



**May 1, 2009  
Colorado Springs Municipal Airport  
Colorado Springs, Colorado**

**BOARD MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Harold Patton            Chairman  
Dennis Heap            Secretary  
Louis Spera  
Joseph Thibodeau  
Dave Ubell  
Debra Wilcox

**MEMBER ABSENT:**

Dale Hancock            Vice Chair

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Travis Vallin	Director, CDOT-Division of Aeronautics
Scott Brownlee	CDOT-Division of Aeronautics
Christine Eldridge	CDOT-Division of Aeronautics
TK Gwin	CDOT-Division of Aeronautics
Nikki Koplitz	CDOT-Division of Aeronautics
Shahn Sederberg	CDOT-Division of Aeronautics
John Sweeney	CDOT-Division of Aeronautics
Kaitlyn Westendorf	CDOT-Division of Aeronautics
Richard Baker	Fremont County Airport
Tim Barth	City of Longmont
Lori Beckman	Aviation Security Consultants
Doug Davies	Rio Grande County
Jim Elwood	Aspen – Pitkin County
Robert Hagedorn	Rio Grande County
Tom Haefeli	Del Norte Airport

Mike Hurst	Del Norte Economic Development Council
Lea Mason	CDOT – Audit
Don McCallister	Del Norte Airport
Dennis Murphy	Rio Grande County
Bill Payne	William Payne & Associates
Casey Tighe	CDOT – Audit
Bill Totten	Colorado Pilots Association

1. Meeting commenced at 11:16 A.M. Harold Patton stated that a quorum is present and noted that Dale Hancock is absent.

2. ***APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

Harold told the Board that he would entertain a MOTION to approve the minutes from the CAB meeting on January 29, 2009. Joseph Thibodeau made the MOTION to approve the minutes and Dennis Heap seconded.

The MOTION carried unanimously.

3. ***AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA***

There are no amendments to the agenda.

4. ***BOARD MEMBER REPORTS***

Louis Spera said that Pueblo Memorial Airport is preparing to rehabilitate the main runway, a portion of the crosswind runway and the ramp. The project is expected to last 80 days. Debra Wilcox visited Australia recently and had the opportunity to tour a general aviation airport while there. Dave Ubell spoke briefly about the 'through-the-fence' issue that Montrose Regional Airport has been dealing with for some time. Dennis Heap announced that the Blue Angels will not be able to participate in the Front Range 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Air Show. It was determined by Front Range, Denver International Airport (DIA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the airlines, that the impact on airspace would just be too great. Dennis thanked Travis Vallin for the assistance he provided in this decision. Joseph Thibodeau said that a new motor for his P51 is due to arrive today and hopefully it will be installed within the next week.

Joseph also said that on May 26<sup>th</sup>, the Air Force Academy will be graduating their 51<sup>st</sup> class and that they have requested a flight showcasing P51 airplanes, one of which will be Joseph's.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Travis Vallin advised the Board that six Colorado airports have received federal grants totaling approximately \$40 million dollars of stimulus money. Travis recently attended a Club 20 meeting to speak about Phase II of the Mountain Radar Project. He also said that he's been to Washington D.C. three times since our last Board meeting, working on the radar project. Travis advised that he'd recently met with the Eagle County Commissioners reference the airspace and tower issues. Travis also attended the CAB Confirmation Hearings for Dennis Heap and Joseph Thibodeau, both of whom were confirmed for another three year term. Travis recently met with Fort Collins-Loveland Airport about some air traffic control tower issues. In March, Travis went to Seattle and gave a presentation to the FAA Northwest Mountain Region on Phase I of the Mountain Radar Project. Travis recently spoke at the Southeast Business Partnership Breakfast, which was attended by Debra Wilcox. In late March, Travis attended the NASAO Legislative Conference in Washington D.C., where he gave a presentation about AWOS. Travis also recently attended the first ever "DIA State of the Airport" conference.

**7. BUDGET UPDATE – NIKKI KOPLITZ**

Nikki Koplitz advised the Board that their packets contained budget information, along with a graph outlining sales tax revenue, which is more than initially estimated. Therefore, Nikki requested that the Board increase the spending authority for FY 2009 from the originally estimated \$27 million to \$33 million. Debra Wilcox made the MOTION to approve this request and Louis Spera seconded.

The MOTION carried unanimously.

**8. AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS – TRAVIS VALLIN**

Harold Patton took a moment to acknowledge that the Board had appointed two of its members to review the Conflict of Interest forms presented to them at the January CAB meeting, but that has not been finalized as of yet. Harold stated that it is a high priority for the Board and will be accomplished as soon as possible. Casey Tighe and Lea Mason, with the CDOT Audit Division, introduced themselves to the Board. Casey advised the Board that his staff has been working with the Division on the recommendations from the Office of the State Auditor and providing Russ George with a monthly status report. Lea Mason explained that the purpose of the report is to show the progress the Division is making toward fulfilling the recommendations of the State Auditor. Lea said that the latest report focuses on the passage of HB 1066 and how that takes care of some of the recommendations; specifically the DIA surplus issue and the registration of aircraft in Colorado. Lea advised the Board that the passage of HB 1066 did not clear up the requirement for airports to certify the *on airport only* use of aviation tax funds. The intent is to handle this through a self certification statement on reimbursement forms for each airport. A second issue centered around fuel tax reimbursements for privately owned public use airports. After considerable discussion, the auditors felt that HB 1066 would not clear up the matter concerning taxes collected before the bill takes effect on August 5, 2009 and would require a finding from the Attorney General's (AG) office. Although Travis and the Board did not agree with the auditors' interpretation, they agreed to seek the opinion of the AG. The auditors proposed that the Board choose one Board member to be a liaison with the audit office. The Board preferred to have all matters concerned with the audit to be handled through the Director or his designee. It was decided that the Board, Division staff and the auditors would meet in mid-May to further discuss audit findings and explore the means and methods of compliance.

**9. MOUNTAIN RADAR-PHASE II FUNDING UPDATE – TRAVIS VALLIN**

Travis advised the Board that Phase I of the mountain radar project is nearing a successful end and it is time to set in motion Phase II. Travis and Bill Payne recently met with FAA officials in Washington D.C. to discuss logistics and funding for Phase II. As a result of discussions with FAA management, Travis said that we prefer to use a service provider option to move forward with Phase II. This comes at a cost of about \$12.1 million dollars. The Division can provide up to \$9 million

dollars from the State Infrastructure Bank, as a result of HB 1066. Travis and Bill have an appointment to return to Washington D.C. on May 27<sup>th</sup> to complete negotiations with the FAA for the additional \$4.1 million dollars. Travis and Bill are optimistic that the \$12.1 million dollars will leverage an additional \$46 million of FAA dollars and result in radar service to the following airports: Alamosa, Aspen, Cortez, Durango, Gunnison, Montrose and Telluride. This report was well received by the Board.

**10. ASPEN OUT OF CYCLE GRANT REQUEST – TRAVIS VALLIN**

Travis Vallin introduced Jim Ellwood, manager of the Aspen-Pitkin County Airport and Lori Beckman with Aviation Security Consultants. Aspen would like to participate in the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Biometric Airport Security Interoperability Consortium (BASIC) Pilot Program. Having a Colorado airport in the pilot program will allow influence in the final credentialing program that will be required by TSA. This would also be a great resource for other Colorado commercial service airports that will be included in the TSA program once it has been finalized. The Division will also be able to plan for potential costs and impacts to other Colorado commercial service airports before it is made mandatory. This project will meet the goal in the system plan, to help promote an aviation system that is secure. Aspen is requesting an 80/20 split, with the CDAG amount totaling \$164,000. Joseph Thibodeau made the MOTION to approve this request and Dennis Heap seconded.

The MOTION carried unanimously.

**11. CRAWFORD FUEL TAX REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST – NIKKI KOPLITZ**

This request has been postponed until August.

**12. DIA SURPLUS SALE FUNDING REQUEST – SHAHN SEDERBERG**

Shahn Sederberg advised the Board that DIA has recently made available several pieces of surplus airport equipment and Colorado airports will have the first opportunity to purchase the equipment before it is open for public auction. There will be 32 pieces of equipment available for the sale scheduled on May 13<sup>th</sup>. The Division is requesting an amount not to exceed \$250,000 to be allocated for 50/50 grants to airports who wish to purchase this

equipment. Shahn stated that this will be a great benefit to the aviation system in Colorado. The Board advised the staff that they would like to see information on which airports obtained what equipment and at what price, once the contracts are finalized. Debra Wilcox made the MOTION to approve this request and Dave Ubell seconded. Dennis Heap abstained from this vote.

The MOTION carried unanimously.

**13. *DEL NORTE OUT OF CYCLE GRANT REQUEST – JOHN SWEENEY***

John Sweeney introduced Rio Grande County Commissioner Dennis Murphy and Del Norte Economic Development Council Chairman Mike Hurst to the Board. Mike Hurst briefed the Board about a recent Community Forum which was held to see what type of community support there is for 'Fixed Wing Air Evacuation'. Mike advised that they had an excellent turn out, consisting of approximately forty to fifty people, including representatives from the Rio Grande Hospital and Congressman Salazar's office, as well as from the Division. Currently the airport is not being used for emergency air transportation due to the length of the runway. The ability to use the airport would significantly reduce transportation time for patients by about one to one and a half hours. Rio Grande County is requesting an 80/20 split with the CDAG amount totaling \$249,792 to begin Phase 1 of a proposed three phase project for a new runway. The Division staff is in support of this project. Joseph Thibodeau made the MOTION to approve this request and Louis Spera seconded.

The MOTION carried unanimously.

**14. *LONGMONT PRAIRIE DOG UPDATE – TK GWIN***

TK Gwin briefed the Board about a worsening prairie dog problem at Vance Brand Airport in Longmont. They were given a letter by the FAA Denver Airports District Office in 2001 outlining this problem. Since then, the prairie dogs have become out of control. They are causing a significant safety hazard due to surface damage in the runway safety zones and attract predators, both birds and mammals. TK recommended to the Board that no more grant money be approved for Longmont until they solve this issue. Tim Barth, the Longmont Airport Manager, briefed the Board on their corrective action plan. The Board expressed concern over the situation and advised Tim that he needs to correct the problem and they would direct staff to re-inspect after the prairie dog problem is corrected.

**15. LEADVILLE 09-LXV-01 SCOPE OF WORK CHANGE –  
SCOTT BROWNLEE**

Scott Brownlee advised the Board that Lake County Airport was awarded a grant last fall for primary utility installation to the Airport. The \$250,000 grant was to match federal dollars for water line installation, including fire protection and provide additional funding for other primary utilities (sanitary sewer, natural gas and three phase power) to the Airport. Subsequent to the grant being signed the County began moving forward on the project design and discovered a problem. The main line that was going to be tied into did not have sufficient pressure or flow. This discovery requires the water line to tie in a different location which is twice the distance from the Airport. As a result, the County would like to shift all of the State grant funds to the water line portion of the project and pursue other funds for the remainder of the utilities. This request will not alter the amount of funding granted to Lake County. Joseph Thibodeau made the MOTION to approve this request and Dennis Heap seconded.

The MOTION carried unanimously.

**16. FORT MORGAN 08-FMM-01 SCOPE OF WORK CHANGE –  
TK GWIN**

TK Gwin said that one element of the 2008 Grant for Fort Morgan was to purchase a 24 hour card reader for the fuel system. When the contractor looked at the fuel system to provide an estimate, he discovered several problems with the existing fuel system that create an environmental and safety issue. Fort Morgan is requesting that the Board approve a change of scope to allow these repairs in place of the card reader. They are not asking for an increase in the \$26,500 from the original grant. The Division staff is in support of this request. Louis Spera made the MOTION to approve this request and Joseph Thibodeau seconded.

The MOTION carried unanimously.

**17. FORT COLLINS 09-FNL-01 SCOPE OF WORK CHANGE –  
TK GWIN**

TK Gwin presented a request from Fort Collins – Loveland Municipal Airport to change the scope of their 2009 Grant.

The original scope was for taxiway maintenance. During the winter, the airport had some damage to parts of the runway that are in need of repair. Expanding the scope to include the runway will make it more efficient for the airport to accomplish the required repairs. There was no request for additional funds and the scope change will continue to meet systems plan requirements. Debra Wilcox made the MOTION to approve this request and Dennis Heap seconded.

The MOTION carried unanimously.

#### **18. PROPOSED CALENDAR**

Travis Vallin asked the Board to look at their calendars to see if they and the staff, along with the Internal CDOT Auditors could find a date to meet for a workshop session, to continue to discuss and comply with the audit preformed by the Office of State Audit.

Travis also mentioned the Colorado Airport Operator's Association Spring Conference, to be held June 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> in Gunnison. Although there is no Board meeting scheduled at the conference, he advised that the Division has the budget to pay for one Board member to attend.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 26<sup>th</sup> at the Eagle County Regional Airport.

#### **19. OTHER MATTERS BY MEMBERS**

Dennis Heap took a moment to express his concern about the TSA Security Directive and its impact to General Aviation. The Board agreed that this issue is critical and will be further addressed at the upcoming workshop.

#### **20. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 P.M.