

WHITE PINE COUNTY AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

Date: Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Ely Jet Center

Present: Lloyd Phillips, Tim Parish, and Airport Manager Lance Gale

Also Present: Geri Wopschall, Dan Netcher, Tim Keough with USDA, Richard Barber, Mike Coster, and Lori Romero, Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Tim Parish called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

1.*DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: MINUTES-CORRECTION AND/OR APPROVAL: February 5, 2019

Lloyd Phillips made the motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Tim Parish seconded the motion. All approved.

2. INFORMATION ONLY: Airport Usage Report

Tim Parish presented the Airport Usage spreadsheet. Lance inquired if night activity is reflected in the report. Tim stated he does record it if he knows about it, but feels what maybe missed is very low.

3. INFORMATION ONLY: Report on Ely Air Races Committee Meeting Regarding the Ely Air Races for June 13-15, 2019

Lance Gale reported advertisement is out and the need to promote ticket sales. To date sixteen F1 pilots are to participate. The Ely Air Races will be a family event with a carnival, tether rides, T-6 Military providing rides, SUU College will have a helicopter and plane, a mini jet, glider flights, drone demonstrations, and a flight simulator. Las Vegas Harley Davison may host a biker run and there may be a peddle bike race on the taxiway. The air racing planes create so much heat while racing that they need a two hour cool down before they can race again. The other events planned will help fill the gaps between races.

Tickets are \$15 per day for White Pine residents and \$20 for others. RV parking is \$50 a night. The airport will be closed approximately from 7:30 to 2:30 pm for the races and activities. All med flights will be accommodated as needed.

This year the races will be left hand turns only according to the FAA. As a result of this decision the course will be moved approximately 500 feet to the north and the pylons will be increased in height. Tim inquired with moving the race course to the north would the hangar still have to be cleared. It was confirmed the hangar would still need to be cleared.

The F1 crew will be coming to visit the airport and meet with all the members for a “planning day” within the next 21 days. They want to see the new construction and improvements made since last year. On March 14, 2019 at 6:30 pm at the convention center will be a volunteer night for the volunteers of the event. About 30 volunteers are needed.

4. INFORMATION ONLY: Update on Airport Capital Improvement Projects

Lance reported in April grooving, re-stripe, runway numbers and grading will be completed. This will take about two days. There will be an inspection once completed and signed off.

A 24 hour lighting test was completed. Lights were on high intensity for 28 hours and no issues occurred.

The next project will be the crack sealing of the south apron after July 1, 2019.

5. INFORMATION ONLY: Report on Airplane Crash Just North East of the Airport on February 15, 2019

Lance Gale stated he gave his report to the FAA and the NTSB on February 15th explaining at approximately 4:30 to 5:00 in the afternoon a plane tried to land here at the airport. Tim and Lance were completing snow removal at the airport when an aircraft came on the radio. The person did not give his airplane number so it is unknown rather it was the plane that crashed. The plane crashed above Gonder Substation at approximately 5:04. It is believed the pilot may have thought the lights on the substation was the airport.

Misinformation is being reported from the ASOS. There have been times when the visibility wasn't what the ASOS was reporting it to be.

6. INFORMATION ONLY: Updates/Reports from Steve Stork, Commission Liaison

Steve was not present.

7. INFORMATION ONLY: Report from the Airport Manager

Lance Gale reported:

1. ASOS was back online Friday and back off on Saturday resulting in no visibility report. It should be repaired on the Friday the 8th. UPS and Med Flight require some type of airport weather station in working condition be available at the airport. The airport can have an individual certified for weather observation as backup. Lance will be taking a course to become certified to serve in this capacity.
2. A report was filed to the FAA by Med Flight pilot stating the airport should be closed due to snow. Lance's response was he plows the snow to keep the airport open. Keeping the airport open is Lance's number one priority due to the number of Med Flights and airport activity. Tim suggested NOTAMs be provided stating the runway conditions. Lance stated he has done this in the past.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS: For County Commission Agenda Items

9. RECOMMENDATIONS: For Airport Advisory Board Agenda Items

Agenda items were: usage report; report on Ely Air Races committee meeting regarding the Ely Air Races for June 13-15, 2019; Update on Airport Capital Improvement Projects, Report on NV Airport Manager's Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tim Parish inquired if MEDX is still building a hangar by September. It was confirmed yes.

Dan Netcher stated there are active taxi & runways with vehicle traffic crossing and not reporting by radio that they are out there. It was stated ambulances, MedX and Sheriff's vehicles have been seen in air operation areas with no radio communications. Lance stated he will address the situation.

10. *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business to be addressed by the Airport Advisory Board, Tim Parish called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lloyd Phillips made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tim Parish seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Next Meeting Date: April 2, 2019