

League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport Board

Date: 7/31/2024

Observer Reporting: Gross Krista

Length of Meeting: 1:23

Members Present: Francis Benjamin, Mayor of Pullman, Washington

Art Bettge, Mayor of Moscow, Idaho

Vicky Murray, Washington State University

Cherri Gentry, Airport

Tony Bean, Executive Director

Rob Rembert, Airport Legal Counsel

Jon Kimberling, City of Moscow

Brian Hemingway, City of Pullman

Members Absent: Dan Ewart, University of Idaho

Paul Kimmell, Latah County

Ron Wachter, At-Large

Others Present (e.g., media, public): David Shourd, Project Manager, Hoffman Construction

Damon Smith, Mead & Hunt

Ryan Bergstrom, Mead & Hunt

Others listening in via conference call

Business pertaining to League Positions or Topics of Interest: *Include in this section 1) issues discussed that relate to League priorities or positions. Do you recommend local league action? If so, please refer to the League position that supports your suggestion. 2) links to further information available on an issue, if available.*

PASSENGER, LANDINGS, AND FREIGHT: Passengers down to 16.31% because of Boise flight.

GRANTS AND PROJECTS: Closing out grants for new terminal.

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES:

- Tony said numbers are not steady yet because of the new terminal. The Operations balance is - \$158,013.

- The numbers are off under Public Utility Services because 1) of a gas leak and 2) the City of Pullman sent a water bill when PUW should not be charged.

ACTION ITEMS

- Mead & Hunt was awarded a 5-year retainer for the Architecture and Engineering selection process because of their Statements of Qualification ranking.

- Damon Smith, Mead & Hunt, spoke about an option to prepare an area (bring in dirt, hydroseed, etc.) for a future parking lot. The Board discussed whether to use the \$342k overage from Hoffman for this purpose. It would save money but would leave the airport with little in reserve. The Board approved a motion to keep the money for reserve, knowing that there is the option to use parking at the old terminal and incorporate a bus service.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Advertising and sponsorship contract from Lamar is in legal review. It should be ready to sign within the week. Lamar met with SEL. Interesting note: LCSC President Pemberton wants LCSC to be on the front of the airport terminal and a flag out front, along with University of Idaho and WSU.

- There is a second attempt to get bids for terminal concessions. If no proposals are submitted, Tony will direct hire a concessions manager. We do not want the kitchen to go unused.

GENERAL UPDATES

- The Grand Opening for the new terminal and west expansion will be on August 15 at 11:00 am. Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers will be visiting the airport this Friday, August 2.

- There is a door by Gate 1 that could open if someone pushes on it. If opened, it could create a security breach. Tony will look into options of barricades or signage.

- The cell phone access has stopped working at the new terminal. It was working up until recently. A cell phone booster is installed in the basement.

We hope that this will be the last Board meeting in the Airport Fire Station Training Room. Our next meeting should be held in the new terminal office area.

Public Meetings of Interest to League: *Were there any public meetings announced that you think League members may be interested in attending and/or becoming involved with that relate to League positions?*
Grand Opening of New Terminal/West Expansion August 15 11:00 am

Process & Protocol: *(Observations about participants and procedures of the meeting) e.g., Did the members appear to have done their "homework"? Were members courteous to each other and the public? Was access to materials for certain agenda items available to you?*

The Board was well prepared and courteous.