

Meeting Minutes
Seaside Municipal Airport Committee
March 24, 2026
6:15 P.M.
Seaside City Hall

Call to order

Roll Call - Present: President Randall Henderson (RH), Vice President William Walthour (WW), Secretary Sharon Kloepfer (SK), Roy Bennett (RB), Bruce Francis (BF), Joyce Hunt (JH), Councilor Chris Binnicker (CB), Airport Manager Paul Stull (PS). No absences.

Guest: Jeff Gage (JG)

Approve minutes from previous meeting: SK moved, RB seconded, unanimous.

Additions to the agenda: none

Open committee position: no applicants

Comments from the floor: none

Infrastructure / Improvements / Funding

City work plan items:

PW fabricated and installed tilting brackets for N and S windsocks, eliminating the need for a bucket truck to replace socks. All 3 socks are now replaced and functional.

N. end perimeter brush has been removed for much improved approach safety (contracted out to Kiernan Excavating). As brush was removed not topped the committee discussed options for adding back in a brush barrier for safety/security, i.e. Rugosa Rose as a low-growing prickly hedge. BR will contact Breakers Point HOA for potential cuttings, possible work party TBD; needs someone to coordinate. In the meantime perimeter signage "Do Not Enter" and Active Airport" signage has been added along the north perimeter.

PS planning for a 15-18" high berm adjacent to the S. runway/taxiway to replace the temporary debris fence, likely incorporating a partial chain-link section for water inflow/outflow. Grass-cover on berm to stabilize, low slope for mowing. Likely a city project rather than Fed or State grant project.

Renewal of runway numbers/stripping is needed; Paul researching FAA-compliant paint and city crews doing the work. Discussed midweek Tues-Thurs as least disruptive times to do it. NOTAM would be needed (1 week advance) and crew equipped to monitor aircraft freq.

Airport lighting: Paul has found alternative vendor with complete units for \$300 ea vs. much more expensive with current supplier. Plans to purchase one unit to test compatibility before getting approx. 12 more needed plus spares.

PS reported that PW crews will be clearing obstructive brush along E. perimeter in coming weeks.

General groundskeeping: RH plans to again treat weeds in pavement cracks with vinegar/salt mix along with any other willing volunteers. Environmentally friendly methods stressed since the storm drains go directly to the creek. PS may have some seasonal worker(s) helping too. Possible volunteer work party suggested, JH to liaise with NWC for possible cooperation.

PS reports that beaver dams in the E. perimeter drainage channel have been located and flagged. RH recommends coordination with NWC/ODFW and JH noted that their beaver expert will be at an event near the airport Friday afternoon (JH and RH will attend).

Airport Budget: First cut of city budget expected April 15; PS has put in the request for (amount?) for the airport. Focus is on maintenance items: Striping, runway lights, berm, obstruction clearing. COAR grants are done for the year; will plan for re-submitting next cycle (10/2026).

Federal (FAA meet recap) & CIP: PS and RH met w/FAA via zoom, short version is: no change with respect to our status unless/until more based A/C. Discussed our updated CIP and FAA's suggested price tag of \$500K for ALP. Committee believes that assumes starting from square one whereas most of the work already done the last go-around, so only minor updates should actually be needed. PAPI item on CIP discussed, conclusion was that it's lower-priority than other items but still relevant with respect to grant requests.

Hangar discussion: PS related that city-owned/leased hangars are a possibility if majority funding could come from grants. Connect Oregon a possibility, and potential for lessees to pay in advance to help finance. RH has list of inquiries over the years. BF brought up the question of whether the the strip of airport property W. outside of fence constitutes potential extra area for hangars; conclusion is that the location, size and probable easement constraints make it unlikely to be worth pursuing.

Maintenance / Safety / Security

Maintenance: & Safety: see above work plan items.

Security: Reviewed helicopter vandalism incident (discussed at January meeting also). Security concerns discussed, no conclusions other than the newly installed signage (see above), ongoing.

Operations

Local, visitors, commercial, charters, air tours, military, emergency response: Some unseasonably busy weekends with transient fliers, plus a training exercise with AMT and LifeFlight. RH will contact LifeFlight to review their usage and needs.

Services / Promotion / Events

Shed, reader board, visitor amenities, bikes & equipment: Randall is keeping water bottles stocked in the fridge. New visitor brochures are out, JH to swap out old for new.

Cameras / website / social media: Weathercams are performing well. New security camera installed providing much better coverage of parking area and excellent night vision.

Ground transportation / courtesy car: discussion around existing and possible ways to provide ground transportation for visitors. Suggestion that we again ask the Port of Astoria to help with that. Otherwise no conclusions beyond what we're already doing.

EAA 1696 Chapter meeting: Held at airport hangar, well-received, RH and WW provided a recap for members' edification. A successful community outreach event.

Regulatory

Motorcycle training request: Proposal from Team Oregon, program under OHSU College of Health. Currently at Astoria Airport but they will no longer accommodate after 2028. Committee discussed likely significant impact on aviation use. City would need to ensure no negative impact to airport ops to remain in compliance with FAA grant obligations. In spite of concerns, the committee determined to put off a recommendation until hearing the presentation from Team Oregon's Abe Drabkin planned for the next meeting.

Committee policy/bylaws: Randall has compiled responses re. the committee's work & functions using the tables provided by City Manager. Committee voted to accept that with minor revisions noted, and send to City Hall; approved unanimously

Dates

Seaside volunteer recognition event Chisolm Center April 21 6pm

Next meeting Tuesday May 26, Seaside City Hall OR the airport; TBD once we see what the weather's looking like

ODART exercise June 13-14

Next COAR grant app period Oct. 2026

Committee member reports & good of the order

Adjourn