



## Jasper County Airport Commission November 15, 2023 MINUTES

**Jasper County Airport Commission Members Present:** Mr. Avery Cleland, Chairman; Mr. Richard Dean, Vice-Chairman; Mr. James Williams, Secretary; Mr. Baylor O’Cain; Mr. Steven Alston; Mr. Andrew Fulghum, Ex Officio; Mr. Danny Lucas, Ex Officio; Mr. Dennis Averkin, Ex Officio

**Staff Present:** Mr. David Tedder, Mr. John Kemp, Mr. Coy Garbade, Ms. Tara Hayes

**Call to Order:** Mr. Lucas brought the meeting to order at approximately 6:05 P.M.

**Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act:** Read by Mr. Tedder

**Airport Budget Overview and Status:** Mr. Lucas discussed the airport budget, including contracts for landscaping, fuel service, and consulting. Chairman Cleland asked for a list of all contracts and obligations of the airport. Mr. Williams recommended scheduling a Budget Workshop, Mr. Dean seconded, all Commissioners voted in favor.

**Fuel Systems and AWOS plans and status:** Mr. Lucas gave an update stating we have a contract for the Fuel Farm and it should be here the week before Christmas. He said we have no date at this time on when AWOS will be available and installed.

**Consideration of Meeting Dates for 2024:** Mr. Williams suggested meeting monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6pm, transitioning into quarterly meetings at some point; seconded by Mr. Dean, all Commissioners voted in favor.

**Citizen Comments:** Councilman Garbade discussed money spent and problems with fuel tanks and questioned when the airport will be fully functional and profitable. Chairman Cleland said most smaller airports are not usually profitable, but they will put a lot of effort in to review and address all concerns. He also said that the new Fuel Farm should resolve the problem with the current fuel tanks and save money on fuel. There was public comment about an alternate fuel source, Chairman Cleland said they will look into it.

**Approval of the Minutes of 09-26-2023:** Mr. Williams moved to approve the minutes as presented, Mr. O’Cain seconded, all Commissioners voted in favor.

**Terminal South Redevelopment Plan:** Mr. Lucas said the Terminal South Redevelopment Plan provides a footprint and will become part of the revised Airport Layout plan should the Airport Commission choose to recommend it and the County choose to adopt it. There was discussion of water and sewer, currently all requests for extensions of service go to the Town of Ridgeland. All new builds would be negotiable terms, sizes, etc. There was discussion of coming up with a plan

for allowing construction of new hangars. Councilman Kemp said this plan has already been brought before County Council and denied, Mr. Fulghum said his understanding was that it was pending the newly formed Airport Commissions review. Mr. Williams moved to postpone further discussion to the December meeting to gather more information, Mr. O’Cain seconded, all Commissioners voted in favor. The next meeting was scheduled for December 13<sup>th</sup> with a Workshop at 4pm and Meeting at 6pm.

**Training for Commission Members:** Mr. Lucas discussed the topics he would suggest for training; Brief History of the FAA, Airport Improvement Program, Minimum Standards for Aeronautical Services, Minimum Standards for Aircraft Hangar Construction, Airport Rules and Regulations, Grant Assurances, Graphical Airport Buildout, and Budget. Mr. Tedder said the ordinance requires training on Meeting Procedures, Fiduciary Duties, Airport Policy, Aviation Policy, Other Responsibilities which were started at the last meeting, Procedure for Public Comment, and Ethics. Chairman Cleland asked if they could have all the information sent in advance to review.

**Commission Members Comments:** Mr. O’Cain said his concerns are development, fuel, and making the airport successful. He said they need more information to be better informed. Mr. Dean said his concerns are revenues and expenses. Mr. Williams said he would love for this airport to have its own fingerprint. There was some discussion about the Agenda setting process.

**Adjourn:** Mr. Williams moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. O’Cain seconded, everyone voted in favor. The Meeting adjourned at approximately 7 P.M.

Submitted by:  
Tara Hayes  
Planning & Zoning Coordinator