

MINUTES
Nebraska Aeronautics Commission
December 9, 2016

The Nebraska Aeronautics Commission held their regular meeting at the department's offices, Lincoln, Nebraska. Commissioner Dorothy Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. CST. Commissioners Terri Wachter, Michael Cook, Dick Trail, and Diana Smith were in attendance. Also present were Planning/Programming Division Manager Anna Lannin, Director Ronnie Mitchell, Project Management Division Manager Russ Gasper, and Deputy Director Andre Aman.

Public Comment

NONE.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2016 meeting, as published. Second by Commissioner Wachter. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

State Funds Available

A written report of state funds available was presented by Andre Aman.

Nebraska Aeronautics Commission
December 9, 2016

PROJECT GRANT FUND

Funds available September 30, 2016	\$159,384.77
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Commission Actions (10/14/16 meeting)	
Allocation - Aurora SA	-\$38,502.00
Allocation - Plattsmouth X-03	-\$116,404.00
Subtotal	-\$154,906.00
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Other Actions	
None	
Subtotal	\$0.00

Funds available November 30, 2016

\$4,478.77

Funds available at December 2015 meeting: \$21,384.77

STATE OWNED AIRFIELDS (SOA) DIVERSION GRANT FUND

Funds available September 30, 2016

\$0.00

Commission Actions (10/14/16 meeting)

None

Funds available November 30, 2016

\$0.00

Funds available at December 2015 meeting: \$0

SEAL COAT GRANT FUND (Pavement Preservation Program)

Funds available September 30, 2016

\$155,792.18

Commission Actions (10/14/16 meeting)

None

Subtotal

\$0.00

Other Actions

None

Subtotal

\$0.00

Funds available November 30, 2016

\$155,792.18

Funds available at December 2015 meeting: \$155,792.18

HANGAR REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Funds available September 30, 2016

\$544,518.00

Commission Actions (10/14/16 meeting)

None

Subtotal \$0.00

Other Actions

O'Neill HLONL04 - return of unused allocation \$42,740.98

Subtotal \$42,740.98

Receipts

October 2016 (includes O'Neill repymt of advanced \$29, 204.02) \$54,081.02

November 2016 \$23,236.00

Subtotal \$77,317.02

Funds available November 30, 2016 \$664,576.00

Funds available at December 2015 meeting: \$664,443.37

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

FUEL STORAGE LOAN FUND

Funds available September 30, 2016 \$238,929.97

Commission Actions (10/14/16 meeting)

None

Subtotal \$0.00

Other Actions

None

Subtotal \$0.00

Receipts

October 2016 \$2,593.33

November 2016 \$2,593.33

Subtotal \$5,186.66

Funds available November 30, 2016 \$244,116.63

Funds available at December 2015 meeting: \$212,996.67

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

NON-PRIMARY ENTITLEMENT TRANSFER PROGRAM

Funds available September 30, 2016 \$1,031.25

<u>Funds Disbursed</u>	
Pender Airport Authority	-\$75.00
Subtotal	-\$75.00
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Funds available November 30, 2016	\$956.25

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

Federal Projects

Anna Lannin presented the following projects for Millard Airport. The Omaha Airport Authority is requesting Commission approval for the CIP data sheets to be forwarded to the FAA, as required by state statutes. The FAA considers the requests for future federal funding as funds become available. No state funds are requested at this time.

Millard X-02

Scope: Taxilane & Approach Reconstruction

Total Estimated Cost: \$1,400,000

The existing T-hangar taxilanes and approach pavement is in poor condition and has reached the end of its useful life. Newly constructed pavement will extend the useful life of the T-hangars and correct drainage issues that will further extend the life of the new pavement.

Millard X-03

Scope: Taxilane & Approach Reconstruction (Additional Areas)

Total Estimated Cost: \$550,000

The existing T-hangar taxilanes and approach pavement is in poor condition and has reached the end of its useful life. Newly constructed pavement will extend the useful life of the T-hangars and correct drainage issues that will further extend the life of the new pavement.

Commissioner Cook questioned basis of pavement rehab projects. Pavement rehab projects are based on NDA inspections, which are conducted at every airport at least once every three years, and information communicated by the airport sponsor.

Motion by Commissioner Michael Cook to approve the CIP data sheets and forward them to the FAA. Second by Commissioner Dick Trail. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Closed Projects

**Closed Projects
December 9, 2016**

<u>Airport</u>	<u>Original State Allocation</u>	<u>Increase in State Funds Required</u>	<u>Decrease in State Funds Required</u>
Falls City 09 (Widen runway; pave parl txway; lights)	\$ 25,912.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
O'Neill 10 (Storage Hangar)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Oshkosh 10 (PAPI; REIL; beacon)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Totals	\$ 25,912.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Net Decrease - \$0.00

Motion by Commissioner Diane Smith to approve the closed projects. Second by Commissioner Michael Cook. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Election of Chairperson for 2017

Commissioner Anderson nominates Commissioner Cook to be the chairperson of the Nebraska Aeronautics Commission for 2017. Motion by Commissioner Trail to cease nominations and elect Commissioner Cook as chairperson. Second by Commissioner Wachter. Roll call vote. All vote aye. Motion carried.

Tentative Commission Meeting Dates for 2017

February 10
May 5
August 11
October 13
December 8

Department Report

We are planning to hire a pilot to replace Rod deZafra who left in September for a job with JetLynx. Due to our slow flying schedule we won't be working that process until late February or early March, and with the shortage of pilots we are not anticipating the large number of applicants as we have had in the past.

Our flying schedule has slowed during November and now extending into December. Traditionally, flying requirements diminish this time of year but perhaps even more so as all agencies have been asked to curtail unnecessary expenses. This is primarily due to state revenue coming in less than projected and an estimated \$910 million shortfall in general funds for the next two-year state budget, based on the Legislature's spending projections.

What is the impact on our agency? There are 26 agencies, including us, under direct control of Governor Ricketts and all will only receive 96% of their spending allocation. Thus far the impact is only minimal as our revenue stream remains consistent with previous years; however, our spending allocation will be decreased along with the other 25 agencies.

The FAA is investigating limiting the number of Remote Communications Outlets (RCOs) and freeing up frequencies used by them. A study underway states: Currently, there are 1,223 RCOs in the National Airspace System (NAS) used to extend the radio communication capabilities of Flight Service Stations (FSSs). NextGen requires modification to eliminate duplicate, overlapping and seldom used frequencies within RCOs.

At its start, FS had over 400 Flight Service Stations (FSSs) throughout the United States with over 2,100 frequencies. In the 1980s, facilities were consolidated and FS was left with 58 Automated Flight Service Stations (AFSSs) without decommissioning any FS frequencies. In 2005, flight services within CONUS, HI, and PR were contracted out to Lockheed Martin (now Leidos) and over time were consolidated to three hub facilities, which operate 24/7 and two part-time FSSs. Again, this occurred without decommissioning any of the 2,100 frequencies.

Prior to contracting out Flight Service, the inflight position was receiving nearly 10,000 radio contacts a day. Those contacts have decreased to approximately 1,000 a day. Weather briefings and NOTAM information consists of approximately 20 percent of the 1,000 daily radio contacts. Flight plan activation and closure make up over 60 percent of other inflight contacts. In addition, the number of GA pilots is expected to decline by about 5,000 per year over the next two decades while the technology available to pilots continues to improve. Pilots are now able to get weather briefs, NOTAMs, and file, activate, and close flight plans using online services.

Thank you for your service to Nebraskans.

The next meeting is tentatively set for Friday, February 10, 2017 at 1:00 pm CST in the Lincoln office. Motion by Commissioner Cook to adjourn the meeting. Second by Commissioner Trail. Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

Submitted by,

Ronnie Mitchell
Director