

## **AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **Minutes**

**Meeting Held on Thursday April 7, 2023**

10:00 AM

Angel Fire Airport

Owned and Operated by Colfax County, New Mexico

1. Call to Order: 10:10 am
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call: Jeffrey Gilmer, Jay Mitchell, Mark Manley, Monte Gore, Pete Dunavan, and Brett Wier.
4. Approval of the last meeting agenda: Voted all in favor.
5. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes: February 17, 2023, Meeting: Voted all in favor.
6. Recognize Visitors and Guests: Dr. Jacqueline Boyd, Fraser McPhee, Roger Smith, Mike Provine and Virginia Strohm.
7. Public Comment: None recalled.
8. New Business
  - a. Furniture disposal and replacement: Some discussion regarding county procurement policy and lack of a quick path for payment and reimbursement. No further actions were discussed.
  - b. Discussion/Action recommendation of Jay Mitchell and Jeff Gilmer as 1099 hires and their submission of any pay invoices to the county: It was noted that Mr. Mitchell and Gilmer had spent time conducting snowplowing activities and had to be "employed" by the county for insurance coverage, but both declined to forward pay requests for their hours work, thus donating their time to the county. No objections were raised for the continuance of this practice.
  - c. Airplanner's Zoom call. Mr. Dan Rakes asked for Airplanner's, an aviation consultant firm, to speak to the committee. The discussion was regarding Angel Fire Resorts generous offer to pay for Airplanner's consultation expertise and their role in how they could help for Colfax County to further the N.M. State grant process for a 14 CFR part 135 scheduled airline at Angel Fire Airport. A unanimous committee agreement was expressed to Colfax County Commissioner and Manager that this should be utilized.
9. Old Business

FAA and NMDOT grant update: Mr. Mike Provine provided the committee with an update on both grant funding from the FAA and progress on work being completed. Central was a list of items that were completed to bring the airport into FAA compliance. Runway edge lights are 98%, taxiway and ramp surface treatment funding should be forthcoming, rotating beacon will have to be replaced and most of the other projects on the list have been accomplished.

Mr. McPhee, (former airport manager) raised issues that that he had worked on the negative findings outlined in the FAA report, that was adamantly denied by the county manager. The county Manager stated that they had corrected most is the findings after the departure of the airport manager with the exception of beacon, windsock & rodents which were currently being addressed. Additionally, a significant number of shrubs and low trees were removed at the North end of the runway. This committee is grateful that the work is slowly being accomplished as we see a fully functional airport by all safety standards as vital to progress.

**Snow plowing:** Most of winter 2022-23 Angel Fire Airport was without a functional snowplow, this was compounded by a heavy snow season. Snow plowing efforts were pick up by the Colfax Road and Bridge department with multiple equipment to the airport to clear the runways on two major storms. Additionally, discussion was focused on the status of the plow for the county front loader. The plow was ordered and when it finally came to the airport, the wrong plow had been ordered by the repair company and had to go back to be fitted properly.

Hangar bid/construction update: No new news.

Fuel truck repair and new order status. Both fuel trucks were inoperative for a significant amount of time in the last quarter. Repairs were ongoing and one of the two trucks was expected to be back in service within the week. There was some discussion regarding the new truck that was ordered and expected to be delivered in 6-8 months. The discussion was centered on when the initial grant contract was to be initiated by the county. It was stated that the county left the contract to go stale thus causing a delay in the buildout and delivery and additional cost. The county manager denied that had happened and explained the counties efforts, no resolution was achieved. (Note: since this meeting the airport manager was informed that the new truck will be delivered in October 2023).

#### 10. Airport Manager's Update

- a. Sales and Traffic Update for March: Fuel sales continue at more than an 85% drop from the previous year, which corresponds to traffic losses due to runway closures and perilous conditions because of snowplowing operations.
- b. Fuel Status: Fuel stocks were good because of lack of demand.
- c. Hangar Update – plan for rebid/combine with fire station: Mr. Gore stated that he had gone back to the FAA for approval to build out the station and that an update should be available by the next meeting
- d. On-going Building Improvements/Updates: Nothing noted or discussed.

- e. New Refueler update: 6-8 months out. Again, this elicited a discussion about why the refuel truck had not been ordered as the original contract was created under Mr. McPhee's employment.
  - f. New Gas Dispenser Shelter Grant: Still under consideration.
11. Board Member Announcements/Updates: None
  12. Next Meeting – August 17<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am was agreed on.
  13. Adjourn: 11:50 am