



North Dakota Aeronautics Commission

Tuesday, August 6, 2024 – 9:00 AM
Aeronautics Commission Conference Room
Bismarck, ND

Chair Kim Kenville called the meeting of the North Dakota Aeronautics Commission to order at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, August 6th, 2024 and roll call was taken.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Kim Kenville, Chair
Kyle Humann, Member
Warren Pietsch, Member
Rodney Schaaf, Member
Steve Blazek, Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Kyle Wanner, Director
Mike McHugh, Aviation Education Coordinator
Adam Dillin, Airport Planner
Grant Erwin, Airport Planner
Gaye Niemiller, Admin Officer

6/6/24 Meeting Minutes – Approved as is.

Gaye reviewed the financial statements for May and June, 2024.

NDAC Staff Activity Report - Kyle W. provided some high-level highlights of some of the recent NDAC staff activities from the information included within the commissioner's packet of materials.

2025-2027 Proposed Biennium Budget - Kyle W. reviewed the proposed 2025-2027 biennial budget with the commission. This included a base budget request that meets the 3% reduction as requested by the Governor's office. The budget request also included two optional one-time budget requests for additional funds to be requested for airport infrastructure grants. Kyle W. also discussed with the commissioners the need to include carry-over language within the agency bill since the start date for the project at the International Peace Gardens has been moved to the summer of 2025 and the construction and will fall into the next biennium.

Steve provided a motion to approve the base budget and both optional requests and allow Kyle the latitude to request the appropriation needed to continue construction work on the International Peace Garden airport into the next biennium. Kyle H. seconded the motion. All yays, no nays. Motion carried.

NDAC Office Relocation Update - Kyle W. provided information regarding the eventual office relocation. NDAC staff and Commissioners Kyle H. and Rodney were assembled as a site relocation committee. They reviewed the office space rental information that was provided by Bismarck Aero Center (BAC) and Executive Air Taxi. They also toured Executive Air Taxi's proposed office space and asked questions pertaining to how the space can be set up to accommodate our office needs. BAC staff also came into

the NDAC office and reviewed with the committee - a blueprint of a potential new building that could be built to suit. Questions were posed to BAC as well. Kyle W. has requested more information from Executive Air Taxi regarding anticipated price estimates of their office space.

Per the review of the relocation options – the site relocation committee recommends moving forward with negotiations with Bismack Aero Center on their new site construction and building space for NDAC. Additional information will be brought back to the commission when more information is available to continue the process.

State Project Updates –

PCI Study – NDAC received the FAA grant for the PCI study in early July which was the first federal AIP grant received by North Dakota during the current fiscal year. The contract and grant applications have been signed by both Kyle W. and Chair Kim and the project is moving forward with trips being scheduled for airport inspections by the consultant team starting in August.

SASP/Economic Impact Study – NDAC has finalized negotiations with Kimley-horn. The FAA currently has the final grant application, and NDAC staff is waiting for the grant to be awarded.

IPG Airport Pavement Rehab – The International Peace Garden pavement rehabilitation project has been delayed until the construction season of 2025. A \$2.2 million federal AIP grant was received at the end of July. A second federal grant for approximately \$440,000 from the FAA BIL program is expected to be received early in the upcoming federal fiscal year.

Commissioner Reports –

Kyle H. attended the Oshkosh airshow this summer and has been a part of discussions regarding interest in obtaining more high school aviation education programming in the southwest part of the state. There is particular interest in starting up an A&P program for high school students. Mike is having conversations with the Southwest area Career and Technical Center to see what possibilities exist.

Rodney reported that he attended the Williston air show.

Steve thanked all those that attended the Fargo Air Sho and discussed how well the stem exhibit was standing room only with lots of positive support and turned out to be a great investment on the part of the commission.

Other business –

The commission asked if there was an update on the Fort Yates terminal project and Grant provided an update on the current situation which included a new consultant selection process for the airport.

The next commission meeting planned is for October 29th and will also include a board training session to begin at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42am.