

WAOA Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 24, 2010
Little America Hotel & Resort Cheyenne, WY

Meeting Called to Order by John Stopka at 1502L. Members present: Tim Reid, Jack Skinner, Jim Parker, Dave Haring, John Stopka, Jay Lundell, Glenn Januska, Bob Hooper, and Sean Christensen. Guests: Jim Fluhr, Leah Henderson, and Bill Hamilton.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from 9/10/2009 – Tim did not have the previous meeting minutes at the meeting, however will vote for approval at next Board Meeting.

Scholarship and Educational Assistance – Jay Lundell – Discussed the selection process for determining who is eligible for educational assistance. With Glenn's assistance Jay will work on a policy and ask for assistance in the General Membership meeting. Jim Parker discussed looking into curricular requirements and budgeting, addition the board needs to look at coursework that can be used in aviation, not just considering aviation majors alone. Jay asked the group where we would consider drawing the line. Glenn commented if they define it as part of their job. Dave commented the individual must be employed by Airport or in aviation coursework. This discussion was postponed until the fall meeting to allow for research. No action required.

Financial Report – Tim discussed the current assets of the organization – Checking balance as of January 31, 2010 = \$52,016.00 and Savings balance as of January 31, 2010 = \$43,252.51. Only items to note for this period is the 2010 Legislative Conference, where currently the collection of sponsorship and registration fees are looking like they will meet if not exceed the budgeted amounts. Glenn moves to accept the Financial Report and Dave seconds the motion. Motion carries.

Membership Drive – Tim advises he will start the membership drive in November 2010.

Legislative Update – Dave referred the group to the email letter sent out last night to the membership. Other issues at hand – Dave talked to Rep. Pete Illoway about the concern over the State Legislature possibly getting rid of tax exemptions for Airport businesses such as FBOs. Dave also mentioned discussing the possibility of hiring a lobbyist with Pete, whom replied if the lobbyist knows their stuff, and then he would recommend hiring one. However, as a representative Pete prefers speaking to constituents and representatives from the agency. Dave added WAOA may look into possibly hiring someone into following bills introduced in the State Legislature and US Congress.

Dave had a recommended WAOA members use the State's Economic Impact Survey conducted last year when talking to their State representatives, and to stress the EIS material.

Glenn mentioned the Governmental Competition Act or SF27, and explained it is a proposed process which would allow any individual to complain to the Governor whenever State or municipal government provided services which a private company may be able to perform the same service only more effectively than the government. Dave said he would look into this item.

Continuing Education credits for Fuel Tank Certification – General discussion by Board Members ensues. Jim Parker agrees with Mr. Moore that retesting for this certification every two years is ridiculous. Glenn added most other certifications throughout the State do not require retesting, just continuing education requirements. Jim inquired about whether this item would require a change in State Statutes or requires legislative action. Sean mentioned he had heard there was some work on the recertification process in place, but it takes some time for those changes to take effect. Jim added each time a person must get recertified they must enroll for a test and pay \$75.00. Additionally the individual must drive to a testing facility usually not located close by their airport.

Glenn inquired if the Board should submit a letter for recommendation to legislature for action on this item. John recommended writing a letter of support from the WAOA to Representative Bonner; the representative whom brought this item to WAOA. Glenn moves the President of WAOA should prepare a letter of support for continuing education requirement for above ground fuel storage tank licensure. Tim seconds the motion. Motion carries.

Presentation about the Wyoming Air Tour by Mike Shulte – Asked for support from WAOA for the Air Tour, however what that support will be is yet to be determined. Dave requested that if WAOA makes a donation to a non-profit organization, that the donation should be for a purpose, not a blanket amount. Glenn agrees and stated WAOA needs to know specifically what to spend. Dave added it cannot be used for a fuel discount. Bob asked how many participants were expected for the event. Tim responded approximately 100 persons, 50 aircraft.

Consideration of 2010 NWAAAE Membership – Dave discussed how different organizations such as NWAAAE and WAOA have reciprocity agreements between members. John suggested Tim be involved as a WAOA representative.

Assessment of Property Tax on Airport Buildings – Glenn – Looking for support on the argument against the Natrona County Assessor's office which is currently trying to tax non-operational buildings. Dave stated this is a huge issue in our current State legislative session, and can result in economic development issues. Jim asked if the property tax assessed would go to schools, or if it stays within the county. Glenn responded yes. Glenn then asked the Board if

WAOA would support airports retaining this tax. Dave asked Glenn if his County, which owns the airport, understands they are essentially taxing themselves. Bob mentioned there is a lot of inconsistency with the policies of collecting property tax amongst airports across the state. Glenn added this is becoming more burdensome for the Airports, and brought up the existing case in the State's Supreme Court regarding this issue and a community college in State arguing paying taxes on a business park they own. Glenn also mentioned WAOA could send a letter of support to the Supreme Court on behalf of the community college regarding this issue. Dave stated he agrees with Glenn; however he does not support WAOA offering an opinion on support for an ongoing Supreme Court case. Jim agreed with Dave. John interjected that this measure should be discussed in the membership meeting.

Consideration of 2010 NWAAAE Membership – Dave commented this membership should be extended to a board member who does not currently have a membership with NWAAAE. Jim stated he cannot become a member since he cannot afford to attend the meetings. Glenn asked who we can send, and asked if we should extend a membership to NWAAAE board members? Dave moves to extend a complementary membership to NWAAAE Board to foster better communication between both entities. Glenn seconds. Motion carries 7/0.

Fall WAOA Conference Update –Glenn/Leah – The Best Western Ramcoda Inn has been selected for the event, and pretty much the whole hotel will be reserved for the event. The primary question is do we want to include other entities for the event like the Wyoming Aviation Conference? Leah stated the State was not interested in planning the event. Leah also stated the Ramcoda is inexpensive at \$65.00 per night and free AV equipment for the meeting rooms. She asked the Board if they would be interested in having an aviation tract in addition to the Airport tract. Dave recommended forming a task force with the Wyoming Pilot's Association and WAOA members to determine the possibility of holding a combined program. John agrees and thinks we need to maintain the momentum of the Wyoming Aviation Conference.

Glenn presented the Board a brochure for the conference, and gave preliminary costs for the printed material. Jim added he thought the brochure for last year's event was confusing, but likes the idea of soliciting participation by other entities. Dave brought up that if the conference includes General Aviation pilots in future years, it will exclude towns too small to hold an event of this size. Glenn agrees that holding an event like this is good for all those participating, but sucks for the communities that are smaller who could support a smaller event such as one strictly for WAOA.

Leah – Wyoming Pilot's Association is interested in helping out with the conference as needed. Glenn asked if everyone liked the program, and Dave stated he likes it, but has concerns about the cost and layout. Glenn asked the Board if we should agree to a format for the program, and it appears most in the conversation agree. Additionally, Leah and Glenn brought up the need for a

keynote speaker, and everyone on the board agreed to look into recommending someone to speak for the event. Glenn asked the Board about their feelings concerning using PayPal for registration. Jim and Dave agreed. Also brought up was the use of an independent website to promote online registration.

Glenn asked the Board to consider establishing a plan for providing for towns that cannot go to the next conference a discount or some sort of financial help to secure their participation. Dave mentioned the idea of a first time attendee mentoring program.

General Discussion – John brought up the idea of a Board Retreat and stated this could be handled via email. John added Leah needs volunteers for a Golf Committee for the Fall Conference. Dave, Jim, and John volunteered.

AOPA Briefing by Bill Hamilton – Glenn asked Bill about AOPA's position regarding through the fence issues and residential housing on airports. Bill told Glenn he would find out and get back to him regarding both issues.

Adjourn – Glenn moved and Tim seconded. The motion to adjourn was carried 6/0.