



## December 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order:** Vice-Chair Fleming called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Chair Troxell, Vice-Chair Fleming, Commissioners Adams, Atteberry, Burgener, and Stooksbury were present. Chair Troxell attended via teleconference. Commissioner Overcash was absent.

3:36 p.m. Chair Troxell disconnected from teleconference arrived in person

### **Public Comments:**

Jacki Marsh, COL Mayor: Requested the Commission adjust the City liaison be required to be the City Mayors from each City. Troxell: The decision on liaisons are determined by each City Council, which is set by the bylaws which were also set by each of the City Councils. Rob Malloy, COL Councilor: Stated he was on the planning commission for 13 years and was responsible for zoning 300 new homes within the Airport's influence area and more noise complaints should be anticipated once Allegiant returns. Suggested adding more subcommittees in anticipation of noise issues. Offered to help with the rezoning of the Airport. Troxell: The Commission is not rezoning the Airport, we're only planning a design overlay. David Ulane, CDOT Aeronautics Director: Invited the Commission to the next quarterly CDOT Aeronautics Board meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup> at the Brown Palace.

### **Consent Agenda**

**Consent Agenda Amendment** The proposed 2020 meeting calendar was amended to list January 22 instead of January 16.

**Commissioner Adams moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Fleming carried with all the Commissioners present voting in favor thereof.**

**Consent Agenda Follow-up** Vice-Chair Fleming recommended the schedule be reviewed quarterly.

**Public Comments:** None

### **Regular Agenda**

**5. Remote Tower Project Update** The Colorado Remote Tower Project is a collaboration between the FAA, CDOT division of Aeronautics, the Northern Colorado Regional Airport, and Searidge Technologies. Construction of the system began in August of 2018 and reached the official point of completion late last month. During this year, the project has experienced unforeseen delays attributed to the innovative nature of the proof of concept. Examples of delays that have created the most challenges include navigating through FAA required



safety risk management processes, creating continued buy-in from the many FAA departments, and obtaining certified air traffic controllers from an external provider.

The FAA's Remote Tower Project Manager Rob Higginbotham shared that the start to testing has been further delayed due to the difficulty of hiring certified air traffic controllers through their identified regional provider Serco. The FAA anticipates an approximate ten weeks of additional time is necessary to procure these support staff. A map of the current federal contract towers (FCT) and the associated private sector providers has been provided for your information. The map shows the various locations of FCT facilities and the associated contractors that provide support for each region. The State of Colorado exists within the FAA's Western Service Area, which is also identified as the region supported by Serco for contract air traffic control services.

Positive news is that the Airport has worked with CDOT project manager Bill Payne and the FAA's Air Traffic Organization to advocate to keep air traffic control services functional during the periods between testing phases. This will allow for continuity of air traffic control services which will enhance safety and promote economic benefit through the currently postponed return of commercial air service. Staff also found that the installation of the next generation radar display from the Raytheon Company referred to as Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System or STARS, will be a federally supported system that will not require Airport funding support for acquisition or future maintenance.

Airport staff is working with members of the project team to identify options that would reinforce the scheduled start of air traffic control services, and to obtain the project scheduled for the Leesburg VA remote tower project. Staff will share options and the Leesburg project schedule if it is made available during the meeting. David Ulane, Colorado Director of Aeronautics and Bill Payne, CDOT Aeronautics Project Manager are also planning to attend the meeting to assist with answering any project related questions.

**Commissioner Adams moved to grant the Airport Director and Commission Chair the authority to sign the letter drafted by William Payne on behalf of the Northern Colorado Regional Airport Commission for the purpose of documenting project expectations with the FAA. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Fleming carried with all the Commissioners present voting in favor thereof.**

**Public Comments:** None

**6. Planning and Development**

The Airport Commission's Planning and Development Subcommittee and Airport Staff have worked through many goals and tasks that were



**Subcommittee  
Work Plan**

identified and approved by the Airport Commission in early 2019. This item will reflect on what was accomplished during the year, provide a brief overview of the status of each task, and will allow for time to provide input and direction on priorities that the Commission has that they would like to see included in the work plan for 2020. The PDSC and Airport staff are targeting the next meeting to be able to bring forward an updated work plan for the next year.

**Public Comments:**

David Ulane: CDOT Aeronautics' Economic Impact Study will be released at the Board's meeting in January. Stated KFNL's numbers would please the Commission.

**7. Election of  
Officers**

Conduct the election of officers selecting a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to serve during the 2020 calendar year

**Public Comments:** None

**Commissioner Stooksbury moved to nominate the seated officers from 2019 for the 2020 appointment. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Adams carried with all the Commissioners present voting in favor thereof.**

**8. Business From  
Members**

**Public Comments:** None

Bob Hau, resident: Conveyed his congratulations on the air show and suggested it be a private public venture for resources. Rob Malloy: You can get a lot of ideas from Oshkosh airshows. Jim Sampson, resident: Don't rule out urban air mobility. James Hays: The public is adverse to regular flights how will they react to constant UAV activity.

**Fleming:** Could we get a brief on the airshow?

**Licon:** The Navy has confirmed the Blue Angels will perform October 16-17 in 2021 in their preliminary performance schedule.

**Stooksbury:** Is this airport the best large audience venue? Maybe we should consider a multi-venue airshow such as CSU's stadium or other locations that already host large audiences. Frontage Road will not handle the traffic for a successful outcome for this event.

**Troxell:** I'm involved in National League of Cities and as Co-Chair of Transportation Technology component under the Transportation Infrastructure Services Federal Advocacy Group. New technology is constantly emerging, vehicles and drones. Google's drone service, wing.com, in Christiansburg, Virginia is completing autonomous UAS deliveries now. We should plan a technology and drones discussion between the cities to be proactive on the possible impacts from these emerging technologies.



**Atteberry:** <https://wing.com/united-states/virginia> is a great resource on this, FedEx, UPS, and Walgreens are already making drone deliveries in Virginia.

**Troxell:** Euro CAE who does remote tower ops in Europe will be visiting Fort Collins January 14-16 to have their meeting and they will be touring our Remote Tower.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Chair, Wade Troxell