



Salida Airport at Harriet Alexander Field

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Airport Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

June 26, 2024

9:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order

Steve Bush called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Those present in person were Airport Manager Zech Papp, Tara Miller, Steve Bush, Dennis Dempsey, Jerry Cunningham, Charles Collman, Randall Cone, Barabara Struble, Michael Marino, Shawn O'Day, Chaffee County Administrator Don Reimer, and Airport employee Ethan Smith. Participating in the meeting via zoom were Jim Barker and Commissioner P.T. Wood.

2. Minutes for Approval

Dennis Dempsey moved to approve the May 22, 2024, Meeting Minutes. Barbara Struble seconded the motion. All approved.

3. Public Comments

None.

4. New Business

- a. Airport Staffing – Zech stated that three applicants were interviewed on June 20th for the open part-time position at the Airport. A hiring decision will be made soon.
- b. Airport Award Presentation – At the Colorado Airport Operator's Conference, CDOT awarded the Airport with the Airport of the Year Award. CDOT will be here on July 9th to present the award at the County Commissioner meeting. The City of Salida will also attend the meeting for the award presentation.

5. Old Business

- a. Fuel Farm / Taxiway A Design, Environmental, Engineering (CDOT) – Zech stated that these projects are fully underway. The kickoff meeting was a little over a month ago. Once the projects are environmentally cleared by the FAA, the full design can begin. The fuel farm project will likely go out for bid this fall or winter, and the taxiway project will likely go out for bid early next year. Construction is anticipated to begin next spring for both projects.



- b. 2025 Budget / Project Costs – Zech stated that he’s still working on the 2025 budget presentation for the City of Salida and coordinating a date for that meeting. They will be discussing the possibility of infrastructure for the area that’s to be developed, which could potentially include water, power and sub-taxiways for the hangar developments.
- c. Salida Airport Board Mission Statement – Zech has not completed this yet. It will be discussed at next month's meeting.
- d. Salida Airport SOP & Guiding Documents – Zech stated that this is an ongoing project. He has been working with Lynda Knowles in the Chaffee County Attorney’s Office and also needs to speak with the new Salida Fire Chief.

6. Manager’s Report – Activities during last month; statistics of prior months; updates; other projects – Zech gave a brief manager’s report, stating that fuel sales are standard and there was a lot of traffic over the last week.

On June 28th, Zech will be heading to Alamosa to pick up the state’s crack fill machine. Two pallets of crack fill material were purchased last year, and the state’s program will pay 90% of the purchase price for that material, up to \$10,000. That program will cover most of the purchase price. Staff from the Buena Vista Airport will likely be coming to the Salida Airport to observe when the machine is being used.

There have been some issues with the mowers at the Airport, and they are going to demo a 72-inch mower from Ace Hardware.

Michael Marino inquired about how the Airport of the Year Award was publicized. Zech stated that CDOT posted it on all of their social media platforms, he posted it on his social media pages, and CDOT will be at the meeting on July 9th to present the award. KKTV in Colorado Springs had a story on the award as well. Since receiving the award, Zech has received several calls from developers interested in building additional hangars. Administrator Reimer suggested that Zech reach out to the Mountain Mail to let them know about the award presentation on July 9th and speak with Deputy Administrator Beth Helmke about generating a press release.

Shawn O’Day stated that he has attempted to pitch a story about the Airport and the area to Fly Magazine. He hasn’t heard back from the magazine yet, but he will follow up with a note about the Airport of the Year Award.

Jim Barker stated that he can put word out about the award on the Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association (AOPA) news wire. Zech will send the press release to the Board once he and Deputy Administrator Helmke have it completed so it can be sent to the (AOPA) news wire.

Randall Cone inquired about the Cattle Creek Subdivision that’s being developed near the Airport. Administrator Reimer stated that there are automatically height limitations, and there should be avigation easements and a notice on the plat that



calls out the fact that the property is close to an airport. Zech stated that there is a document that must be signed when someone purchases a lot in the subdivision acknowledging that they are aware of the close proximity to the airport.

7. **Adjourn** – There being no further meeting business, Jerry Cunningham moved to adjourn at 9:16 a.m. Steve Bush seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Miller

Tara Miller
Secretary to the Airport Board