



Board Members: Gary Peters, Joe Gish, Manderson Miles, Katherine Seekins, Laurie Wilson

Regular Board Meeting November 19, 2024 @ 3:00 p.m. PDT

- **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Peters called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.
- **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chairman Peters led the attendees in the pledge of allegiance.
- **ROLL CALL**—Gary Peters, Mandy Miles, Joe Gish, Katie Seekins, and Laurie Wilson are board members present. Thad O’Sullivan, attorney, and Mike Isaacs, the Airport Director, are also present.
- **AIRPORT DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Air Service Update: 5,081 passengers in October; potential for 55,000 for the year. United started flying the E-175 in October, which added 20 seats/day and generated 447 more passengers. The tower has 3 controllers; one is moving, so the tower is short-staffed. Attended FAA conference in Helena last month. Met with Gary Gates and discussed capital AIP and BIL projects for 2025, which include Taxiway B Rehabilitation and Lighting and SRE Plow Truck and Sander. Last week the Chamber of Commerce hosted a biz buzz luncheon featuring Visit LC Valley. They reported a record economic impact on tourism revenue in the county of \$112.6M! It creates 1,270 jobs in Nez Perce County. Tourism reduces residential taxes by \$900 per person in Nez Perce County. There were several questions regarding American Cruise Lines and LWS. Tomorrow, Visit LCV has its annual meeting, which will provide even more insight into tourism. LWS is critical for economic growth. Audit Requests for Proposals are due on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Proposals will be brought to you on December 17.

- **OLD BUSINESS**

- CONSENT ITEMS: Chairman Peters called for a motion to approve the Regular Board Minutes from October 15, 2024, a year-to-date monthly financial report for October 2024, and invoices over \$10,001. Seekins moved the motion, seconded by Gish, and opened it for discussion. The vote was called and approved unanimously.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- DISCUSSION ITEM: Board Vacancy 2025. Joe Gish has been elected as a new County Commissioner and will be sworn in January. His board position will become vacant on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Attorney O’Sullivan indicated that we have 90 days to fill the position. The board reviewed the application and interview questions; scheduled to advertise in December and interview in January.
- Resolution 2024-42 Approve Lease with DDHP. The DDHP lease for hangar N30 expires on October 31, and they would like to enter into a new 20-year lease. The issue with the legal description has been reviewed and approved. Peters called for a motion to approve the lease with DDHP. Seekins moved the motion; Miles seconded it, and it was opened for discussion. The vote was called and approved unanimously.

Chair Peters passed the meeting to Vice Chair Miles for the next action item.

- Resolution 2024-45 Approve Lease Assignment from Jo Hangar, LLC to Peters. Jo Hangar, LLC is requesting to assign their current lease for hangar E37 to Gary and Jill Peters. Peters to abide by the terms of the original lease. Vice Chair Miles called for a motion to approve the lease assignment to Peters. Seekins moved the motion; Gish seconded it, and it was opened for discussion. The vote was called and approved. Peters abstained from the vote.

Vice Chair Miles passed the meeting back to Chair Peters.

- Resolution 2024-46 Approve Ardurra Work Order 24-02 SRE Plow Truck. Work Order includes services to assist with acquiring airport Snow Removal Equipment. Ardurra fees will not exceed \$44,960.88, lower than the independent fee estimate. Peters called for a motion to approve Work Order 24-02. Wilson moved the motion; Seekins seconded it, and it was opened for discussion. The vote was called and approved unanimously.
- Resolution 2024-47 Approve Ardurra Work Order 24-03 Taxiway Rehab B. Work Order includes services to support the design and bidding of a project to rehabilitate Taxiway B. Fees will not exceed \$235,171.05. Peters called for a motion to approve Work Order 24-03. Seekins moved the motion; Wilson seconded it, and it was opened for discussion. The vote was called and approved unanimously.
- Resolution 2024-48 Approve Ardurra Work Order 24-04 PFC Application No. 8. Work Order includes services that will provide assistance with the preparation and submission of a new PFC Application No. 8. Fees will not exceed \$11,658.64. Peters called for a motion to approve Work Order 24-04. Seekins moved the motion; Wilson seconded it, and it was opened for discussion. The vote was called and approved unanimously.
- Resolution 2024-49 Approve Lease Assignment from Peterson to Kumm. Mark and Susan Peterson request that their current lease for hangar E15 be assigned to John and Cheryl Kumm. Kums to abide by the terms of the original lease. Peters called for a motion to approve the lease assignment to Kums. Miles moved the motion; Wilson seconded it, and it was opened for discussion. The vote was called and approved unanimously.
- Resolution 2024-50 Approve Lease Assignment from Maiorana to Anderson. Tony Maiorana requests that his current lease for hangar E25-1 be assigned to Joe and Leslie Anderson. Andersons to abide by the terms of the original lease. Peters called for a motion to approve the lease assignment to Andersons. Wilson moved the motion; Seekins seconded it, and it was opened for discussion. The vote was called and approved unanimously.
- Resolution 2024-51 Approve Lease with Mills Property Holdings, LLC. The lease for hangar E25-1 expired, and Darrell Mills has requested a new 20-year lease. Peters called for a motion to approve the Mills Property Holdings, LLC lease. Gish moved the motion; Seekins seconded it, and it was opened for discussion. The vote was called and approved unanimously.
- Resolution 2024-52 Approve Sublease from Ford to Bergamo. Alan and Marilee Ford have requested a sublease of hangar E26-A to Abe Bergamo. Bergamo to abide by the terms of the original lease. Peters called for a motion to approve the sublease with Bergamo. Seekins moved the motion; Wilson seconded it, and it was opened for discussion. The vote was called and approved unanimously.

- **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

County Commissioner Beck indicated that he appreciates the airport board and enjoyed working with them.

County Commissioner Havens indicated that there would be a meeting at 2 p.m. tomorrow to discuss the county's subsidy for the United Airlines flight; it is not dependent on a match from the city. He apologized for the city's lack of support and would like to discuss the city's potential to give up ownership sometime next year.

Doug Black discussed the LWS website, calendar, and ways to increase community relations. He would like to see more community involvement.

- **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Seekins, Wilson, and Miles appreciated and agreed with Doug Black regarding community relations.

Seekins echoed Commissioner Havens's thoughts. I like being supported but don't want to feel like an enemy when trying to do my job and help the community.

Wilson indicated that she was appointed to this position, but the lack of support has made her question her role.

Miles indicated that it is hard to move forward when one of the partners doesn't see the value in what you are doing.

Gish indicated that he is in support of the calendar, website, and community involvement. Gish is transitioning to the County Commissioner seat and in support of the county owning the airport. The airport must have 100,000 passengers annually to become self-sustaining without a subsidy. Support for United must happen now if we want to reach passenger loads high enough to become self-sustaining. This would allow the airport to exist perpetually without a subsidy. Grant money found to offset budget deficits goes unrecognized. We provide opportunities to the city and county for economic growth, and they treat it as bad news. Money Revenue Guarantee (MRG) will be hard for our county to sustain. State recognition is needed, and since we service 220,000 people, it becomes a state issue. Gish plans to work at the state level when he becomes County Commissioner. Considering that he lives in Washington, Peters has done amazing work with our Idaho legislators.

Peters indicated that we need to recognize the Friends of the Airport.

Peters thanked the county for its support and continued conversation about United. Much hard work and commitment have gone into providing air service for our community since the loss of Alaska Airlines. Peters stressed that the board and airport director are competent and don't deserve ridicule and accusations of dishonesty by one of its sponsors. The authority was created due to the city's mismanagement of the airport. Peters indicated that we're in no-man's-land waiting for the email and the phone call when it should have been locked up. The fact (the city council) didn't even take a vote (Monday night) shows you just how pathetic and weak the city of Lewiston is. Jessica Klein, the council's liaison to the airport board, was the only council member at the meeting. Klein indicated that we literally don't have the money. Peters asked Klein a series of questions about how the city paid for various projects and other topics. Peters indicated that the city would have money available if it had used its share of the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) differently or paid for infrastructure upgrades with bonds. ARPA funding was supposed to be used for travel and tourism. Klein told Peters she would make sure city councilors knew how he felt.

- **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Peters called for a motion to adjourn and move into Executive Session; Wilson made the motion, and Seekins seconded it. Wilson read Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(f), and a roll-call vote was taken, voting yes: Chairman Peters, Miles, Gish, Seekins, and Wilson approved unanimously. The motion passed. The audience was excused at 4:13 p.m.

- **ADJOURNMENT**—Peters requested a motion to adjourn, which was motioned by Miles and seconded by Wilson. The vote was called, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

December 17, 2024

Attest:   
Laurie Wilson, Secretary