# PACKET

## Airport Advisory Board – June 8, 2023 - 6:00 PM

Civic Center, 350 Kimbark Street

CITY OF LONGMONT | Vance Brand Airport Advisory Board
**AGENDA**
**AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD**
**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS 350 Kimbark St.**
**Thursday, June 08, 2023 - 6:00 PM**
**Regular Meeting (In Person Only)**

Call to Order

Roll Call

Public Invited to be Heard

Approval of the May 2023 Minutes

Updates from the Airport Manager

Information Items

Action Items

A. Approve Annual Report

Final Public Invited to be Heard

Board, City Council Representative, and/or Staff Comments

**9.** Adjourn
*Notice: In the event, that the Airport Advisory Board does not reach a quorum of 4

board members, the board is required to adjourn.

**MINUTES**
**Airport Advisory Board**
**May 11, 2023**
**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The May 11, 2023, Airport Advisory Board meeting was called to order by Chairperson at 06:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

## 2. ROLL CALL

Kayla Picciau, Recording Secretary, called roll. Those present were Chairperson Harrison Earl, Vice Chairperson Malcolm Dean, and Board Members Tallis Salamatian, Steve Shook, and City Council Member Marcia Martin.

Staff present were Levi Brown, Airport Manager, and Kayla Picciau, Recording Secretary.

Phil Greenwald, Transportation Planning Manager was absent.

## 3. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

Chairperson Earl opened the Public Invited to be Heard.

Al Manley; 940 Rangeview Ln, Longmont; spoke regarding the tax assessments situation on the hangers. He stated there have been major increases and that this will be devastating for the future of the airport if they maintain these appraisal values.

See as no one else wished to speak Chairperson Earl closed the public invited to be heard.

## 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 9, 2023 - Minutes

April 13, 2023 - Minutes

**VICE CHAIRPERSON DEAN MOVED, SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER SHOOK TO APPROVE THE MARCH 9, 2023 AND THE APRIL 13, 2023 MINUTES AS PRESENTED.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 4-0.**

## 5. UPDATES FROM AIRPORT MANAGER

Levi Brown, Airport Manager, provided an update on the following items.

### I. Prairie Dog mitigation

Levi Brown stated that the end cost for prairie dog mitigation was $20,000. He stated that during his daily property inspections, he is not seeing any remaining holes in the runway safety area that were flagged by the FAA.

### II. Engineering Consultant

Levi Brown stated that the contract has been signed by Garber Engineering. Due to the late start of the year, the larger projects will be pushed to 2024. He stated the airport will be using grant funds and the airport budget for this summer's projects.

Levi stated we won't be utilizing grant funding this year, but we will continue to maintain it for regarding next year.

Board Member Shook asked what types of projects will be slated for 2024 that will be funded by the grant money.

Levi Brown answered they will be the wildlife fence completion and facility pavement maintenance.

**III. Sustainability Resolution status**

Levi Brown stated that the Sustainability Resolution was adopted and approved by the city council.

**IV. Airshow status**

Levi Brown stated there was no May meeting. He stated still trying to figure out what we could do this year as opposed to the airshow.

Vice Chairperson Dean asked if about the timing of the event for coordination with the Law Enforcement Cadets.

**V. Airport Cleanup**

Levi Brown stated this was completed this week. He stated it was a huge success and received positive comments. He stated that the City sponsored a large roll-off dumpster as well as support from the Public Works department. He stated the hangar owners were asked to utilize the dumpster to clean up their hangars and surrounding areas.

**VI. Land Survey work**

Levi Brown stated that he is working with an individual towards getting an airport parcel survey. He stated the cost is about $20,000 and the project is scheduled to be completed by June.

Levi Brown answer Vice Chairperson Dean's question, stating that the last survey was done in 2016.

Levi answered Board Member Shook's questions about if the survey will include utilities. He stated the utility map is pretty accurate and is maintained by the utility.

**VII. Board Recruitment**

Levi Brown stated that interviews will start next week for two applicants. Board Member Shook will be a part of the interview panel.

Board Member Shook asked if there is any way to change the Longmont resident clause.

City Council Martin responded that the City Charter requires applicants must be Longmont residents. She also stated that the window for applications is closed. She stated the next window for applications would be in about a year.

**6. INFORMATION ITEMS**

## I. Financial Report

Levi Brown asked the boards for any thoughts or questions regarding document.

Board Member Shook asked if there is any talk about hiring a full-time maintenance employee to tend to the property.

Levi responded that last year our mower quit mid-season and he couldn't replace them. He stated that the budget has increased for mowing costs. He stated that the airport has access to help from the city's public works department.

Chairperson Earl stated he was expecting salaries, benefits, and admin transfer fees as a part of this document.

Levi stated that additional money will be set aside for increased mowing expenses. He also stated he will be requesting $10,000.00 for snow removal, airshow, and continuing wildlife mitigation.

Board Member Shook asked who owns the skid steer and snow blower. He also asked Levi if there was an inside place for it to be stored.

Levi answered the airport purchased it at the DIA auction and that he is having conversations with the city about the options for storage.

Board Member Salamatian asked Levi to communicate to the board if there are money making opportunities for the airport.

Levi Brown stated he has been meeting with a developer and the city's economic development department.

## II. FBO Operation Update

Levi stated the FBO has been lacking in service quality. He stated the current FBO owners looking to leave the area and they have been speaking to multiple people about purchasing the FBO. He stated the city is talking about the plan for the FBO and considering purchasing the building. He stated there is no timeline for the city to purchase the FBO and the meetings are forthcoming. Levi also asked the board for their recommendation on how the airport should move forward. Levi stated it would be more beneficial for the FBO to be city-owned and that would open grant money. He stated his ultimate goal would be that the FBO would be privately owned.

Board Member Shook spoke about his support of a native grass runway as opposed to the pavement. He believes this would bring more people to the airport, move towards city goals, improve noise mitigation, and improves safety.

Board Member Salamatian asked if anyone would be excluded from using a grass runway.

Levi responded that it would not affect the usage of the runway. He also stated that tail dragging operations have a slightly higher accident rate. He stated that land of the grass strip would have to you have to be promised which would reduce any other use of the land.

Board Member Shook stated that the FFA approved allowing grass strips next to the runway safety area. He stated the Boulder airport has its glider strip right next to the runway.

Levi responded that the issue at the Boulder airport was that they were taking off in the grass and the FAA came out and told them to stop.

Chairperson Earl stated he is reluctant of a city-owned FBO due to the time it takes the city to make decisions.

Chairperson Earl stated that annual report needs to be approved at next months meeting.

## 7. ACTION ITEMS

None

## 8. FINAL PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

Chairperson Earl opened the Public Invited to be Heard.

Colin Dielmann, 5521West 103 Ave, Westminster; stated he would like to become the FBO operator. He supports the city purchasing the building and then leasing the building to a private owned FBO.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak with the board, Chairperson Earl closed Public Invited to be Heard.

## 9. BOARD, CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE AND/OR STAFF COMMENTS

### i. Ideas for future agenda items

Chairperson Earl, asked about the tax assessment issue that was presented during the public invited to be heard.

Levi Brown, Airport Manager, stated this has just come out this week. He stated that the taxes are county controlled. He stated that the Longmont Pilot Association reached out to him to help gather people to discuss this issue.

Board Member Shook stated his went up 1000%. He stated the county has taken away the marshal swift calculation and are taxing on commercial rates.

Council Member Martin suggested prior to public meeting is to get someone for the city like the city manager or mayor or City CFO to meet with county accessor to ask for a rational for the change in methodology.

Board Member Shook stated another issue is that there are not a lot of comps for hangar sales.

**VICE CHAIRPERSON DEAN MOTION, SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER SHOOK FOR THE BOARD TO DEVELOP A RECOMMENDATION FOR THE CITY MANAGEMENT THAT ENCOURAGES THEM TO MEET WITH COUNTY ASSESORS OFFICE TO DISCUSS ISSUSE AND FIND A RESOLUTION.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 4-0.**

## 10. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 07:01 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Chairperson Harrison Earl

Airport Advisory Board

KP 05/11/2023

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

*Vance Brand Airport's year in review to the Longmont City Council and Community*

March 9, 2023

Mayor Joan Peck and Longmont City Council
350 Kimbark Street, Longmont, CO 80501

Dear Mayor Peck and Members of the Longmont City Council:

The Longmont Airport Advisory Board is proud to present our 2022 Annual Report to you. This report details both the achievements of the Advisory Board for the last year as well as highlights from the airport. We've also included some information on what you should expect to see going forward.

2022 was a transformative year for the Vance Brand Municipal Airport and we are pleased with the progress the airport and the Advisory Board made last year. Chiefly, the City hired a new Airport Manager, Levi Brown. While the City made the decision to hire Levi, at the Advisory Board's urging, both the Advisory Board and the broader airport community were invited to meet and greets with top candidates and provided feedback to City staff. The Advisory Board is glad to have Levi onboard and look forward to him continuing to leverage his experience to improve the Vance Brand Municipal Airport.

As an Advisory Board, we worked on updates to airport rates and charges as well as a new master lease, both of which were adopted by the City Council in December. We also held discussions and drafted an Airport Sustainability Resolution which you will hear more about soon. These are building blocks toward increasing development at the airport and continuing to make it a valuable part of the City of Longmont.

On behalf of the Longmont Airport Advisory Board, we appreciate your support of the Vance Brand Municipal Airport and look forward to providing you with more details about future advancements at the airport. Please contact us anytime we may be able to assist.

Sincerely,

**The 2022 Longmont Airport Advisory Board**
Harrison Earl, Chairman
Melinda Jordan, Vice Chair
Steve Bliss
Malcolm Dean
Russell Robison
Tallis Salamatian

# Airport Advisory Board 2022 Work Activities

## Our Mission

Vance Brand Airport exists to provide access to high-quality, safe air travel services for the citizens of Longmont. Through its air travel and related facilities, to serve as the catalyst for economic development of the region.

## Our Vision

As the primary business transportation hub for Boulder County, Vance Brand Airport will continue to increase its economic development vitality for the City of Longmont through continued development, maintaining infrastructure, community involvement, and marketing strategies.

Throughout 2022, the Airport Advisory Board held eight regular meetings. During those meetings, we covered many topics, including:

- The Airport Advisory Board received updates and provided input into the hiring process for the new airport manager.
- Revised the airport's schedule of rates and charges and the airport's master lease to prepare for future development.
- Held a discussion on a Sustainability Resolution for the airport with input from Public Works Natural Resources and Longmont Power and Communications.
- The Airport Advisory Board re-wrote and revised our bylaws to emphasize public input and collaboration with city staff.
- A review of the airport's 2022 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) as well as discussion of the CIPs State and Federal grant assumptions, and possible additional grants to pursue.
- Updates on airport projects including the south side sewer project, airfield striping and mowing, and prairie dog mitigation.
- Review of how to prioritize airport needs and what future development and projects should be considered in the coming years.
- Board members were selected to engage on RFP selection panels for Hangar Development and Engineering Consultant RFPs.

In addition, there was one special meeting and three community meetings held related to the new airport manager.

- On February 28th and March 3rd, the city held three "meet and greet" events with Airport Manager candidates. These were held at the airport and all stakeholders were invited to participate. Candidates were able to introduce themselves and have a Q&A session with attendees. Stakeholders were asked to provide feedback to the City following the events.
- Following the City's hiring of Levi Brown, the Airport Advisory Board held a special meeting in April to chat with Levi, get to know him, and build a relationship with him.

# Airport Economic Impact

In 2020, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) produced a Colorado Aviation Economic Impact Study (CEIS). This study was designed to calculate the contributions of aviation to the state that the state's airport system has on each airport community as well as the statewide economy.

Across the full state, Colorado's airports support approximately eight percent of the state economy. Specifically, Colorado's airports provide:

- 345,661 Jobs
- $16.2 Billion in Payroll
- $27.0 Billion in Value Added
- $48.6 Billion in Business Revenues

Vance Brand Municipal Airport provides significant value to the City of Longmont and surrounding communities. In total the airport supports 490 jobs and contributes $68.04 Million to business revenues in the area. These large and substantial impacts benefit the entire City and surrounding communities, not simply airport users or businesses with direct investments at the airport, and pale in comparison to the City's spending on the airport.

**Vance Brand's Total Impacts**

| | Jobs | Payroll | Value Added | Business Revenues |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| On-Airport Activity | 390 | $20,482,000 | $30,373,000 | $57,494,000 |
| Visitor Spending | 100 | $3,615,000 | $6,066,000 | $10,542,000 |
| **Total** | **490** | **$24.1 Million** | **$36.44 Million** | **$68.04 Million** |

*Columns may not add due to rounding.*

While these financial impacts benefit the full community, it is important to note that the airport provides other important services including:

- Public safety and protection: notably providing staging for aerial firefighting aircraft for a number of recent fires in the area
- Education and training: both direct pilot training as well as providing broader STEM engagement through events and airport users
- Recreation: not only is Vance Brand used by visitors to Longmont and the area, but the airport's skydiving operator draws visitors to Longmont to use the airport

# Airport Statistics and Services

TOTAL FLIGHT OPERATIONS: 88,487

BASED AIRCRAFT IN INVENTORY:

| BASED AIRCRAFT CATEGORY | # OF AIRCRAFT |
|---|---|
| Single Engine (SE): | 194 |
| Multi Engine (ME): | 9 |
| Jet (J): | 5 |
| Helicopters (H): | 4 |
| **TOTAL:** | **212** |

SERVICES OFFERED AT VANCE BRAND:

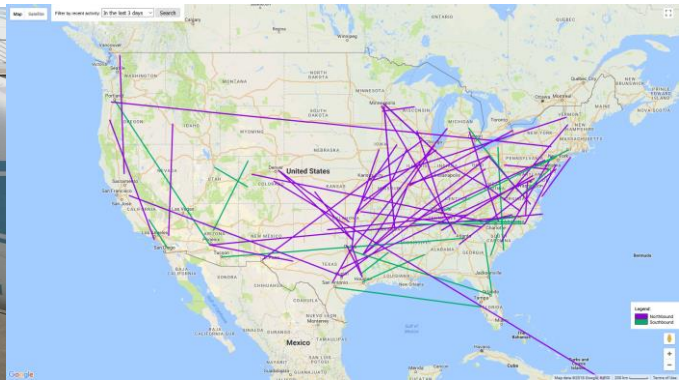
- Airframe & Powerplant Service/Repair
- Aircraft Fabric Covering Material Sales, Restoration, Recovering, Painting, Repairs
- Aircraft Interior Restoration, Repair and Replacement
- Aircraft Fueling and Servicing
- Aircraft Parking, Towing
- Aircraft Rental
- Hangar Rental
- Flight/Ground Instruction – Student, Light Sport, Private, Commercial, Multi-Engine, Instrument, Helicopter
- Sightseeing Tours
- Aircraft Catering
- Restaurant (Seasonal)
- Aerial Mapping and GIS Services
- Car Rental Services
- Skydiving

AIR NATIONAL GUARD:

Last April, the Air National Guard used Vance Brand Airport for two weeks of training in the area. We expect to welcome the Air National Guard back again this year, and are proud that they use our airport as part of their training activities.

# Pilots Give Back!

Several Longmont pilots volunteer their time and airplanes in the Pilots N Paws program where animals scheduled to be euthanized are flown to other parts of the country where they are adopted. Last year, Longmont pilots flew 77 rescue flights over 509 hours, and saved 358 animals (264 dogs and 94 cats).



Boulder County Sherriff: A Longmont helicopter pilot frequently assists with search and rescue missions for the Sherriff's office and has in the past received a Letter of Commendation for his assistance.

<u>Vance Brand Cadet Squadron</u>

The Civil Airport Patrol is the official auxillary of the US Air Force and a 501 ©3 non-profit organization that has helped on many occassions with conducting aircraft search and rescue missions, as well as providing assistance at civic events such as the Longmont Airport Expo and Airshow.

# Noise Abatement & Concerns

**2022 NOISE ABATEMENT REVIEW**

In 2022, the airport received 64 noise complaints from the community. 16 of the complaints (25%) came from one individual. Unfortunately, due to the unplanned transition in airport management, records for 2020 and 2021 are incomplete, but the 64 noise complaints from 2022 are down significantly from the 93 received in 2019.

Many complaints relate to touch and go flights, the sky diving operation, or aircraft operating later in the evening. Generally, flying the pattern at ½ to ¾ of a mile on each side of the runway has been adhered to during less active time periods. However, there have been times in which wider traffic patterns are used even during less busy times, yet this is the pilot's decision and allowed for by the FAA.

The City of Longmont and the Airport do not have regulatory authority over aircraft noise or operations, instead these rest with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The Airport Manager does work with the Airport community to educate pilots about how to reduce noise impacts to sensitive areas. We believe the Airport should be a partner in the community where both negative and positive impacts can be discussed and whenever possible, mitigated and/or enhanced. However, the City and the Airport cannot mandate compliance with any noise reducing procedures.

| Year | Complaints |
|---|---|
| 2009 | 81 |
| 2010 | 487 |
| 2011 | 492 |
| 2012 | 1006 |
| 2013 | 1,582/367* |
| 2014 | 1,653 |
| 2015 | 969 |
| 2016 | 257 |
| 2017 | 949 |
| 2018 | 294 |
| 2019 | 93 |
| 2020 | Incomplete Data |
| 2021 | Incomplete Data |
| 2022 | 64 |

** 1,149 Complaints were made by one individual who acknowledged using a computerized device to automatically call the City complaint line to register complaints. Data revealed that complaints were coming in 15 to 20 second intervals. No calibration data was provided to verify the device sensed aircraft noise rather than surface transportation noise, general neighborhood noise, etc.*