



# Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Airport – Bowman Field

## Airport Advisory Board

Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @ 7 a.m.

**Meeting called by** Jim Jonas, Chairperson

**Type of meeting** Monthly Meeting

**Minutes taken by** Carlye Hansen

**Members Present:** Jim Jonas, Chairperson; Al Messer, Vice-Chairperson; Tim Casey; Randy Johnson; John Lombardi; Monte Belgarde

**Members Absent:** Eric Cortright

**Staff:** Greg Bahr, Airport Manager; Carlye Hansen, Planning Department Secretary; Terry Vermeire, Commission Representative

**Others Present:** Bill Everett, CEO, ADLC

### AGENDA TOPICS

#### Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 a.m., by Jim Jonas, Chairperson.

#### Nomination and Vote for 2021 Airport Board Chairperson

*Nomination of Jim Jonas for the Airport Board Chairperson was made by Tim Casey; Seconded by John Lombardi. Motion passes 6-0.*

#### Nomination and vote for 2021 Airport Board Vice-Chairperson

*Nomination of John Lombardi for the Airport Board Vice-Chairperson was made by Randy Johnson; seconded by Tim Casey. Motion passes 6-0.*

#### Approval of Minutes

##### A. November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

*Motion was made by Tim Casey to approve the minutes from November 25th, 2020, with changes as discussed; seconded by John Lombardi. Motion passes 6-0.*



# Anaconda-Deer Lodge County

## Airport – Bowman Field

Manager's Report – Greg Bahr, Airport Manager

### 1. Apron

The apron project is moving along quite quickly. They have done the bore holes and for subgrade, they will need to take off two feet. There was discussion about airplanes parking on the apron and there are several issues to be looked at. They are hoping to have room for 2 jets. They are thinking that the current design will stay the same, however, they are still in the design phase, but they should be finalized in three weeks for the FAA deadline.

John asked if the parking on the apron would take into account the prevailing winds, and Greg stated that is a definite factor.

Randy stated that he will have to slope his apron due to him having a higher water table. Greg stated that he is hoping there will be an option for the hangar owners to have their approaches redone at this same time if they opt to.

### 2. Maintenance

Greg stated that all the lights are working very well. The new beacon is working well. The project was paid in full by grants and only \$5000.00 by the County.

Greg asked that Carlye please send a letter to John Ford, who owns his own hangar. At this time it is being rented to Dr. McMahon, and there are four sheets of siding that have blown off. He wants Mr. Ford to be aware and to let him know that this is to be repaired by him as part of his maintenance agreement between him and the County.

### 3. Usage

Right now, there is a fair amount of usage, ranging from jets to and from the Ranch at Rock Creek, Life Flight, and general aviation. Mr. Belgrade and his flight school have definitely increased the air traffic at the airport.

Mr. Belgrade did note that this is a slow time for the flight school, but that this can be pretty seasonal and that things should be picking up sooner than later. He has mainly out of state business and pre-airline guys taking his classes. He also mentioned that with the problems with the Boeing MAC in the recent few years that it has risen insurance premiums significantly so seeing where that heads will determine in which direction they will go with the flight school.



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## Airport – Bowman Field

#### 4. Plow Fuel Truck

Greg has purchased a 300 gallon fuel tank to put on the back of a truck to transport fuel. This is red dye fuel and will save on costs in the overall long run.

#### 5. Covid Grant Money

Bill Everett, CEO, was present today to discuss the situation with the Covid money received by ADLC. At this time, the money has been very useful in obtaining larger forms of equipment, such as trucks and snowplows. Right now there is about \$13M in Covid money available for larger projects and he encourages the Board to put in for larger projects and when petitioning for these funds, to be as simplistic as possible. He feels that no matter how we word it, we will more than likely qualify for these bigger amounts of Covid money that are out there.

Mr. Everett is also here today to discuss an issue that has come up in regards to the Airport and one of the long-term neighbors. Right now, the Estate of the Shellenbarger's own property that years ago, had them attached to the Airport by a runway as Mr. Shellenbarger was a pilot. The family own 13 acres and this has been surveyed three This piece of land was not owned by the County, but does extend into the Airport property. When the Airport did the Wildlife Fence, the fence went across their property line as well as across a portion of their property. There is a padlock on this portion of fence, however, the Airport is not allowed to lock this per the Shellenbarger's. It is at a point now, where there are some decisions that must be made in regards to this. They are trying to negotiate with the Estate and either will have to be able to lock the access at all times, as even though the gate in question is a little out of the way, but it is still leaving the Airport open to significant liability. The County can either purchase this, or the Airport will need to realign the Wildlife Fence that was put up, and this can only be done if the setback for the runway can be met. Right now, Mr. Everett just posed this for thoughts and comments, as he will try and negotiate these dealing with the Estate. This will also be looked into as far as FAA setback rulings in regards to the runway. He asked that this be thought about and we may need to make a further decision in regards to this at a later time.

At this point, Greg will talk to Sarah Jones about a potential plan. They will also check with the FAA for a fair market value of the Shellenbarger property. Monte questioned the property line and again, Greg will need to check with Sarah.



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Jim Jonas asked about the price of hangar space. Right now, a lot of airports are getting \$1000.00 per day cash flow.

## Consultant Report – Sarah Jones, Deluxe Engineering and Jim Greil, DOWL

Both Jim Greil and Sara Jones were unavailable, but most of the information has been shared with the board via Mr. Bahr.

## Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, February 24th, 2021

## Adjournment

*Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Tim Casey; seconded by John Lombardi. Motion passes 6-0.*

Respectfully Submitted,

*Carlye Hansen*

Carlye Hansen, Planning Department Secretary