

City of Colville
Airport Board Minutes
10 May 2016

The meeting began at 5:02 pm

In attendance:

Board Members: Drew Hatch, Gary Brooks, Daron Tate, Jon Bateman, Jerry Sater, Bud Budinger, Secretary Steve Pietroburgo, Airport Manager Dave Garringer

Absent: none

City Council: Mayor Lou Janke, Mr. Doug Kyle, Ms. Ann Lawson

Public: George Thomas, Sam Jennings, Terry Coleman, Lynn Hartman, Linda Hartman, Lifeflight Air Ambulance: Dominic Pomponio, Veronica Mitchell-Jones, Ben Suttlemyre

Budget: There was no budget report

New Business:

The purpose of this board meeting is to hear presentation from Lifeflight regarding their proposed operations in Colville. They are in the process of completing a merger with MedStar and plan a small base with one helicopter in Colville. Representatives from the company outlined the benefits to the community, emphasizing the reduced transport time for patients needing critical cardiac or stroke care. The time can be reduced by as much as 40 minutes if a ship is already here in Colville rather than dispatched from Spokane.

The company will remain a non-profit air ambulance service with their own Part 135 Air Taxi Certificate and projects a local base becoming operational by Fall 2016. They are still in the process of deciding on a lease of an existing hangar or construction of a new hangar and office space. Leasing of an existing hangar would likely require the move-in of a modular building for the necessary office space. Flight crews are on duty 24 hours each day. Lifeflight anticipates a work force in Colville including 4 pilots, 4 Registered Nurses, 4 Paramedics and 2 mechanics.

Lifeflight representatives field several questions from Board members and the public regarding operating at remote landing zones and working in concert with local Emergency Medical Services organizations. They offered that extensive interagency training and planning is standard operating procedure throughout their area of coverage.

The Mayor offered that modular buildings don't currently meet zoning code and suggested a written proposal so that the city can work with them and assist in any way possible. The general consensus of the Airport Board is one of strong support for this opportunity.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Pietroburgo, Secretary