



**AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**November 8, 2017
Commissioners' Auditorium
5:30pm**

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Smith, Dale Rusho, Paul Ballard, Marlene Pfeifer, Keith Riexinger, Ann Anderson, Rich Elliott, Steve Willard

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Libenow

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Paul Jewell, Commissioner Laura Osiadacz, Commissioner Obie O'Brien, Mark Cook, Candie Leader

GUESTS PRESENT: Twenty-five (25) members of the public

****JOINT SPECIAL MEETING WITH THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS****

Commissioner Paul Jewell opened the meeting at 5:30 pm.

Commissioner Paul Jewell led introductions and went over the meeting expectations from members of the audience and from Committee members.

Commissioner Paul Jewell acknowledged additional items to be added to the agenda: CWU's Official Position packet; Committee Bylaws and Transfer Station (Committee's position).

Commissioner Paul Jewell introduced the first agenda item – Asset Sale. Mark Cook gave background on a previous study session in where a citizen inquired about purchasing the main hangar and t-hangar owned by Kittitas County. Mark Cook stated that in that study session staff was directed to schedule a meeting with the interested party and the Board of County Commissioners. Mark Cook continued that after that discussion it was decided to see what the Committee's thoughts were on the topic. Paul Ballard stated that currently Central Washington University (CWU) leases the main hangar and there has been no discussion with CWU on this issue. Discussion was held on the process to be followed if a sale was to happen including surplus of the building, if the Federal Aviation Administration would need to be involved and a public hearing to obtain thoughts from the public and users of Bowers Field. The Airport Advisory Committee is not in support of a sale. The Board of County Commissioners was not ready to make a decision on the issue at this time. Three (3) members of the public commented on the issue.

Mark Cook spoke on the next agenda item – FBO Services. Mark Cook stated that current FBO services at Bowers Field were terminating and a Request for Proposals are due on Monday for a new provider to take over those duties. Mark Cook continued that as of today no proposals have been received. Paul Ballard stated that CWU would be submitting and a member of the public inquired about Title 19 being followed for the new provider. Discussion was held.

Mark Cook then introduced the next agenda item – Environmental SOQ. Mark Cook stated that he had conversations with the Federal Aviation Administration regarding the environmental process for the projects listed in the CIP – Master Plan. Mark Cook commented that the FAA approved the CIP for Bowers Field and at the Public Works Study Session the BOCC approved staff to advertise for Statement of Qualifications with the opening of the proposals set for December 15th. Mark Cook continued that the FAA offered to help fund the pavement break at Runway 7/25 as well. Discussion was held.

Mark Cook read a letter drafted to the BOCC regarding the siting of the new Solid Waste Transfer Station. Marlene Pfeifer commented that not all members were opposed to the siting and the letter should reflect a majority. Commissioner Paul Jewell gave background on the project and stated that nothing has been presented to the BOCC for consideration. Discussion was held. Twelve (12) members of the public commented on the issue – all against siting of the facility at Bowers Field.

The next item discussed was the Bylaws for the Committee. Paul Ballard stated that the current bylaws are old and should be updated. Paul Ballard suggested a sub-committee to work on updating them and then have a larger discussion once presented. Commissioner Paul Jewell stated that it is a committee decision for the bylaws and that there has been some discussion about the BOCC taking over the committee as far as running the meeting. Commissioner Paul Jewell continued that the BOCC is doing it with other committees as well. Marlene Pfeifer commented that she doesn't believe a Commissioner should chair the meeting. Commissioner Paul Jewell replied that it would be a non-voting role and they would run the meeting. Rich Elliott stated that the City of Ellensburg has a Council representative run their committee meetings as well. Three (3) members of the public commented on the issue. Commissioner Jewell stated that Paul Ballard will take the lead on the bylaws update after discussion was held.

Paul Ballard passed out information to the committee regarding CWU's decision on moving forward with flight training and the future of operations at Bowers Field. Paul Ballard stated that recent events have brought up concerns from the University and the stability of the airport. Commissioner Paul Jewell asked Provost Katherine Frank if she had anything to add to the discussion. Provost Katherine Frank stated that the documents were self-explanatory. Commissioner Paul Jewell spoke about a Memorandum of Agreement and there is a lot to discuss moving forward. Provost Katherine Frank added that there is a timeline listed in the document and this should be considered a serious matter. Commissioner Paul Jewell stated that they look forward to the process moving forward.

A member of the public spoke about the gate malfunctioning and that it still hasn't been repaired. Mark Cook stated that he was noticed that repairs were made and he will check with the contractor regarding this.

A member of the public inquired about the weeds on Runway 7/25. Commissioner Paul Jewell replied that the weeds have become resistant to the chemical application. A member of the public added that a different spray should be used then or use inmate resources to remove them.

Meeting adjourned at 7:09pm.

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Candie Leader



Laura Osiadacz, Chairman