

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Discussion of Airport Issues**  
**November 5, 2014**  
**10:30 a.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Todd Tondee, Commissioner Dan Green, and Commissioner Jai Nelson met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Clerk Jim Brannon, Interim Airport Director Phil Cummings, Airport Advisory Board President John Adams, T-O Engineers Project Manager J.R. Norvell and Planning Services Leader Chris Pomeroy, Reynolds, Smith and Hills, Inc. Senior Aviation Consultant Steven Domino, and Deputy Clerks Courtney McKinnie and Daniel Robertson. Commissioner Elect David Stewart, Citizen Greg Delavan, and Coeur d'Alene Press Reporter Jeff Selle were also in attendance.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Tondee called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.
- B. Introductions:** Chairman Tondee asked the attendees to introduce themselves.
- C. Changes to the Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda.
- D. Old Business:** There was no old business discussed.
- E. New Business:**  
Chairman Tondee explained that Reynolds, Smith and Hills, Inc. (RS&H) Senior Aviation Consultant Steven Domino was attending the meeting as an advisor on the Airport Master Plan (AMP) and the challenges the County has faced in gaining support for the planned airport land acquisition. Commissioner Green said that it would be beneficial to gain an outside perspective as there was mistrust between the various organizations involved.

Mr. Domino indicated that in order to resolve these conflicts it would be important to listen to the concerns of the community and stakeholders, and to identify the community's vision for the airport. He said that the primary driver of the vision would be the Board of County Commissioners as the owners of the airport.

The attendees discussed the importance of educating and communicating with local organizations such as the City of Hayden and the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization (KMPO) in order to gain support for the airport. The key areas discussed were:

- The recent Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) policy changes regarding roads in the Runway Protection Zone
- The importance of airports acquiring land in order to ensure community safety, allow for future development, and maintain financial sustainability by generating revenue rather than relying on tax dollars
- The plans for extending the runways may not be implemented for 20 years or more, although acquiring land now will enable that future use
- The importance of local communities planning around the airport, rather than limiting the airport's growth through development

- The affect of runway length on the type and capacity of aircraft operating in the airport
- Whether commercial airline services, especially commuter service, could be attracted to the airport with a longer runway
- The importance of FAA funds to the operation of the airport
- Recent Idaho legislation directing communities to consider airports in their planning processes
- How the airport's ability to serve the community may be diminished if the plans for Huetter Road do not change, and the financial and environmental impact of changing these plans
- The fact that the planned land acquisition would not predetermine the runway length

Chairman Tondee advised that two (2) new Commissioners will take office in January, 2015 and that the Board's vision for the airport may change.

Chairman Tondee stated that the FAA was recommending that the Environmental Assessment (EA) be put on hold until other issues could be resolved. Airport Advisory Board President John Adams clarified that the EA is the last step required before acquiring and said some local organizations are using public comment to delay the process. The attendees discussed options for hiring Mr. Domino to consult with the County to resolve these conflicts, and Mr. Domino said he would send a proposed scope of work to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Nelson said a telephone conference with the FAA was scheduled directly following this meeting, and asked the attendees to review six (6) items pertaining to the airport before the teleconference. Chairman Tondee said that he would call a recess so that attendees could discuss these topics over lunch.

Commissioner Elect David Stewart left the meeting at 11:59 p.m.

Chairman Tondee recessed the meeting at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 12:10 p.m.

The attendees discussed six (6) topics to be addressed in the meeting with the FAA:

- **Status of current airport EA for land acquisition:** T-O Engineers Project Manager J.R. Norvell reported that they had stopped working on the EA at the FAA's advice. Commissioner Nelson noted that T-O Engineers works for the County, not the FAA. Mr. Domino advised resuming work on the EA, as communicating with community stakeholders is part of the process for completing the EA.
- **Previous airport planning process (2013 approved Airport Layout Plan):** The attendees reviewed technical drawings for the AMP and ALP, and discussed the differences.
- **Runway approach land protection**
- **Huetter and Ramsey Road planned improvements:** The attendees discussed the planned location for Huetter Road before and after the change in FAA guidance, and the City Of Hayden's concerns about changing the plans.
- **Potential next steps, including on-site meeting with community stakeholders**

- **Status of Sustainability Master Plan:** Mr. Norvell indicated that the FAA would be asking about whether the County would be moving forward with the scope of work. The attendees discussed the process for developing a Sustainability Master Plan, and how the community outreach portion of this process would be similar to the process for developing the Airport Master Plan. They also discussed whether the AMP and ALP could be updated during this process.

**F. Public Comment:** This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

TODD TONDEE, CHAIRMAN

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Robertson, Deputy Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_