



## AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION

### MINUTES

January 16, 2025

3:30 p.m.

Santiam Room, City Hall/VIRTUAL

Approved: February 20, 2025

#### Call to Order

Chair Mel Huffman called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

#### Roll Call

Members present: Chair Mel Huffman, Chuck Kratch, Rodney Moore, Theophilus Warren, and JR Beroncal

Members absent: None

Staff present: Transportation Manager Robb Romeo, and Clerk III Anita Dodd

Others present: Tony Hann, and Debbie Origer

#### Elect Chair and Vice Chair

**3:29 p.m.**

Chair Mel Huffman made a motion to table the election of chair and vice chair until the February 20, 2025, meeting. Rodney Moore seconded the motion, and the motion passed the commission 5-0.

#### Approval of September 19, 2024, Minutes

**3:32 p.m.**

Chuck Kratch made a motion to approve the September 19, 2024, minutes as revised. JR Beroncal seconded the motion, and the motion passed the commission 5-0.

#### Staff Updates

**3:33 p.m.**

Transportation Manager Robb Romeo gave an update on the Albany Municipal Airport, including improvements to the FBO building, the historic hangar, and runway repairs.

#### FBO Updates

**3:46 p.m.**

Tony Hann shared FBO updates, including heater repairs for the hangars, the progress toward installing fuel pumps, and new pilot training goals.

#### Business from the Commission

**3:54 p.m.**

Beroncal asked how the City of Albany determines what improvements are implemented at the airport. Romeo informed him that they generally share ideas at the Airport Advisory Commission meetings and take a vote. If it is agreed upon it can then be added to the Airport Master Plan located on the City of Albany website.

[www.albanyoregon.gov/transportation/airport#governance-master-plans](http://www.albanyoregon.gov/transportation/airport#governance-master-plans)

Moore asked if Hann has considered working with Linn Benton Community College (LBCC) to help with pilot training. Hann replied that he had talked with LBCC, but it didn't seem there was interest from the public at the time. Romeo mentioned he would like to see LBCC offer an airplane mechanic class.

Kratch suggested the commissioners introduce themselves at the next Airport Advisory Commission meeting and share a bit about themselves so they can get to know each other better.

**Business from the Public**

**4:08 p.m.**

Debbie Origer reported that she has been working on the 1929 Hangar Project for 3 years, and they finally have an official name: "Albany Air Museum – Wings of History". The focus of the program at this time is to get the community interested in aviation and spread the word about the hangar. She would like to start by inviting third grade classes to the hangar and providing fun aviation-themed projects for them to work on. Origer is also in the process of applying for a federal grant called the Take Off and Grow (TAG) Grant to start a local model plane club.

**Next Meeting Date**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Thursday, February 20, 2025.

**Adjournment**

Hearing no further business, Chair Huffman adjourned the meeting at 4:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Signature on File

Signature on File

Anita Dodd  
Clerk III

Robb Romeo  
Transportation Manager

*\*Documents discussed at the meeting that are not in the agenda packet are archived in the record. The documents are available by emailing [cityclerk@albanyoregon.gov](mailto:cityclerk@albanyoregon.gov)*