



**MINUTES**  
**AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
Wednesday, July 20, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting  
[YouTube](#)



**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

**Call to order:** 6:03 p.m.

**Roll Call:** John Foley – Vice Chair, Doug Brenizer, Kat Pence – Chair, Neal White, Mike Morrow, Arnaud Verstuyf

**Excused:** LTC Nathan Edgecomb

**Staff:** John Paskell, Irma Rivera

**Guest:** Robert Broyhill

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** Move to approve the July 20, 2022, Meeting Agenda as presented.

**Motion by:** Member: White      **Seconded by:** Foley

**Action:** Approved the Meeting Agenda for July 20, 2022, as presented.

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Motion approved**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** Move to approve the April 20, 2022, Minutes as presented.

**Motion by:** Member: Brenizer      **Seconded by:** Foley

**Action:** Approved the Minutes of April 20, 2022, Minutes as presented.

**Vote: Unanimous**

**Motion approved**

**4. Public Comment**

- a. Email comments were submitted by Brent DeHart, Ron Sterba, Debbi Montgomery, Ron Peters, Tony Philips, Kim Allain (attached)

**5. REPORTS**

- a. **Tower Report:** Robert Broyhill  
**Comments/Questions:** N/A

- b. **Airport Manager Report:** John Paskell  
**Comments/Questions:** White, Broyhill, Foley

**6. ACTION ITEMS**

- a. **Commercial Air Services**  
**Motion:** Recommend purchasing ground equipment  
**Motion by:** Brenizer  
**Action:** Withdrawn by Brenizer

**Motion:** Reaffirm support of commercial air service

**Motion by:** Brenizer      **Seconded by:** White

**Vote: Aye:** Brenizer, Morrow      **Nay:** Foley, Verstuyf, White, Pence

**Motion Failed**

**Motion:** Moved to recommend the AAC make a statement to the City Council reaffirming its support for Commercial Air Service and that City staff continue to investigate the costs associated with this effort and identify funding sources to cover those costs. Additionally, the AAC recommends the City move forward with the purchase of ground service equipment that have already been funded by the State of Oregon.

**Motion by:** Foley                      **Seconded by:** Verstuyf

**Action:** Approved

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Motion** Approved

**7. ITEMS FOR COMMISSION DISCUSSION: N/A**

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m. Next meeting October 19, 2022.

## Public Comments

**From:** Brent DeHart <[brentdehart@comcast.net](mailto:brentdehart@comcast.net)>  
**Subject:** FAA meeting tonight- PUBLIC IMPUT  
**Date:** July 20, 2022 at 2:48:06 PM PDT

Dear Members of the Airport Advisory Commission:

I am the owner of Salem Aviation Fueling, and the Chair for the Fly Salem Committee. The Fly Salem Committee is anchored by the Salem Area Chamber, Travel Salem, and SEDCOR (regional Economic Development entity). I have read the reports and agenda items for tonight's meeting. I wanted to share some perspective before you gave any recommendation to Council regarding Commercial (passenger) Air Serve at SLE.

We have one airline that has told us SLE is their #1 expansion location and would start flights in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of THIS YEAR if the terminal were ready. There is a second airline who has told us they will launch at SLE next Spring. The recruitment of commercial air is concluding with positive outcomes.

It is unclear still, without staff actually providing the consultants' reports as to what improvements are suggested, what are recommendations, preferences, and guidelines, vs actual regulations and codes. It is premature and imprudent to accept estimated costs based on consultant opinions when they make more money the more they convince the City to do.

The economic impact for the entire region is enormous, and that's what is at stake. There will be much more FAA money to preserve, protect, improve our regional airport, starting with a \$850,000 annual increase in just base FAA allocations.

We (Travel Salem, Salem Chamber, Fly Salem) have identified at least 4 strategies to fund necessary improvements that do not involve taking money from the general fund priorities such as public safety or homeless initiatives.

I have served City commissions as you do now- Parks, Traffic, and Ethics commissions, plus City Council. In my opinion, it is inappropriate for any city staff list or limit what recommendation options they have. What you recommend to council (the reason this group exists) needs to come from you, not from staff. The options given you are basically kill the regionally supported effort, or bring back another report in 6-8 months from now, having not moved forward on anything. This, when we have 2 airlines that would commit to coming in that same time frame if Salem expediently for its terminal ready.

Therefore, I would recommend a robust discussion on the recommendation to council, and using language you feel comfortable with and not just accept one of 3 choices. My recommended motion to add to your deliberations:

I move the AAC Reaffirm the AAC's support of Commercial Airline Service, and Recommend to Council that:

They direct staff to immediately work to identify potential funding strategies to bridge the gap from now until the service is paying its current and upfront costs and have a report back within a month. To Examine:

Value Engineering to lower the up-front costs

Clearly identify to Council what improvements are required by code and regulations, and which are TSA recommendations and guidelines, to determine the least investment and least amount of time to get the first carrier to start service.

Negotiate with FAA and TSA for partial implementation prior to start of service with a schedule for full implementation.

Move forward immediately with the purchase of GSE for which there are funds available.

Move forward with the hiring of additional staff (seen as a need regardless of commercial service)

I think you for your concern and time in service to the City and the Airport. Please call or email if you have any questions.

Brent DeHart 503-551-6463 Mobile

President, Salem Aviation Fueling and

Chair, Fly Salem Steering Committee [www.flysle.com](http://www.flysle.com)

**From: Ron Sterba <[ronsrv9a@gmail.com](mailto:ronsrv9a@gmail.com)>**

**Subject: Salem Commercial Air Service**

**Date: July 20, 2022 at 3:01:45 PM PDT**

I am in on Commercial air service to Salem . I sent a email to city council members indicating Salem needs commercial airlines here now . Frankly I'am scared to go to Portland in that crime wave hitting Portland this last year and catalytic converters stolen off automobiles in PDX's parking lot as reported by Portland TV Station recently.

Our McNary airport needs to be a regional municipal airport for the Willamette Valley. Our Salem community is at a fast pace in development. Count me in on recruiting a Airline. Last I want Say Start financially low on the needs of airline requirements and then on whats needed to satisfy future needs of commercial airline service.

My personal feelings of a one- building fits All. Salem terminal and FAA tower ( sticking up 40-50 feet) and Oregon Department of Aviation all in one two-floor structure which can be expanded to several airline gates as service grows and all entities sharing the rent.

Best Regards

Ron Sterba

Salem Oregon

**From: Debbi Montgomery <[rio142@msn.com](mailto:rio142@msn.com)>**

**Subject: Commercial Airlines**

**Date: July 20, 2022 at 12:13:35 PM PDT**

I have owned a hanger in Salem and have been there for 18 years when delta came in years ago my husband and I even though it was more expensive we still flew out to Salem Oregon Salem is the state capital and there should be commercial planes going in and out

**From:** <[info@salemaviation.biz](mailto:info@salemaviation.biz)>  
**Subject:** AAC Meeting  
**Date:** July 20, 2022 at 12:00:07 PM PDT

Hello Chairperson Pence,

I want to express my STROG support of having commercial air service in Salem.  
We have had STRONG interest from airlines and extensive interest from the community to having Commercial Air Service come to Salem.

I think the time is right, the interest is strong and the economic benefits are HUGE to this city.

I STRONGLY urge you and the AAC to vote FOR Commercial air service coming to Salem.

Ron Peters  
Salem Aviation Fueling

**From:** T Phillips <[tphillips777@gmail.com](mailto:tphillips777@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** July 20, 2022 at 4:02:39 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Air Service

Would love to see Commercial Air Service into Salem!

Tony

**From:** Kim Allain <[birdkim89@gmail.com](mailto:birdkim89@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Commercial Air Service at SLE  
**Date:** July 20, 2022 at 4:57:19 PM PDT

Hi there,  
I'm an exSle resident. Still own a house there. I fly into PDX every 3-4 months because service don't exist to SLE. I'd sure like to beat the I-5 headache

Kim 'Bird' Allain  
503-559-1145