



## North Dakota Aeronautics Commission

Thursday February 18, 2021 – 3:30 PM  
Aeronautics Commission Conference Room  
Bismarck, ND

Chairperson Warren Pietsch called the meeting of the North Dakota Aeronautics Commission to order at 3:00 PM on Thursday, February 18, 2021.

### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Warren Pietsch, Chairperson  
Kim Kenville, Member  
Jay B. Lindquist, Member  
Kyle Humann, Member

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

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

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Ryan Thayer – Fargo Air Museum  
Shae Helling – Bismarck Aero Center

Warren called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm and roll call was made.

12/15/2020 Meeting Minutes – Approved as is.

Financial Statements – Gaye reviewed November and December, 2020 financial statements. No changes were requested.

Director Monthly Recap – Kyle provided an update on agency activities since the last commission meeting. He reviewed the FAA meetings that were held in December to discuss airport projects and to finalize the statewide capital improvement plan. He also provided an update on the status of the 2021 PCI Study.

Legislative Updates – The legislative session began in January and Kyle reviewed and provided updates on the proposed Senate and House bills that pertain to aviation, along with the current status of the Commission's proposed budget. Legislative cross-over is set for the end of February.

Aviation Education Grants – Shae Helling was present to discuss the NDAA Bismarck Career Day grant request. Since schools are unable to attend in person this year due to Covid-19 mitigations, they are looking for ways to do a virtual career day this year. They have reached out to a videographer to turn the career day sessions into a video format. There are many advantages to having this professionally

done, and with this format, they can also provide these videos to other schools within the state that would normally not have the opportunity to attend. Warren made a motion to approve. Kim seconded the motion. Kim – y, Jay B. – y, Kyle H.– y, Warren – y. Motion carried.

Ryan Thayer was present to discuss the Fargo Air Museum’s grant request with the Commission. They are looking for a grant to expand their youth camps. He shared their ideas for the additional camp opportunities, and that these additional camps would have a need for more advanced technology to keep up with the advancement of these camps. This require additional equipment to be purchased, and others to be fixed and/or replaced. Warren made a motion to disapprove. Jay B. seconded the motion. Discussion was held and it was noted that Fargo Air Museum still has \$8,000 in AEFAM support within the current fiscal year that they can request reimbursement. Kim – y, Jay B. – y, Kyle – y, Warren – y. Motion to disapprove carried. The Commissioners would like Fargo Air Museum to use up the remaining funds from the 2020 grant and then potentially return to the Commission with an updated request.

PCI Consultant Selection Update – Nels updated the Commission that the agency is moving forward on the PCI Study that is set to begin this summer. The agency will be applying for a federal grant to cover the federally eligible portions of the project. Nels also informed the Commission that the scope is currently being developed and there will be meetings soon with the FAA to review the project documents. Jay B. made a motion to allow the Commission to enter negotiations with the top selected firm, to apply for a federal grant, and to enter into a contract to move forward with the 2021 PCI Study. Warren seconded the motion. Kim – y, Jay B. – y, Kyle – y, Warren – y. Motion carried.

Proposed 2021 State Grant Schedule – Adam reviewed the proposed 2021 state grant schedule with the Commission and also discussed plans for the annual grant meeting to be virtual, similar to last year.

Fly-ND Conference Discussion – Mike gave updates to the Commission regarding the 2021 Fly-ND Conference that will be held virtually on March 8-9, 2021.

Virtual Pass Program Education Grant – Mike reviewed the grant request with the Commission. Initially, the Pass Program for the Aerial Applicator community was canceled for this year. It is required every three years per the Department of Agriculture and also qualifies as the annual safety requirement for the ND Aeronautics Commission. NDAAA submitted a grant request stating that they are now doing a virtual pass program and are asking for \$500 to cover half of the program fees. Jay B. made a motion to disapprove. Warren seconded the motion. Discussion was held. Kim – y, Jay B. – y, Kyle – y, Warren – y. Motion to disapprove carried.

Commission Portfolio Reports – No reports were made.

Other Business – Next meeting is tentatively planned for May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting at 2:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45pm.