



**Minutes of the Granite State Airport Management Association**

**Friday, September 10, 2010**

**10:00 AM**

**Parlin Field  
14 Airport Road  
Newport, NH**

**ATTENDEES:**

Peter Chase	Claremont Airport
Jeri Fortier	Dean Memorial Airport
Jim Fortier	Dean Memorial Airport
Harvey Sawyer	Jaffrey/Silver Ranch Airport
Diane Cooper	Laconia Airport
Rick Dymont	Lebanon Airport
Roy Rankin	Nashua Airport
Mark Brewer	Manchester Airport
Russell Kelsea	Parlin Field
Bill Hopper	Portsmouth International Airport
Tracey McInnis	FAA/Airports Division
Lisa Lesperance	FAA/Airports Division
Carol Niewola	NHDOT/Bureau of Aeronautics
Rick Bartle	Assist-US
Stephen Bourque	DAW/PSM
Mark Goodrich	Dubois & King
Dale Wilde	HTA
Bob Furey	HTA
Val Mendonca	HNTB
Heath Marsden	Jacobs
Steve Berardo	Jacobs
Carol Tortolano	McFarland Johnson
Janice Bland	Stantec
Debbie Ricker	Stantec

**GUESTS:** Representative Chris Nevins

President Rick Dymont called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes – June 12, 2010:**

A motion was made by Roy Rankin and seconded by Bill Hopper to accept the minutes of the June 12, 2010 meeting minutes as written. The motion was unanimously accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** GSAMA has \$9,728.65 in its checking account and six \$.56 stamps, after paying \$500 membership dues to NHAHS. A motion was made by Bill Hopper and seconded by Jim Fortier to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion was unanimously accepted.

**Legislative Update, HB 1506:** Representative Nevins gave an update on this issue. Noting that the legislation is moving ahead in a positive way, there is still much work to be done to convince the Finance Committee of the importance of funding non-NPIAS airports as well as overcoming the hurdle of where the funds will come from. A questionnaire was sent to the airports to gather information to present to the committee; however, very few airports responded. Rep. Nevins underlined that it is critical for the airports to get involved. The work sessions will be held in the Jan/Feb timeframe with voting taking place March/April.

**Executive Director/Legislative Liaison Position:** The "job description" was finalized as follows:

**Purpose:** The Executive Director/Legislative Liaison position addresses the need for someone to be responsible for crafting and monitoring of legislation that impacts aviation in the Granite state and meeting with legislators, state officials and others influential in aviation.

**Position Description:** GSAMA recognizes the importance of the proposed funding legislation HB1506, which addresses the creation of an aviation trust fund. The position will require the attendance of at least 20 meetings through out the year (to be finalized in the agreement between the parties), including but not limited to the following.

- Coordinate with GSAMA executive committee and Board of Directors with regard to legislative direction and suggested efforts to be undertaken
- Attend quarterly association meetings to debrief and provide status updates
- Take lead for legislative day on the hill and work closely with a subcommittee to organize the bi-annual event
- Attend 6-8 meetings with legislators to establish and maintain GSAMA's position on current, proposed and future legislation
- Attend aviation caucus meetings and meet if possible with caucus members
- Attend, and or present at, legislative hearings that are pertinent to aviation or would impact GSAMA members

**Requirements:** This position requires individual(s) have a minimum of 15 years of aviation experience, is familiar with New Hampshire airports, and have a solid understanding of the funding challenges facing airports in the state.

**Remuneration:** Travel expenses reimbursed up to \$1500 maximum.

**Roundtable Discussions:**

- a. Airport Public Involvement: It is important to build public support early and continually. Various means were discussed, including air shows, aviation and non-aviation events, etc.
- b. Budget Development: In the face of cuts, having ready answers makes all the difference; public support goes a long way in this area; various methodologies for developing budgets were discussed.

**NHDOT Presentation:**

DBE Program Update: Now a three-year plan beginning FY2012; a plan is required for recipients of federal funds in the amount of \$250,000 or more in any given FFY.

Section 106: The importance of addressing issues at the scoping meeting or early-on in the design phase was stressed.

Accident Procedures: An increase in flying due to the good weather this summer has led to an increase in incidents/accidents. Carol Niewola handed out a Fact Sheet and contact/notification list. NHDOT Bureau of Aeronautics is required to be involved/notified under NH RSA 422:7, when the airport manager learns of the occurrence (even if its after-the-fact).

Director Retirement: Jack Ferns will be retiring from the Bureau; although the exact date is not yet known, he will continue to serve through the end of March 2011. The concern is that the Bureau continues to be headed up by a person with aviation expertise so as to preclude it from being absorbed into a multi-modal DOT with even less focus on aviation. The membership requested Rick Dymont to send an expression of gratitude to Director Ferns for his years of service on behalf of the aviation system of NH.

Residential Thru-the-Fence: The draft is out for comment regarding the proposed change, wherein no new residential thru-the-fence operations will be allowed.

**Grant Program Status:** NHDOT and FAA discussed the status of the program and again urged GSAMA to write to the US Congress and Senate.

**Airport Status Update:** The represented airports discussed their major events.

**Membership:** Rick Dymont suggested making personal calls to the airports that are not members of GSAMA.

**Next Meeting:** The next quarterly meeting of GSAMA is scheduled for Friday, December 10, 2010 at 10:00 AM, at NHDOT in Concord.

The membership thanked Jacobs for providing the delicious refreshments; Rick for opening his hangar to hold the meeting; and Russ for hosting the meeting at his airport.

The membership was reminded of the upcoming FAA Airports Conference November 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Roy Rankin and seconded by Bill Hopper to adjourn at 12:28pm. The motion was unanimously accepted.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Diane Cooper, Secretary