

## **WHITE PINE COUNTY AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD**

**Date: Tuesday, April 4, 2023**

**Time: 1:00 p.m.,**

**Location: Ely Jet Center**

**Present:** Tim Parish, Mike Coster (1:08), Airport Manager Bill Calderwood

**Also Present:** Commissioner Janet VanCamp, Commissioner Laurie Carson, Bill Wolf, Tim Keough, Greg Rivero, Mike Dikun with Armstrong Consultants on the phone, and Secretary Lori Romero

**Absent:** Dan Netcher

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Tim Parish called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Tim Parish announced the White Pine Storage Energy Project requested to be rescheduled to the May meeting.

### **1.\*DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: MINUTES-CORRECTION AND/OR APPROVAL:**

**March 7, 2023** – Mike Coster made the motion to approve the minutes. Tim Parish seconded the motion. All approved.

### **2. INFORMATION ONLY: Airport Usage Report – Tim Parish**

The usage report for March was presented. It was reported there was lots of helicopter traffic in March.

### **3. INFORMATION ONLY: Report on Airport Operations**

#### **A. Crosswind Runway**

Mike Dikun with Armstrong Consultants reported when the weather is warmer and dry the maintenance on the runway will be completed.

#### **B. Monthly review of lease and rental agreements, including Hangar 1 and related payments received to include detail of monthly rents, ramp and tie down collections, and fuel flowage fees**

Nothing to report with leases.

### **4. \*DISCUSSION/UPDATE: Presentation on White Pine Pumped Storage Energy Project**

Reschedule to the May meeting.

### **5. INFORMATION ONLY: Update on the Great American Eclipse**

Bill Wolf spoke regarding the eclipse that will take place on October 14, 2023 with White Pine County in line of the crossover. He stated it is common for airports to have people fly in to observe the eclipse and then fly out. He encourage the Airport Board to have someone attend the meeting at the convention center on Thursday morning to gather more information and consider participating in the event. Commissioner Laurie Carson inquired if campers stayed on the grounds at the airport during the caving event. Tim Parish responded there were no campers but there was some flight traffic. Mike Coster added there could be dry camping since the County ordinance isn't specific to just the gliders.

Bill Wolf added the Tourism & Rec. Board are working on some advertising for the event and the airport might want to consider being involved. Mike Coster stated he had received information from a couple of airports in southern Utah. Commissioner Laurie Carson stated Ely and Baker are going to make it a special event with promotional items available. Greg Rivero added NASA will be here to stream it. Airport Manager Bill Calderwood volunteered to attend the meeting and will report back to the Airport Advisory Board in May.

**6. DISCUSSION ONLY: Future of Reno Air Races and possibility of Ely Airport housing two or more classes of races or practices in 2024 or 2025**

Mike Coster stated he attended a meeting in Reno last week where there was discussion regarding the air races. The organization is hoping to keep the races going by finding a new place for the 2024 and 2025 races without a break and preferably in Nevada. The most commonly agreed upon location currently is Wendover. Bill Wolf stated he was in a Norwegian air museum talking with some people and they knew of the air races held in Ely. He added there were lots of comments on the great job the committee did in organizing the race. Commissioner Carson inquired if there would be any interest in pursuing bringing the air races to Ely. Mike Coster stated Ely has some experience, enthusiasm and the Tourism & Rec. Board to help. The terrain will accommodate the some classes of the races but for other classes a different layout would be required. Tim Parish reported there would need to be ARFF trained individuals to hold the races. Mike Coster requested the organization keep Ely in the loop. Mike Dikun with Armstrong Consultants responded there will be a request for proposals with requirements for two runways and airport facilities. Mike Coster explained the airport met the FAA compliance three years ago.

**7. \*DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Discussion of possible airport open house in 2023**

Tim Parish reported he didn't receive any feedback from those he approached. Mike Coster sent email to the contact he had for the Young Eagles in St. George, Utah and hasn't had a response. Commissioner Janet VanCamp inquired about inviting military. Tim Parish responded they usually want contact for events a year in advance. Board members will continue to make contact with possible participants including the Southern Utah Flight School. Mike Dikun suggested considering October 14, 2023 in conjunction with the eclipse since the eclipse is complete by 10 am and events could focus with people already in the area. It was the consensus to have the open house on October 14, 2023 with October 7, 2023 as a secondary date.

**8.\*DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Review, discuss and how to resolve issues (gates, security, equipment & maintenance needs) at the Airport with Bill Calderwood**

Bill Calderwood reported he is official as the Airport Manager. He is working on a quote for the generator and to split the power meters so the lights are separate. A flashing light will be installed to alert when the generator is running. Bill inquired if anyone knew the condition of the house at south end. It was the consensus for Bill to complete a walk through and report back to the board. Bill will continue on working on locating information on leases for the Car Club, NDOW and BLM.

**9. INFORMATION ONLY: Updates/Reports from County Representative**

Commissioner Janet VanCamp stated she had nothing to report.

**10. RECOMMENDATIONS: For County Commission Agenda Item**

Commissioner Laurie Carson maybe should bring ARFF back to the table. Tim Parish responded it would be nice to have someone with certification to operate the truck since it is there.

**11. RECOMMENDATIONS: For Airport Advisory Board Agenda Items**

Agenda items were: Usage report; Airport Operations Report; Discussion/Update: Presentation on White Pine Pumped Storage Energy Project; Information Only: Update on the Great American Eclipse; Future of Reno Air Races and possibility of Ely Airport hosting two or more classes of races or practices in 2024 or 2025; Discussion of possible airport open house in 2023; Review, discuss and how to resolve issues (gates, security, equipment & maintenance needs) at the Airport with Airport Manager Bill Calderwood

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bill Wolf inquired if Ely will ever get essential air service again and he would like to pursue an airline. Mike Coster handed out a copy of A.B. 429 to those present. He stated this is a start why essential air service won't happen plus the need for a 139 certificate. Tim Parish added ARFF certification would need to be in place. Bill Wolf indicated he would still like to investigate what is available.

A copy of the Nevada Aviation Association's priorities was presented as well.

Mike Coster stated a loaner vehicle for pilots is still a priority. Currently that needs is being addressed by a private business and it should be provide by the county. Tim Parish added 4 to 5 times a week there is a pilot needing transportation to town. Tim Keough stated an Oregon Airport has two cars they rent for \$35 a day. The pilot need proof of personal vehicle insurance.

**12. \*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. Mike Coster made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tim Parish seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

**Next Meeting Date: May 2, 2023**

### Yelland Field Airport Usage Report

	Private Planes	Commercial	Medical	Government	Total Enplanements
Jan-21	52	52	41	10	320
Feb-21	30	41	30	22	308
Mar-21	41	52	32	19	327
Apr-21	70	48	43	32	456
May-21	113	57	34	22	539
Jun-21	249	142	78	30	602
Jul-21	280	70	40	4	830
Aug-21	155	144	92	28	628
Sep-21	191	111	84	12	503
Oct-21	158	99	78	6	361
Nov-21	142	82	75	14	348
Dec-21	81	85	74	8	277
Yrly Total	1562	983	701	207	5499

	Private Planes	Commercial	Medical	Government	Total Enplanements
Jan-22	129	140	74	27	355
Feb-22	76	128	68	45	329
Mar-22	114	105	70	33	369
Apr-22	162	93	50	23	360
May-22	170	95	86	51	443
Jun-22	390	96	84	20	466
Jul-22	649	122	52	31	781
Aug-22	160	99	83	30	496
Sep-22	163	99	102	25	462
Oct-22	212	101	63	15	455
Nov-22	118	50	84	8	307
Dec-22	87	64	105	23	359
Yrly Total	2430	1192	921	331	5182

	Private Planes	Commercial	Medical	Government	Total Enplanements
Jan-23	59	211	102	14	401
Feb-23	88	85	92	16	365
Mar-23	55	101	78	36	399
Apr-23					
May-23					
Jun-23					
Jul-23					
Aug-23					
Sep-23					
Oct-23					
Nov-23					
Dec-23					
Yrly Total	202	397	272	66	1165