

**City of Glenwood Springs  
Airport Board Minutes**

November 19, 2020; 7:30 to 9:10 a.m.  
Via Zoom

**1. Attendance**

**Commissioners:** Gregg Rippy, Rich Backe, Dave Merritt, Dave Brown, Alan Arnold  
**City Council:** Mayor Jonathan Goedes  
**Staff:** Terri Partch, Steve Boyd, Brian Smith, Linda DuPriest, Debora Figueroa  
**Others:** Amy Helm, Steve Carver, Eric Strautman

**2. Adoption of minutes** – October meeting minutes will be forwarded to the board for approval at the December meeting.

**3. Overview of events of last month** – Steve Boyd reported that the airport manager suddenly left last month so various City managers stepped in to learn about operations, bring in some outside help and strategize how to move forward with management of airport. A consultant, Ken Lawson was brought in for a few days to help, and compiled a draft report highlighting immediate concerns and possible future scenarios for management, safety compliance including fire code, maintenance, fuel system possible FBO contracting, and others. Linda thanked, reported water line work, ordering new fuel pedestal, 100LL order...fuel price discussion, Debra noted Council will decide on fuel prices. Rich Backe offered to compile comparable prices in the market and forward that to everyone with his notes. Other updates included fees for commercial helicopters previously discussed, signs, and basic operations issues.

**4. Airport Enterprise Fund Budget** - Steve Boyd gave a budget report. Greg Rippy asked if the board could see a balance sheet and P & L. Various budget needs and possible improved revenue streams were discussed. Various aspects of

**5. Fuel plan, facilities and maintenance** – Mayor Godes and Commissioners discussed expansion of our fuel system and other plans/issues for the airport's future, including the South Bridge project. There is a new cost estimate at the 60% design stage of South Bridge, at \$55 million for the entire project, with \$5 million estimated to cover the cost of Airport Rd. tunneling under the runway. The City has other high cost projects to consider such as an \$8 million load for the water system. Terri Partch presented South Bridge/Airport Rd construction elements that will affect the cost. Debra Figueroa noted that the City is seeking various funding avenues that will include a "tunnel" and "no tunnel" options. Commissioners wish to have rumors dispelled regarding CDOT approval for South Bridge and to have continued transparency from the City regarding the airport's future. Mayor Godes talked about various scenarios, opportunities and challenges around the airport's current operations and future that are before the Council and City Staff. The Gruen and Gruen study plus additional potential consulting efforts were discussed; FBO issues were also discussed including staffing. The Commission asked for a work session before the December meeting to further discuss conditions and future scenarios for the airport. Details of this meeting will be confirmed, noticed and circulated.

**5. Other topic** – Rich Backe expressed appreciation for how City staff stepped in to keep the airport running after the previous manager walked off. Debra Figueroa wished to assure everyone that the City is not planning to shut the airport down and asked for cooperation in dispelling those rumors.

**6. Adjourn at 9:10.**