



**COLORADO SPRINGS
AIRPORT**

Colorado's small airport

**MINUTES
Airport Advisory Commission
Wednesday, September 22, 2021
3:00PM – 5:00PM
Colorado Springs Airport Conference Room B
(Public Via Teleconference)
Teams Meeting**

VOTING COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: 4

Chairman Aaron Wood, Vice Chairman Bill Nichols, Commissioner Chic Myers,
and Commissioner David L Couch (via Teams)

I. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 3:00PM SEPTEMBER 22, 2021 by CHAIRMAN
WOOD**

II. **APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 25, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

Vice Chairman Nichols made a motion to approve the August 25, 2021 meeting minutes.
Commissioner Myers seconded.

Discussion: Request made by Amy Kelley – US Air Force Academy to amend the
August 25, 2021 meeting minutes (section IV, first bullet point), to read, and soaring
training on the air space.

VOTE: **APPROVED (Unanimous, Roll Call Passes 4 Yes).**

III. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- None

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Wayne Heilman – The Gazette, expressed joy for the return of in person meetings.
- Patsy Buchwald – Paradies, reiterated Wayne Heilman's comment.

V. **NEW BUSINESS AND REPORT ITEMS**

A. **Land Use Review** – Kris Andrews

Kris Andrews presented ten (10) Land Use Items.

Discussion: Commissioner Myers shared his concerns of possible lighting interference of Land Use Item 8, request by Land Development Consultants LLC on behalf of Circle K Stores, Inc, for approval of the Circle K at Powers & Aeroplaza Development Plan. The property is located at the northwest corner of Powers Boulevard and Aeroplaza Drive intersection.

Greg Phillips shared that because the property is located northwest of Powers Boulevard and Aeroplaza Drive, it is not in the runway safety area. Airport staff will provide additional information on the lighting plan at the October AAC meeting.

Vice Chairman Nichols made a motion to recommend approval of Land Use Items #1 - #10 as presented by airport staff. Commissioner Myers seconded.

VOTE: APPROVED (Unanimous, Roll Call Passed 4 Yes)

B. **Director's Airport Business Report**

• **Project Status Report**

- Airport/Airfield construction report presented by Steven Gaeta.
- Aviation is preparing master plan according to schedule.
- Master Plan chapters 1, 2, and 3 are expected to be completed by the end of October 2021.
- Aviation was acquired by Woolpert
- Beginning October 2021, the Airport Advisory Commission will meet at 2:00PM, one hour prior to the 3:00PM AAC meeting, to review current Master Plan task updates.
- COS is beginning to see minor delays at Transportation Security Administration (TSA) checkpoint due to TSA staffing shortage at Denver International airport (DIA), as Colorado Springs Transportation Security Officers (TSO) are being sent to Denver for coverage.

• **Traffic Trend Report**

- The airline data analysis was presented by Joe Nevill.
- The traffic trend report is showing a slight decrease in air travel due to seasonality.
- COS had 96,286 enplanements for the month of August, 24% over 2019.
- Frontier announced non-stop flights to Orlando International airport (MCO) four times per week, beginning November 5, 2021.
- Commissioner Myer's congratulated Wayne Heilman, Gazette, for bringing well-written COS updates to the community.
- Joe Nevill attended a in person Airport Roundtable of peer airports in Tulsa, the week of September 12th. Group share of ideas and opportunities.

- Greg Phillips, Joe Nevill, and additional airport staff will attend a Culture Day with Southwest executive staff in October at Dallas Worth airport (DFW).
- **COS Financial Report**
 - COS financial report analysis presented by Chris Padilla.
 - Vice Chairman Nichols asked that data points be added for the higher discrepancies with the main drivers that are affecting this trend; more explanations/detail.
 - Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) funding is currently being used for operational needs and payroll. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSSA) and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding utilized for operational needs and debt.
 - COS staff continues to review the Plan of Finance that was presented at the August 2021 AAC meeting.
 - COS airport staff are discussing the 2021 holiday parking promotion and 2022 parking rates.
 - Due to the continued shortage of staffing Valet parking remains closed.
- **Airport Business Development Report**
 - Airport business development report presented by Troy Stover.
 - Negotiations and discussions of three new projects/developments on the General Aviation (GA) side continue to move forward.
 - There is continued interest of hangar development on the GA side.
 - Peak Innovation Park has 150 acres of negotiation in discussion. Discussion ensued regarding the usage of the land and businesses possibly joining the business park.
 - Mountain Metro added two additional stops and extended their daily bus service to Amazon building and COS airport.

C. General Business – Greg Phillips

- City direction on COVID procedures; COS will continue to follow federal mandate requirements through January 18, 2022.
- Email recognition received for the Badging Office for their quick service. Thank you, Scott Lawrence and Nicole Helme!
- Acknowledgement and thanks extended to the Marketing team for their “Shout Out” program development.
- National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) conference was held last week at Cheyenne Mountain Conference Resort hosted by CDOT Aeronautics and COS. First time in 90 years the event was hosted in Colorado. Greg Phillips provided comment from two attendees and thanked the Marketing team for their involvement in the event.
- Greg Phillips introduced his new Executive Assistant, Jennifer Cook. Moving forward Jennifer will be the liaison for AAC. Please contact her at jennifer.cook@coloradosprings.gov

D. Chairman’s Report – Chairman Wood

- The Commissioner shared the importance of the commissions support of the

- Master plan development and strategy planning.
- Chairman Wood and Greg Phillips are in discussion to fill vacant commission positions. Additional information forthcoming.
- Thank you extended to Ivette Rentas for all her contributions to the AAC.

VI. **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Colorado Aeronautical Board (CAB) Update – Commissioner Myers
 - The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) initiated the Continuous Lower Energy, Emissions and Noise (CLEEN) Program. Partnership developed between the FAA and General Electric (GE) to develop substantiable aviation fuel technologies.
 - FAA partnering with Pratt Whitney to develop improved technologies for engines.
 - Rolls Royce had the first flight of their all electric test aircraft, Spirit of Aviation.
 - CAB approved initial funding for the study of recharging stations for electric aircraft.
 - Governor Jared Polis and the CAB are holding discussions regarding unleaded aviation fuel vs leaded fuel and the probability of including refining capability to Colorado for sustainable aviation fuel.
- Washington Update – Commissioner Ruehl
 - None

VII. **COMMISSION MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

- Alternate Commissioner Mientka extended accolade to Troy Stover on his creative skillset and leadership in the growth of the business park.

VIII. **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

- Chairman Wood thanked all in attendance.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting at 4:41 P.M.

The next meeting date is **Wednesday, October 27, 2021**