

## **Minutes for the Montana Airport Management Association**

### **Fall Meeting**

**Helena, Montana**

**March 28, 2024 via Zoom**

#### **CALL TO ORDER – 11:05 a.m.**

MAMA Vice-President Shane Ketterling called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

#### **INTRODUCTIONS -11:05 a.m.**

- Ian McKay, President
- Shane Ketterling, Vice President
- Ross Marty, Secretary/Treasurer
- Lucas Locke, GA Officer
- Heather Mosser, Corporate Officer
- Tim Damrow - Small Hub Officer

Shane Ketterling updated the membership that President Ian McKay would be stepping down from MAMA duties to take care of some personal items. Shane proposed that in President McKay's absence, all MAMA board positions will move up in roles until the Fall MAMA Meeting, at which point a new board will be nominated and selected by the membership.

Jeff Wadekamper moved to approve the board succession plan; Brian Ellestad seconded. The proposed updating of board positions and roles was approved as presented.

#### **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES -11:08 a.m.**

Jeff Wadekamper moved to approve the minutes; Jeff Roach seconded. The minutes were approved as presented.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE – 11:09 a.m.**

Shane Ketterling updated the MAMA membership that MAMA sent a letter to TSA Administrator David Pekoske on May 23, 2023, opposing the Aviation Worker Screening requirements and asked for a review of the implementation of the program. Administrator Pekoske wrote in response on November 28, 2023, detailing why TSA would be denying MAMA's request for review.

Chris Pomeroy, Sun Valley Airport Director and NWAABE Secretary, updates the membership of the NWAABE Conference to be held the April 2-4, 2024, and to register if members are interested.

### **FINANCIAL UPDATE – 11:10 a.m.**

Ross Marty presented 2023 Year-End financials to the membership.

Current Account Balances

**Checking:** \$17,464.57

**Savings:** \$0.00

**Money Market:** \$32,324.59

**Total Assets:** **\$49,789.16**

Jeff Wadekamper moved to approve the budget; Brian Ellestad seconded. The budget was approved as presented.

### **TSA EMPLOYEE SCREENING DISCUSSION – 11:14 a.m.**

Shane Ketterling updated membership that BIL, as the only publicly owned and operated Airport in Montana, reached out to the Attorney General Austin Knudsen for a legal review in pertinence to potential Montana Constitutional conflicts in relation to the Aviation Worker Screening National Amendment. Attorney General Knudsen wrote in response that he was declining to issue a written opinion on the matter. With the declination of written opinion from the Attorney General, BIL, alongside GPI, worked in conjunction with sixteen other nation-wide Airports to hire an attorney to represent them in litigation against TSA. Since that point, the legal team representing the Airports filed a Motion in Federal Circuit Court petitioning the court to issue an opinion on the proposed TSA Aviation Worker Screening National Amendment; the Federal Circuit Court has not yet issued a ruling. Subsequently, a mediator was hired, and a mediation was held between the Airports group and TSA with no substantive resolution to any of the disputed items. After mediation, the Airports' group attorneys filed a request for a stay of implementation of the program with the TSA Administrator which was denied. Shane Ketterling stipulated that the most likely avenue towards reaching resolution will be decided by the Federal Courts.

### **2025 LEGISLATIVE DISCUSSION – 11:20 a.m.**

Shane Ketterling updated the membership that Tom Ebzery has agreed to work with MAMA for another Legislative Session to be held in 2025. With no Legislative Session slated for 2024 there is nothing coming up this year legislatively to act on. Shane informed the membership that Tom Ebzery will be with us at the Fall MAMA/ADO Conference in October and to start thinking about proposed bills/legislation that MAMA can support.

#### **MAMA MISSION AND BYLAWS DISCUSSION – 11:21 a.m.**

Shane Ketterling presented updates to the MAMA Bylaws that was agreed by the membership in March 2023 that Ian McKay undertake a review of. The updated bylaws were then presented to the membership at the October 2023 MAMA meeting with direction to review.

Jeff Wadekamper moved to approve the updates to the bylaws as presented to the membership; Brian Ellestad seconded. The bylaws updates were approved as presented.

#### **ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION – 11:23 a.m.**

HLN – Jeff Wadekamper updated that he had recently sent out an email to the other commercial Airports regarding drastic increases to insurance costs and potential ideas for reducing or slowing down the increases in the future. Jeff updated that there are avenues to look at such as a Captive Insurance policy, or inclusion in other State/County Insurance pools. Jeff stipulated that the other Airports thought that this was a worthy item to investigate and agreed that Jeff will reach out to State/County representatives in Helena. Since then, Jeff has had discussion with MMIA and MACo, with both entities agreeing that they will do further research into the possible inclusion of Airports in their respective insurance pools.

BIL – Shane Ketterling updated that he will begin coordination with FAA ADO staff in planning the Fall MAMA/ADO conference agenda and to keep an eye out for future emails with the agenda and other adjoining information.

#### **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS – 11:29 a.m.**

None

#### **ADJOURNED – 11:30 a.m.**

MAMA President Shane Ketterling adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

