



Special Meeting Minutes for September 9, 2024

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| CALL TO ORDER | Meeting called to order at 9:03 a.m. |
| ROLL CALL | Committee Members Williams, Miller, and Stooksbury were present. Alternate Committee Member DiMartino was absent. |
| PUBLIC COMMENT | Chair Stooksbury opened the floor for public comment. None presented. |
| 1. AIRPORT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND 2025 BUDGET PRESENTATION | <p>Francis Robbins, Acting Airport Director, presented the 2025 Capital Improvement Plan. The proposed nonoperating budget currently shows a change in net position of \$3,501,090.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new fuel farm would be funded using only local contributions. The FAA does not have a threshold for using formulary or discretionary funds for a new fuel farm since the airport already has one in operation. • The Air Traffic Control Siting Study is already underway for the possibility of building a brick-and-mortar tower. Construction must begin by 2026 per the Federal Contract Tower Program requirements. The FAA is paying the majority of construction costs to build a traditional tower in Leesburg, VA now that the airport is no longer pursuing a remote tower. A mobile or temporary tower cannot be elevated through the Part-77 surface of controlled airspace, only a permanent tower is able to do that after completion of a siting analysis. • Delaying construction on the Runway 15-33 Widening project may require FNL to repay the design grant which would cost \$750,000 for a \$250,000 deferral. It may also risk other grant funds. <p>Chair Stooksbury opened the floor for public comment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scott Holst stated that Senators Hickenlooper and Bennet procured funding for Colorado airports and questioned why FNL did not receive any of those funds. He also provided information about the portable towers which can be raised three stories and include other equipment for ATC operations, and stated that Discovery received a fuel tank quote at \$1.5M one year ago. • Ryan Carlson stated that FAA backing of the traditional tower in Leesburg demonstrates their lack of faith in the program. He also requested an apron expansion at Discovery to accommodate the Taxiway A realignment and stated that the landing fees presented are comparable to those at much busier airports. • Nick Johnson stated that the parking fees are comparable to airports with air service and are not as close to a large hub such as Denver. |



Additional direction from Committee Members to Staff:

- Create a bulleted outline of the history of the Digital Tower, how it came to be, and how it can move forward so that representatives and lobbyists can reference it.
- Reduce ATC Tower funding in the 2025 CIP from \$2M to \$300,000 to proceed modestly until a decision is made by the Commission.
- Defer the fuel farm project and GA hangar area improvements until sufficient local funding is available.
- Remove the additional full time employee position in 2025.
- Provide a more detailed analysis of the fees and projected losses in 2026 caused by the planned runway closure.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Stooksbury adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Signed by:

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Committee Chair, Jerry Stooksbury