

**BIG BEAR AIRPORT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 21, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.  
Community Services District Board Room  
139 East Big Bear Boulevard  
Big Bear City, CA 92314**

- 1. Call to Order:** Vice President Lowery called the General Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Big Bear Airport District to order on December 21st, 2006 at 2:00 P.M. in the Community Services District Board Room, 139 East Big Bear Boulevard, Big Bear City, California. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the Call to Order.

**Directors Present:** Vice-President Russell Lowery  
Secretary Auditor George Berge  
Director Thorne Waymire  
Director Jay Obernolte

**Others Present:** General Manager Garry Dokter  
Recording Secretary Carol Binford  
Legal Council on Telephone Standby

- 2. Agenda Approval:** Motion made by Director Obernolte to approve the agenda as written. Seconded by Director Waymire. Passed unanimously.
- 3. Selection of Director:** Director Obernolte and Director Waymire, the Ad Hoc Committee, received 4 Letters of Application for the position of Airport Director. The Ad Hoc Committee elected to present all candidates to the Board, effectively taking no action.
  - a.** Applicant Arlan Lynch was absent. Director Obernolte offered to have him speak via teleconference, but Mr. Lynch declined.
  - b.** Applicant Shed Conklin spoke of his 45 years in the Valley, 43 of which he owned the Conklin Paint Stores. He spent 36 years involved in local and State government and 3 terms on the Big Bear Lake City Council. He was a military pilot in World War II and was a commercial pilot with over 10,000 hours in the air. Director Obernolte complimented Mr. Conklin on his Service in World War II. He asked Mr. Conklin if he had access to a computer for email. Mr. Conklin replied that he did not but would look into getting one if appointed.

- c. Applicant Ken Dally said he was an instrument rated pilot with 16 years in Big Bear, 6 years full time. He uses the airport a lot because he flies every day. He has a BS and Masters Degree and spent the last four years on the Big Bear Lake City Council. He is on the Board at BBARWWA and has served on many committees. He said he is very familiar with the Brown Act. He said he has no agenda and his concerns are safety, noise and community involvement. He was a founder, and first President, of the Pilot's Association, and started the Young Eagles program at this airport. In summary he said he was a local businessman and believes he would be a good Director. Secretary Berge asked Mr. Dally how many Board meetings he had attended and Mr. Dally answered none due to a schedule conflict with the Rotary Club.
- d. Applicant John Lawrence has been a resident of Big Bear for 16 years and an avid user of the Airport. He has a vested interest as he has a passion for aviation and he is a daily user of this airport. This airport allows him to live in beautiful Big Bear and work down the mountain. He has served 27 years in the fire service. He has served on countless committees ranging from hazardous materials to search and rescue to the more exotic equine rescue. He is no stranger to board procedure being on committees and problem solving. John thanked Jay Obernolte for introducing him to the board members at the Airport Holiday pot luck and he was very impressed at the level of professionalism and passion of the members. He believes that in the last 16 years that he has been a daily user of the airport, it has been run well and he wants to a part of that process. Secretary Berge asked the same question he asked Mr. Dally; how many times have you attended an Airport Board meeting? Mr. Lawrence answered none but he intends to attend all future meetings. Secretary Berge asked if his hours with the fire service would be a problem as sometimes meetings are called with only 24 hour notice. Mr. Lawrence replied that was an advantage of having tenure. With 27 years in he can arrange his schedule when necessary to accommodate the board meetings.

The Chair proposed to continue discussion of selection of a Director to the January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 meeting. Additionally the Chair proposed a special meeting for January 9<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 PM, the agenda to include selection of a Director, swearing in of a Director, and Reorganization of the Board. Secretary Berge motioned to accept the Chairs recommendations and was seconded by Director Obernolte. The vote was unanimous. The Chair wanted it to be clear that there would be two more meetings to select the new board member: the first on January 3, 2007 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 when the board

member would be selected and sworn in and the Board itself reorganized.

**4. Swearing in of Director:** Carried forward to January 9, 2006.

**5. Manager's Report:** None

**6. Old Business:** None

**7. New Business:**

a. T-Mobile is proposing a 70 foot cell phone tower on the back corner of Riffenburg Lumber's property. T-Mobile applied to the FAA who determined the tower would not be a hazard to aviation. This decision was made without knowledge of either the airport or the Western Pacific Airports Division of the FAA. The search results showed that the tower was less than 1500 hundred feet from the airport.

Subsequently T-Mobile went back to the FAA for another application for a 90 foot crane. We assume this is for construction of the tower but we don't know for sure.

Manager Dokter called the FAA and CalTrans who both stated that the FAA's paper survey is the controlling document for what they need to do and they have no grounds to object.

The FAA AIP grants language states that the we guarantee we will protect the Airport and its future use. Caltrans conclusion is that we are justified and that it is reasonable to object to this tower as a hazard to aviation.

- a. Noise abatement 10 degree right turns aircraft towards the proposed tower.
- b. High density altitude and diminished aircraft capability could be a problem.
- c. Future obstacle for instrument landings.

Mr. Vince Smith, the owner of Riffenburgs, said if they fly over the tower they would be over Castle Glen and that would definitely be a noise problem.

Director Obernolte asked Manager Dokter if he had any recommendations. Manager Dokter saw it as a problem, especially for future instrument procedures, and we have every right to point out the safety hazard.

Secretary Berge asked if there was a possibly of moving the tower to another site? Manager Dokter responded that Mr. Smith does not want to consider another location. Manager Dokter said the AOPA has not been informed of the problem.

Sandra Molina, City Planner for the City of Big Bear Lake, thinks the Planning Commission would continue this item to the 17<sup>th</sup> of January. She suggested the Board write a letter expressing all concerns regarding the tower and express the need to postpone the meeting to the 17<sup>th</sup>. She recommended including all of the safety concerns in the letter and that Manager Dokter and the Board make the presentation in person.

- b. Lot Split, Angeles Blvd., Big Bear City: Motion made by Director Waymire to approve the lot split, seconded by Secretary Berge. Vote to approve was unanimous.

**8. Standing Committee Reports**

- a. Lease Committee – None
- b. Personnel Committee - None
- c. Safety Committee – None

**9. Future Agenda Items – None**

**10. Directors Comments** – Director Waymire said opposing building the cell tower at Riffenburgh Lumber could be viewed as “taking of property.” Director Berge offered that denial of a permit is not “taking,” just preventing future income.

**11. Meeting Adjourned: 3:03**

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President Board of Directors

ATTEST:

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Secretary of the Board of Directors