



**COLORADO SPRINGS
AIRPORT**

Colorado's small airport

**MINUTES
Airport Advisory Commission
Wednesday, August 25, 2021
3:00PM – 5:00PM
Colorado Springs Airport Conference Room B
(Public Via Teleconference)
Teams Meeting**

VOTING

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Aaron Wood – Chairman
Bill Nichols – Vice Chairman
Hall Ellis – Commissioner
Chic Myers – Commissioner
David L Couch – Commissioner
Mark Volcheff – Commissioner

VOTING

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Michelle Ruehl - Commissioner

NON-VOTING

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Danny Mientka – Alternate Commissioner
Randy Helms – City Council Representative (via Teams)
County Commissioner Carrie Geitner – Liaison
Commissioner (via Teams)

NON-VOTING

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bill Murray – City Council Representative
Wayne Williams – City Council Representative
County Commissioner Stan VanderWerf – Liaison
Commissioner
Dave Elliott – Meadow Lake Airport Liaison

CITY STAFF PRESENTS:

Greg Phillips – Director of Aviation
Michael Gendill – Senior Attorney
Brett Miller – Assistant Director of Aviation
(via Teams)
Ivette Rentas – Customer Relations Coordinator
Kristine Andrews – Environmental Health & Safety
Specialist (via Teams)
Steven Gaeta – Design & Construction Manager
(via Teams)
Joe Nevill – Air Service Development Manager
(via Teams)
Dana Schield – Communications Specialist II
(via Teams)
Chris Padilla – Senior Analyst (via Teams)

GUESTS PRESENT:

Amy Kelley – US Air Force Academy (via Teams)
Patsy Buchwald – Paradies
Other attendees via phone were unknown

I. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 3:01PM AUGUST 25, 2021 by CHAIRMAN WOOD**

Chairman Wood expressed his appreciation and thanked Commissioner Ellis for his past service and contributions to the Commission. Commissioner Ellis's term came to an end and this is his last meeting as an Airport Advisory Commissioner (AAC).

Chairman Wood congratulated City Council Representative Randy Helms on his 65th birthday.

II. **APPROVAL OF THE JULY 28, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Couch made a motion to approve the July 28, 2021 meeting minutes. Vice Chairman Nichols seconded.

Discussion: None

VOTE: **APPROVED (Unanimous, Roll Call Passes 6 Yes).**

III. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- None

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Amy Kelley, US Air Force Academy thanked Commissioner Ellis for his time served on the AAC.
 - The Air Force Academy has prepared an Environmental Assessment draft to evaluate the potential impact associated with conducting parachutes and soaring training on the air space. A draft will be released for public commentary on Monday, August 30, and remain available for review through September 29, on the USA Tenth Air Base Wing website.

V. **NEW BUSINESS AND REPORT ITEMS**

A. **Land Use Review** – Kris Andrews

Kris Andrews presented twelve (12) Land Use Items.

Discussion: During the Land Use presentation, Kris Andrews will clarify the Staff Recommendation/Conditions of Approval for each Land Use Item presented.

Vice Chairman Nichols made a motion to recommend approval of Land Use Items #1 - #16 as presented by airport staff. Commissioner Volcheff seconded.

VOTE: **APPROVED (Unanimous, Roll Call Passed 6 Yes)**

B. Director's Airport Business Report

- **Project Status Report**
 - Airport/Airfield construction report presented by Steven Gaeta.
 - Commissioner Volcheff extended his congratulations to the Project Manager for the IT Room Remodel and Rehabilitation Runway 17R/35L project completed on time and at 95% of the budget.
 - Airport staff and Peterson Air Force Base (PAFB) are closely working together to minimize any impact that may be caused by the Rehabilitation of Taxiway Bravo.

- **Traffic Trend Report**
 - The airline data analysis was presented by Joe Nevill.
 - The traffic trend report is showing a continued increase in air travel.
 - COS had 107,702 enplanements for the month of July. Based on the Department of Transportation (DOT) Data, these are the highest calculations in twenty (20) years.

- **COS Financial Report**
 - COS financial report analysis presented by Chris Padilla.
 - Colorado Springs Airport is beginning to show signs of financial recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Chris Padilla provided an in-depth presentation of the airport's Plan of Finance to the members and guests in attendance at the meeting.

- **Airport Business Development Report**
 - Airport business development report presented by Greg Phillips.
 - Discussions of possible new development throughout the airport continue.
 - General Aviation and Peak Innovation Park development continues throughout the airport.
 - By the year 2022, the airport is anticipating approximately \$3.5 million in revenue from the business park.

C. General Business – Greg Phillips

- The 36th annual Space Symposium is being held on the week of August 22 at the Broadmoor Hotel. Airport shuttles will be used as a backup to assist with transporting guests. The event is expected to attract approximately 8,000 attendees.
- The National Association of State Aviation (NASAO), 90th Annual Convention & Trade Show will be held on September 12th – 15th at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort.
- Greg Phillips, Joe Nevill, and other airport staff will attend the Southwest Airlines Culture Day Event.
- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has extended the mask mandate till January 18, 2022.
- The Colorado Springs Airport has been named the winner of the Balchen/Post Award, a national accolade for outstanding achievement in snow and ice removal.

- City Council will begin interviewing candidates to fill the open Airport Advisory Commission vacancies.
- Greg Phillips thank Commissioner Ellis for his time on the AAC and dedicated support of the aviation community.

D. Chairman’s Report – Chairman Wood

- Moving forward, to save time and be more efficient. The meeting minutes will be condensed. The meeting audio recording is available upon request. Email Ivette Rentas at Ivette.Rentas@coloradosprings.gov;
- Chairman Wood invited the Commission to join in on future discussions of the Airport Master Plan. Additional information and meeting dates are forthcoming.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

- Colorado Aeronautical Board Update – Commissioner Myers
 - Colorado Aeronautical Board (CAB) was pleased to hear that the Rehabilitation Runway 17R/35L project was completed.
 - The Colorado Discretionary Aviation Grant (CDAG) projection is \$8 million statewide for 2022.
 - A \$400 thousand fund has been approved to add ten (10) additional Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) cameras.
 - A \$200 thousand fund has been approved for the study of Alternate Power Infrastructure Requirements.
 - Hydrogen is a mode of power that is actively being developed and considered on a prototype basis.
- Westside Operators Meeting Discussion – Chairman Wood
 - West side tenants are excited to see the completion and re-opening of Runway 17R/35L.
- Washington Update – Commissioner Ruehl
 - None

VII. COMMISSION MEMBERS’ COMMENTS

- Alternate Commissioner Mientka praised Commissioner Ellis for his years of service and wished him the best. He also congratulated airport staff on the Balchen/Post award.
- Commissioner Couch thanked Commissioner Ellis for his years of service.
- Commissioner Ellis expressed the honor to serve on the Airport Advisory Commission for the past seven years and looks forward to the continued growth of General Aviation.
- Vice Chairman Nichols shared that the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Follow-Up Grant had been approved.

VIII. **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

- Chairman Wood echoed previous Commissioner Comments and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to share alongside Commissioner Ellis on the AAC.
- Michael Gendill thanked Commissioner Ellis for his service on AAC.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting at 5:00 PM.

The next meeting date is **Wednesday, September 22, 2021**