



**COLORADO SPRINGS  
AIRPORT**

Colorado's small airport

**MINUTES  
Airport Advisory Commission  
Wednesday, April 27, 2022  
3:00PM – 5:00PM  
Colorado Springs Airport Conference Room B  
(Public Via Teleconference)  
Teams Meeting**

**VOTING**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Bill Nichols – Interim Chairman  
Al Peterson – Commissioner  
Dr. Brian Erling – Commissioner  
Michelle Ruehl – Commissioner (via TEAMS)  
Danny Mientka – Commissioner (arrived late)

**VOTING**

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Mark Volcheff – Commissioner  
David L. Couch – Commissioner

**NON-VOTING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dave Elliot – Meadow Lake Airport Liaison  
Randy Helms – City Council Representative  
Wayne Williams – City Council Representative (via  
TEAMS)  
County Commissioner Longinos Gonzalez, Jr. – Liaison  
Commissioner (via TEAMS)

**NON-VOTING**

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** County Commissioner Stan VanderWerf – Liaison  
Commissioner

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

Greg Phillips – Director of Aviation  
Michael Gendill – Senior Attorney  
Jennifer Cook – Executive Assistant  
Troy Stover – Assistant Director of Aviation  
Brett Miller – Assistant Director of Aviation  
Jeremy Owings – Operations Manager  
Kristine Andrews – Environmental Health & Safety  
Specialist  
Chris Padilla – Senior Analyst  
Tyler Hardman – Project Planner  
Aidan Ryan – Marketing & Communications Manager (via  
TEAMS)  
Katha Snow – Sr. Business Support Specialist (via  
TEAMS)

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Wayne Heilman – The Gazette  
Jessica Snouwaert – The Gazette  
Other attendees via phone were unknown

I. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 3:01PM APRIL 27, 2022, by INTERIM CHAIRMAN NICHOLS**

Interim Chairman Nichols announced that Alternate Commissioner Al Peterson and Alternate Commissioner Dr. Brian Erling have been elevated to Commissioner.

II. **APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 23, 2022 MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Peterson made a motion to approve the March 23, 2022 meeting minutes. Commissioner Erling seconded.

Discussion: None

VOTE: **APPROVED (Unanimous, Roll Call Passes 4 Yes).**

III. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- None

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- None

V. **NEW BUSINESS AND REPORT ITEMS**

A. **Land Use Review** – Tyler Hardman

Tyler Hardman presented sixteen (16) Land Use Items.

Commissioner Erling made a motion to recommend approval of Land Use Items #1 through #14 as presented by airport staff. Commissioner Peterson seconded.

VOTE: **APPROVED (Unanimous, Roll Call Passes 4 Yes)**

Land Use Item #15: Briefed

Tyler Hardman gave a detailed briefing on Land Use Item #15, request by First & Main, LLC for approval of a minor amendment development plan to the South Carefree Circle telecommunications facility. The amendment includes the installation of a new Verizon Wireless communication facility antenna removing existing antennas and replacing with twelve (12) new antennas on an existing 60-foot-high tower with no change in height. The site is currently zoned PBC/AO (Planned Business Center/Airport Overlay) and located northwest of Tutt Boulevard and South Carefree Circle.

## Land Use Item #16: Briefed

Tyler Hardman gave a detailed briefing on Land Use Item #16, request by Retherford Enterprises, Inc., on behalf of Verizon Wireless for approval of a minor amendment to an existing development plan. The amendment includes a collocation to an existing facility and removing and replacing equipment and antennas with no changes to the tower height. The site is zoned PBC/UV/CU/AO (Planned Business Center with Use Variance, Conditional Use and Airport Overlay) and consists of 5.91 acres. The facility is located southeast of South Academy Boulevard and Fountain Boulevard at 1803 S Academy Blvd.

Discussion: Interim Chairman Nichols shared his participation on a call with Verizon on April 7, 2022, where it was discussed that these sites are in C-Band hardware install pre-preparation. Verizon is attempting to buy this spectrum from current owners. But even if they get early access to this spectrum they will wait until they get FAA approval before activating.

Ensuing a detailed discussion regarding Verizon's broadband spectrum and required FAA approvals, a decision was made to approve Land Use Items #15 and #16.

Commissioner Peterson made a motion to recommend approval of Land Use Items #15 and #16 as presented by airport staff. Commissioner Mientka seconded.

**VOTE: APPROVED (Unanimous, Roll Call Passes 5 Yes)**

## **B. Director's Airport Business Report**

- **Project Status Report**
  - Airport/Airfield construction report presented by Troy Stover
  - Finalizing grant for Taxiway Bravo rehabilitation. Notice to proceed set for June 6, 2022.
  - Working on grant application for Taxiway A realignment. Design is on hold.
  - The Terminal Building Oversize Baggage Handling System and Concourse Modernization are both in design.
  - Announcement of new staff joining COS. Deanna Stoddard will be the new Design and Construction Manager.
- **Traffic Trend Report**
  - The airline data analysis was presented by Greg Phillips.
  - Colorado Springs Airport (COS) had 87,346 enplanements for the month of March 2022, 51 percent increase over March 2021 and up 44 percent vs March of 2019.
  - Greg Phillips, Joe Nevill and Josh MacCammon will attend the ACI-NA JumpStart conference in Reno, Nevada, June 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, meeting with carriers.
- **COS Financial Report**
  - COS financial report and Plan of Finance presented by Chris Padilla.

- **Airport Business Development Report**
  - Airport business development report presented by Troy Stover.
  - Negotiations and discussions of new and current development throughout the west side, General Aviation and Peak Innovation Park continue.

**C. General Business – Director Greg Phillips**

- Greg Phillips noted that the mask mandate has been revoked.
- Valet parking, managed by REEF Parking, will begin May 1, 2022.
- The US Forest Service facility is in operation. Their Grand Opening event is scheduled for May 25, 2022.
- Master Plan meetings were held at the end of March with the Commission, PAC, Users, Tenants and public. Asked that any comments and/or questions be submitted.

**D. Chairman’s Report – Interim Chairman Nichols**

- Interim Chairman Nichols shared that there have been eight applications received for the two open Alternate Commissioner positions.

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

- Washington Update – Commissioner Ruehl
  - Commissioner Ruehl noted collaborating with the Det. 62 Commander from San Antonio recently as they create a syllabus for the class on eVTOL (electric vertical take-off and landing).

**VII. COMMISSION MEMBERS’ COMMENTS**

- Commissioner Mientka shared his involvement as a judge in the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Rocky Mountain Real Estate Challenge sponsored by NAIOP (Commercial Real Estate Development Association).
- Councilman Helms announced the appointment of Adrian Vasquez, who was selected to serve as Colorado Springs Chief of Police.
- Greg Phillips announced Wayne Heiman’s retirement from The Gazette. Wayne has reported on the airport for forty years and has participated in Commission meetings.
- Councilman Helms shared that the Thunderbirds will be present for the Air Force Academy’s graduation on May 25<sup>th</sup> and the Secretary of Defense, Llyod Austin, will be the guest speaker.

**VIII. CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS**

- None

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

- Interim Chairman Nichols adjourned the meeting at 4:47 P.M.

**The next meeting date is Wednesday, May 25, 2022**