

# **SOUTH DAKOTA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION MEETING**

**Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. CT**

Becker-Hansen Building/ Commission Room – 700 E. Broadway Ave, Pierre, SD 57501

**COMMISSIONER PRESENT:** Bob Huggins, Vice-Chairman  
Rolf Johnson

**COMMISSIONER PRESENT**

**VIA CONFERENCE CALL:** Christopher Funk  
Jerry Rieber (joined at 2:01 p.m.)

**DOT STAFF PRESENT:** Joel Jundt, Kellie Beck, Jack Dokken, Nancy Hiller, Tom Koch, Katlyn Wieme, Jacob Howard, and Kari Kroll

**DOT STAFF PRESENT**

**VIA CONFERENCE CALL:** Dustin DeBoer

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Brooke Edgar – Helms and Associates; Dan Letellier – Sioux Falls Regional Airport; Megan Johnson – Rapid City Airport; John Senden – Mayor of Spearfish/Spearfish Airport; Amanda Mack – Watertown Airport; Bob Babcock – Helms and Associates; Rich Krokkel – Aberdeen Airport; Dave Smith – City of Sturgis; Roger Burnham – Sturgis Airport; Thomas Schauer – Mead & Hunt; and Bob Mercer – Keloland News

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**VIA CONFERENCE CALL:** Steve Hamilton – South Dakota Pilots Association; Justin Petersen – City of Watertown; David Myers – Lincoln County Airport; Jake Braunagel – KLJ Engineering (KLJ); Aaron Storm – KLJ; and Ryan Falch – SEH Inc.

Vice-chairman Bob Huggins called the meeting of the South Dakota Aeronautics Commission (the “Commission”) to order at 2:00 p.m. CT. Roll call was taken. Commissioner Jerry Rieber joined the call at 2:01 p.m. A quorum was determined.

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Huggins opened the floor to the Commission to disclose potential conflicts of interest and to present requests for waiver pursuant to South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL) Chapter 3 – 23.

Commissioner Rieber reminded the Commission of his previously stated conflict of interest with Watertown Regional Airport and will recuse himself for any agenda items regarding Watertown Regional Airport.

No other commissioners disclosed a conflict of interest nor requested a waiver.

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Huggins asked for a motion to approve the May 23, 2024 Commission meeting minutes.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Johnson and seconded by Funk to approve the May 23, 2024 Commission meeting minutes. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

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Huggins opened the floor to public comment.

No members of the public addressed the Commission or offered input.

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Secretary Jundt presented the Secretary's Report. He shared that the aeronautics trust fund has an approximate \$11 million balance and that the projected revenues received were in line with what was forecasted for the budget year. Jundt noted that the Department of Transportation (the "Department") will come to the Commission in the fall with a projection for funds moving forward for the Commission to discuss future funding practices.

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Jundt presented to the Commission the options created by the Department of awarding options of the South Dakota Airport Terminal Funding Applications for the Commission's review.

Huggins asked each of the airports to whom applied to address the Commission to explain more about their project for the Commission to get any additional clarification needed before making decisions about how to allocate the funding at the July 18, 2024 meeting. The applicants presented in the following order:

1. Aberdeen Regional Airport – Rich Krokell, City of Aberdeen, and Bob Babcock, Helms & Assoc.
2. Chamberlain Municipal Airport – Ryan Falch, SEH Inc.
3. Hot Springs Municipal Airport – no representation/ no additional discussion
4. Rapid City Regional Airport – Megan Johnson, Rapid City Airport, and Tom Schauer, Mead & Hunt
5. Sioux Falls Regional Airport – Dan Letellier, Sioux Falls Airport and Tom Schauer, Mead & Hunt
6. Black Hills Airport (City of Spearfish) – John Senden, Spearfish Mayor, and Tom Schauer, Mead & Hunt
7. Sturgis Municipal Airport - Dave Smith, City of Sturgis, and Brook Edgar, Helms & Assoc.
8. Marv Skie / Lincoln County Airport – David Myers, Airport Manager, and Brook Edgar, Helms & Assoc.
9. Watertown Regional Airport – Amanda Mack, City of Watertown, and Bob Babcock, Helms & Assoc.

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Jack Dokken, Program Manager for the Office of Air, Rail and Transit, presented to the Commission for their consideration the following AIP and Bi-partisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) application.

**Belle Fourche 3-46-0072-020-2024**

**AIP:** Design and bidding for hangar taxilane reconstruction

Federal Share	\$140,400.00
State Share	\$7,800.00
Local Share	\$7,800.00
Total	\$156,000.00

**DeSmet 3-46-0063-020-2024**

**BIL:** Acquire snow removal equipment

Federal Share	\$288,000.00
State Share	\$16,000.00
Local Share	\$16,000.00
Total	\$320,000.00

**Lincoln County 3-46-0078-022-2024**

**AIP:** Reconstruction of south apron

Federal Share	\$ 589,500.00
State Share	\$32,750.00
Local Share	\$32,750.00
Total	\$ 655,000.00

**Lincoln County 3-46-0078-023-2024**

**BIL:** reconstruction of south apron – engineering and testing

Federal Share	\$477,000.00
State Share	\$26,500.00
Local Share	\$26,500.00
Total	\$530,000.00

**Philip 3-46-0043-018-2024**

**BIL:** Acquire snow removal equipment

Federal Share	\$279,000.00
State Share	\$15,500.00
Local Share	\$15,500.00
Total	\$310,000.00

**Rosebud 3-46-0082-022-2024**

**BIL:** Design hangar taxilane expansion

Federal Share	\$72,000.00
State Share	\$4000.00
Local Share	\$4000.00
Total	\$80,000.00

**Spearfish 3-46-0065-036-2024**

**AIP:** GA taxilane reconstruction and extension

Federal Share	\$1,261,000.00
State Share	\$70,056.00
Local Share	\$70,056.00
Total	\$1,401,111.00

**Spearfish 3-46-0065-037-2024**

**BIL:** GA taxilane reconstruction and extension

Federal Share	\$349,000.00
State Share	\$19,389.00
Local Share	\$19,389.00
Total	\$387,778.00

**Wall 3-46-0069-016-2024**

**BIL:** Design, engineering and bidding services for apron expansion; extend taxilane 450' to access hangar development area

Federal Share	\$98,000.00
State Share	\$5,444.00
Local Share	\$5,445.00
Total	\$108,889.00

**Winner 3-46-0061-021-2024**

**BIL:** Airport pavement maintenance and level III Cultural resource survey

Federal Share	\$238,500.00
State Share	\$13,250.00
Local Share	\$13,250.00
Total	\$265,000.00

**SDDOT 3-46-4600-030-2024**

**AIP:** Statewide pavement maintenance

Federal Share	\$1,755,000.00
State Share	\$97,500.00
Local Share	\$97,500.00
Total	\$1,950,000.00

A MOTION WAS MADE by Funk and seconded by Rieber to approve all the AIP and BIL grant applications except Watertown and Sioux Falls. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

**Watertown 3-46-0058-045-2024**

**AIP:** Engineering services taxiway D and ag area, bid schedule A

Federal Share	\$1,332,473.00
State Share	\$74,026.00
Local Share	\$74,026.00
Total	\$1,480,526.00

**Watertown 3-46-0058-046-2024**

**BIL:** Construction bid schedule B and C; engineering services Taxiway D and ag area

Federal Share	\$ 1,095,603.00
State Share	\$60,867.00
Local Share	\$60,867.00
Total	\$1,217,336.00

A MOTION WAS MADE by Funk and seconded by Johnson to approve the Watertown AIP and BIL grant applications. All present voted aye by roll call vote, except Rieber who abstained. The motion carried.

Dokken shared changes had been made to Sioux Falls' application after the submission to the Department as shown in the stricken through text below.

**Sioux Falls ~~3-46-0043-065-2024~~ 3-46-0050-063-2024**

**BIL:** ~~Terminal expansion construction;~~ concourse design

Federal Share	<del>\$8,012,980.00</del>	\$7,395,278.00
State Share	<del>\$0</del>	\$200,000.00
Local Share		\$708,073.00
Total	<del>\$8,721,053.00</del>	\$8,103,351.00

Dan Letellier, Sioux Falls Airport, shared that he believes this project would be eligible for the \$200,000 terminal award based on the Commission funding policy. The Department disagreed with Letellier's interpretation of the policy. The commissioners that were present discussed the eligibility and decided that all commissioners should be present for any action.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Rieber and seconded by Funk to approve the funds in the changed application for concourse design only without the \$200,000 in terminal, with the possibility of reconsidering the funding request in the future before the full commission. All present voted aye by roll call vote. The motion carried.

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With no further business to come before the Commission, Huggins adjourned the meeting at 3:33 p.m. CT.