

Montana Aeronautics Board
Helena, MT
January 22, 2015

Aeronautics Board

Tricia McKenna, Board Chair
Rob Buckles
Chuck Manning
Walt McNutt
Fred Lark
Chris Edwards
Fred Leistiko
Bill Hunt

Department of Transportation

Debbie Alke, MDT Aeronautics
Patty Kautz, MDT Aeronautics
Carol Grell Morris, MDT Legal
Tim Conway, MDT Aeronautics
Wade Cebulski, MDT Aeronautics
Pat Wise, MDT Deputy Director

Guests

Dan Sager, Powell County
Bruce Anderson, Powell County
Ron Kelley, Powell County
Sam Weidner, Lewistown
Nigel Davis, Morrison-Maierle
Andy Galen, Morrison-Maierle
Jim Greil, Dowl
Mike Beckhoff, Dowl
John Smith, Laurel
Craig Canfield, KLJ
Doug Phair, Miles City Airport
Travis Eickman, Morrison-Maierle
Rick Donaldson, RPA
Bob Breum, Havre City/County Airport

Fred LeLacheur, Morrison-Maierle
Rick Newman, Lake County Airport Board
Bill Burkland, RPA
Shaun Shea, Morrison-Maierle
Craig Canfield, KLJ
Nathan Schroht, KLJ
Jeff Walla, KLJ
Scott Eaton, FAA
Steve Knopp, Stevensville Airport
Tyler Reed, Morrison-Maierle
Lance Bowser, RPA
Tony Dolphay, Havre City/County Airport
Gerry Grabofsky, Havre City/County Airport
Bruce Agrella, Polson

Administrative Rule Changes – 8:00 a.m.

- Carol Grell Morris went over the rule making process and the changes in the rules that govern the way the board administers and governs grants.
- Tim Conway talked about the priority process for loans and grants.
- Carol Grell Morris went over the loan/grant close out form.

Loan/Grant Allocations – 9:00 a.m.

- **Big Sandy** – Bill Burkland, RPA represented Big Sandy airport. Bill said this is a pavement rehabilitation project, nothing retroactive. FAA is good to go with this project.
- **Bridger** – No one was present for Bridger. Request is for runway rehabilitation.
- **Canyon Ferry** – Bill Burkland, RPA represented Canyon Ferry airport. Bill said he works with Broadwater County and the City of Townsend, the chairman of the airport board asked him to represent the airport. Request is to install perimeter fencing and acquire security equipment for access control to the airport.

- **Anaconda** – Tyler Reed and Shaun Shea of Morrison-Maierle represented Anaconda airport. Request is for wildlife fencing, a lot of wildlife issues crucial they get a fence. Project is \$945,500 asking for funding of half the local match \$47,275/grant.
- **Chester** – Bill Burkland, RPA represented Chester airport. Bill said project is for pavement maintenance, withdrawing the land acquisition portion. FAA is good to go with this project.
- **Chinook** – Nigel Davis of Morrison-Maierle represented Chinook airport. Nigel said project is for pavement maintenance and engineering design on ramp rehabilitation. FAA is good to go with this project.
- **Choteau** – Jim Greil and Mike Beckhoff of Dowl represented Choteau airport. Mike said request is for an AWOS, originally submitted for an AWOS III but now scaling down to an AWOS II, changes request to a \$7,250 for grant and \$7,250 loan. Can eventually be upgraded to an AWOS III.
- **Columbus** – Travis Eickman, Morrison-Maierle represented Columbus airport. Travis said request is for a pavement reconstruction design project. Asking for an \$8,333 grant and an \$8,333 loan.
- **Conrad** – Lance Bowser, RPA represented Conrad airport. Lance said request is for PAPI's, this project is not FAA eligible. We received word that the PAPI's had failed the flight check now the FAA is telling them to shut the PAPI's off. Need to get them re-commissioned and turned back on.
- **Deer Lodge** – Travis Eickman, Morrison-Maierle and Dan Sager, Ron Kelley and Bruce Anderson of Powell County represented Deer Lodge airport. Travis said the primary surface grading project will be withdrawn. The request is for a Master Plan (requesting a \$7,705 grant) and land acquisition (requesting a \$10,825 grant).
- **Ennis** – Rick Donaldson and Lance Bowser, RPA represented Ennis airport. Rick said project is pavement rehabilitation of the apron and taxiway areas, land acquisition for future hangar development and a Master Plan. The Master Plan is good to go with the FAA.
- **Fairfield** – Jim Greil and Mike Beckhoff of Dowl represented Fairfield airport. Jim Greil said this is a Non-NIPAS airport, project is for apron rehabilitation. Mike said they are requesting a \$51,100 grant but will take any help they can get.

Public Comment – 10:00 a.m.

- Chairman McKenna said in accordance with Montana Code Annotated Section 2-3-103, the Board of Aeronautics will hold a public comment period. Please note the public comment section is the public's opportunity to address the board on any topic. While the Board cannot take action on the issues presented, the Board will listen to comments and may ask that the issue be placed on a subsequent agenda for Board discussion.
- There was no public comment.

Loan/Grant Allocations, continued

- **Forsyth** – Nathan Schroht of KLJ represented Forsyth airport. Nathan said project is for pavement rehabilitation and a runway lighting system. Asking for a \$101,840 grant.
- **Fort Benton** – Bill Burkland, RPA represented Fort Benton airport. Request is for pavement rehabilitation. Asking for 100% funding for the pavement on the west end as not FAA eligible.

- **Geraldine** – Bill Burkland, RPA represented Geraldine airport. Bill said request is for a Master Plan and Environmental Assessment to build a new airport up to FAA standards. The Master Plan is currently under way.
- **Glasgow & Glendive** – Withdrew their applications.
- **Hamilton** – Rick Donaldson, RPA represented Hamilton airport. Rick said request is for completion of environmental assessment and pavement rehabilitation.
- **Hardin** – Fred LeLacheur, Morrison-Maierle represented Hardin airport. Fred said request is for snow removal equipment building design and construction and environmental assessment for a fuel facility. Asking for half of the local match in a grant.
- **Harlem** – Nigel Davis, Morrison-Maierle represented Harlem airport. Nigel said request is for pavement maintenance. Good to go with FAA.
- **Harlowton** – Rick Donaldson, RPA represented Harlowton airport. Rick said request is for pavement maintenance, good to go with FAA.
- **Havre** – Jeff Walla, KLJ and Gerry Grabofsky, Bob Breum and Tony Dolphay of Havre represented Havre airport. Jeff said request if for runway rehabilitation. Tony said city is supportive of airport. One way or another we will get this done. Scott Eaton said estimate is 2.7 million on construction.
- **Hot Springs** – No one present for Hot Springs. Request is for runway lighting and installation/rehabilitation of airport beacons.
- **Laurel** – Craig Canfield, KLJ and John Smith of Laurel represented Laurel airport. Craig said project is for the initial phase of a new cross wind runway, land acquisition.
- **Lewistown** – Nigel Davis, Morrison-Maierle and Sam Weidner represented the Lewistown airport. Sam said the airport wants to purchase a bus barn as they have a need for additional storage space because of its location on the airport he feel it needs to be used for aviation. Fred Lark said he will recuse himself from Lewistown request. He asked Scott with the FAA to explain what they discussed yesterday. Scott Eaton said FAA is waiting on some documentation it is on their radar so it will be funded by the FAA.
- **Libby** – Nigel Davis, Morrison-Maierle represented Libby airport. Nigel said the request is for design and engineering for pavement reconstruction. It will be reconstructed next year. Scott Eaton said the FAA encourages design and have entitlements to cover that it is FAA eligible.
- **Malta** – Nathan Schroht, KLJ represented Malta airport. Nathan said request is for pavement maintenance the FAA is good to go with this project.
- **Forsyth** – Chairman McKenna asked Scott if he had an update on funding for Forsyth. Scott Eaton said this is a lighting issue and it is necessary so the FAA will support.
- **Miles City** – Craig Canfield, KLJ and Doug Phair of Miles City represented the Miles City airport. Craig said request is for reconstruction of runway and apron; replace lighting system and pavement maintenance. Doug Phair said this is an important project for Miles City and funding is tight. Airport is looking at every avenue of revenue they can come up with. Any amount would help.
- **Polson** – Jeff Walla, KLJ, Rick Newman and Bruce Agrella of Polson represented the Polson airport. Jeff said Polson airport is a combination of land owned by city and tribal land. The tribal lease expired in December, 2006 we had to start new negotiations and brought FAA into the process. The FAA said they will not fund unless that piece of land is dealt with. Finally agreed on a 40 year easement term on this property and the FAA is

willing to accept that. The appraisal is at \$360,000 while the tribe wants \$500,000 and we are at a point where we are trying to have the FAA support the full \$500,000. There is no other option at this point. The total cost will be \$560,000 and that covers all the tracts. They are also requesting funding for a Master Plan and pavement maintenance. Jeff said he is sure the FAA will fund the appraised value of the property. Scott Eaton said they are on board with land and pavement maintenance, they will fund the appraised value only.

- **Poplar** – Nigel Davis, Morrison-Maierle represented the Poplar airport. Nigel said the request is for pavement maintenance.
- **Saint Ignatius** – Rick Newman represented Saint Ignatius airport. Rick said request is for pavement maintenance of the runway/taxiway. Cannot do any more loans.
- **Scobey** – No one was present for Scobey. Request is for runway rehabilitation.
- **Sidney** – Withdrew their application.
- **Stevensville** – Shaun Shea and Tyler Reed, Morrison-Maierle and Steve Knopp represented Stevensville airport. Tyler said the request is for a runway extension reconfiguration and widening project. This project would extend the runway for B2 activity.
- **Superior** – Jeff Walla, KLJ represented Superior airport. Jeff said request is for a pilots lounge.
- **Three Forks** – Travis Eickman, Morrison-Maierle represented Three Forks airport. Travis said the request is for an environmental assessment for taxiway extension.
- **West Yellowstone** – Travis Eickman, Morrison-Maierle represented West Yellowstone Airport. Travis said request is for the design for pavement rehabilitation and the purchase of snow removal equipment.
- **White Sulphur Springs** – Jim Greil and Mike Beckhoff, Dowl represented White Sulphur Springs airport. Mike said the request is for pavement maintenance and the revised budget request is now at \$8,750.
- **Wolf Point** – No one was present for Wolf Point. Request is for airport drainage/erosion control and miscellaneous improvements.
- Chairman McKenna said the board will now allocate funds and closed to public comment.
- Chris Edwards recommended funding priority projects since funding is limited. The board discussed and offered the following loans and grants for fiscal year 16.
- **White Sulphur Springs** - \$6,900/loan & \$6,900/grant.
- **Scobey** - \$6,076/grant. Chairman McKenna said this is a retro project but they said they cannot do without funding, she feels this is confusing. Debbie Alke said the grant could be issued but the work was not completed she doesn't know for sure. Bill Hunt said maybe on next year's application have them check a box if it's already been done. *The board voted unanimously to give them partial funding with Rob Buckles and Fred Leistiko objecting.*
- **Saint Ignatius** - \$0/grant. The board decided not to fund Saint Ignatius as they cannot do the project without full funding.
- **Poplar** - \$9,150/loan & \$9,150/grant.
- **Polson** – Chris Edwards said lots of unknowns until that deal is done we shouldn't spend money on it. Bill Hunt said he disagrees \$34,500 will help them. Chris Edwards said

this would tie up the money. *Chairman McKenna polled the board asking if they wanted to fund Polson. The vote was unanimous not to fund Polson at this time with Bill Hunt objecting.*

- **Miles City** - \$169,530/loan & \$81,407/grant.
- **Malta** - \$5,110/grant.
- **Libby** - \$5,000/grant.
- **Hot Springs** - \$0/grant. Chairman McKenna felt the higher ranking on Hot Springs seemed out of line she feels like we already funded this. Tim Conway pulled up the form and they received a grant last year for this same project. *Rob Buckles made a motion not to fund Hot Springs Airport, the motion passed unanimously.*
- **Havre** - \$135,000/loan & \$67,500/grant.
- **Harlowton** - \$49,750/grant.
- **Harlem** - \$4,575/grant.
- **Hamilton** - \$5,494/grant.
- **Fort Benton** - \$44,550/loan & \$22,275/grant.
- **Forsyth** - \$43,578/grant.
- **Choteau** - \$8,333/loan.
- **Chinook** - \$3,575/grant.
- **Chester** - \$4,700/loan & \$4,700/grant.
- **Bridger** - \$8,000/grant.
- **Big Sandy** - \$2,800/loan and \$2,800/grant.
- *Bill Hunt made a motion to accept all loans/grants as indicated. Chris Edwards seconded the motion. Chairman McKenna said we went through and made sure there was nothing else we would consider high priority, we may have some inconsistencies. Bill Hunt said he feels everything was carefully considered he feels we should leave as is. Chris Edwards agreed. Chuck Manning called for question. The motion passed unanimously.*
- *Fred Leistiko made a motion to accept the pavement preservation allocations in the amount of \$5,700 for each airport (\$45,600 total). Fred Lark seconded the motion that passed unanimously.*
- *The board tentatively set the June extension request meeting for Tuesday, June 2 at 9:00 a.m., this will be a conference call.*
- *Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.*

Tricia McKenna, Chairman

Roger Lincoln, Secretary