



## AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION

### MINUTES

February 15, 2024

3:30 p.m.

Santiam Room, City Hall/VIRTUAL

Approved: DRAFT

#### Call to Order

**3:28 p.m.**

Chair Chuck Kratch called the meeting to order at 3:28 p.m.

#### Roll Call

Members present: Chuck Kratch, Gar Burroughs, Garry Barnes, Mel Huffman, Nathan Ahrens

Members absent: Theophilus Warren, Rodney Moore (excused)

Staff present: Transportation Manager Robb Romeo, Clerk III Anita Dodd

Others present: Debbie Origer, Tony Hann

#### Elect Chair and Vice Chair

**3:30 p.m.**

Garry Barnes made a motion to nominate Mel Huffman as chair, Chuck Kratch seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Mel Huffman nominated Nathan Ahrens as vice chair, Gar Burroughs seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### Approval of November 16, 2023, Minutes

**3:32 p.m.**

Kratch made a motion to approve the November 16, 2023, minutes as presented. Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### Staff Updates

**3:32 p.m.**

Transportation Manager Robb Romeo updated the commission on the current Airport Project List and addressed some structural issues they are having at the airport that needed repair. He then discussed the S12 land lease and term expiration dates.

#### FBO Updates

**3:51 p.m.**

Tony Hann informed the commission the 141 Training Program yearly inspection has been taken care of for 2024. In addition, he brought some ideas to the commission that he feels would improve and expand the airport facilities and potentially bring in more revenue and draw people into the airport.

#### Business from the Commission

**4:08 p.m.**

Barnes is planning a Memorial Day event and has invited the National Guard and the Albany Chamber of Commerce to set up a display and is hoping to involve several other groups as well. He recruited the help of the Airport Advisory Commission (AAC) to assist in making this a successful event.

Kratch revisited the idea from the November AAC meeting about having a regularly scheduled airport breakfast fundraiser to see if the commission is interested in the idea. After some discussion they decided it is a great idea. Even if they don't make a significant amount of money, it will draw more people to the airport and hopefully inspire future pilots. Origer mentioned they may need a commercial kitchen to make

this happen. Barnes recalled money was set aside by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) around 2020 to fund commercial kitchens and was curious if that funding is still available.

Business from the Public

**4:26 p.m.**

Origer gave an update on the 1929 Hangar Project. The steering committee has had two meetings so far and has created a mission and vision statement and will meet again March 15, 2024, to set future goals. Their vision is to invite school classrooms into the museum to explore and make fun airplane crafts and activities and start a model airplane club in hopes of inspiring future pilots.

Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Thursday, March 21, 2024.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Chair Huffman adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Anita Dodd  
Clerk III

Robb Romeo  
Transportation Manager

*\*Documents discussed at the meeting that are not in the agenda packet are archived in the record. The documents are available by emailing [cityclerk@albanyoregon.gov](mailto:cityclerk@albanyoregon.gov).*