - NDA Pvmt. Pres. Pgm.	-\$250,000.00	
Subtotal		-\$739,114.00

Other Actions

None

Subtotal \$0.00

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Funds available November 30, 2019 \$4,257.24

*Funds available at December 2018 meeting: \$1,971.24*

**STATE OWNED AIRFIELDS (SOA) DIVERSION GRANT FUND**

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Funds available September 30, 2019 \$0.00

Commission Actions (10/25/19 meeting)

None

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Funds available November 30, 2019 \$0.00

*Funds available at December 2018 meeting: \$0*

**SEAL COAT GRANT FUND (Pavement Preservation Program)**

Funds available September 30, 2019		\$155,792.18
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Commission Actions (10/25/19 meeting)		
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Allocation	\$250,000.00	
Subtotal		\$250,000.00
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Other Actions		
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None		
Subtotal		\$0.00
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Funds available November 30, 2019		\$405,792.18

*Funds available at December 2018 meeting: \$155,792.18*

**HANGAR REVOLVING LOAN FUND**

Funds available September 30, 2019		\$607,361.90
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Commission Actions (10/25/19 meeting)		
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None		
Subtotal		\$0.00
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Other Actions		
<hr/>		
None		
Subtotal		\$0.00
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Receipts		
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October 2019	\$21,225.00	
November 2019	\$21,225.00	
Subtotal		\$42,450.00
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Funds available November 30, 2019		\$649,811.90

*Funds available at December 2018 meeting: \$813,045*

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

**FUEL STORAGE LOAN FUND**

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Funds available September 30, 2019		\$286,012.85
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Commission Actions (10/25/19 meeting)		
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None		
Subtotal		
Other Actions		
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None		
Subtotal		\$0.00
Receipts		
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October 2019	\$958.33	
November 2019	\$758.33	
Subtotal		\$1,716.66
Funds available November 30, 2019		<hr/> \$287,729.51

*Funds available at December 2018 meeting: \$275,107.88*  
*Total amount in Fuel Storage fund: \$336,500*

**NON-PRIMARY ENTITLEMENT TRANSFER PROGRAM**

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Funds available September 30, 2019		\$1,336.75
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Commission Actions (10/25/19 meeting)		
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None		
Funds Disbursed		
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None		
Subtotal		\$0.00
Funds available November 30, 2019		<hr/> \$1,336.75

Motion by Commissioner Diana Smith to accept the report of State Funds. Second by Commissioner Terri Wachter. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

**Federal Aid Project Requests**

Manager Anna Lannin presented the following project for Commission approval to forward to the FAA with a request 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.

Omaha D-01

Scope: Terminal Access Road

Total Estimated Cost: \$14,401,020

The existing entrance roadway to the terminal at Eppley Airfield is under capacity and is highly congested at peak travel times throughout the day. Additional lanes are warranted for the vehicle traffic and a longer length roadway will allow for additional queuing areas during peak times. This proposed project is shown on the approved ALP dated June 6, 2016. Environmental determination covering this project is dated November 15, 2017.

Motion by Commissioner Terri Wachter to approve the CIP data sheet and forward it to the FAA. Second by Commissioner Diana Smith. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Tom Trumble commented that the Commission is supportive of the Eppley/Omaha airport project, and it would be nice to see the Omaha Airport Authority participate in future projects which would affect the whole state of Nebraska.

**Election of Chairperson for 2020**

Commissioner Tom Trumble nominated Commissioner Diana Smith as the Chairperson for 2020. Second by Commissioner Terri Wachter. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

**Tentative Commission Meeting Dates for 2020**

February 7

May 1

August 7

October 23

December 4

Director Ann Richart clarified that it is a tradition to have the Commission Meeting on a Friday; however, NDOT Aeronautics is open to have the Commission Meeting on other days of the week. NDOT Aeronautics is also flexible in the location of the Commission Meeting. She believes that changing location would encourage the aviation community in participating at the meeting and not shy away due to transportation. Director Ann Richart stated that based off on her experiences of visiting various airports, it would show good gesture.

The Commission Board Members agree.

Geary Combs from the Blair Airport Authority stated that he met a lot of public use airports who are motivated, but due to lack of funding, they became quiet. It would definitely motivate them if the

Commission Meeting would be scheduled at those airports.

Director Ann Richart and the Commission Board Members stated that the relocation of the Commission Meeting can be determined on the upcoming meeting.

The next meeting is tentatively set for Friday, February 7, 2020 at 1:00 pm CST in the Lincoln office. Motion by Commissioner Diana Smith to adjourn the meeting. Second by Commissioner Terri Wachter. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Ann B. Richart, AAE  
Director