Airport Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

22 October 2026
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Meeting Outcomes

- Update on the Airport Master Plan (AMP)
- Share Economic Impact Study (EIS) Results for Grove Field Airport
- Understand airport incident frequency and protocol
- Grove Field Airport Guidelines exercise
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Committee Members Present:
Andrea Parker
Samantha Horner
John Spencer
Dave St. Clair
Jonathan Evans
Scott Hess
Shawn High

Committee Members Absent:
Dennis Madden
Steve Black

Port of Camas-Washougal Staff:
Marlo Maroon, Deputy Director, Facilitator
Trang Lam, Executive Director
Eric Plantenberg, Director of Facilities
Jennifer Taylor, Environmental Project Manager
Mackenzey Thomason, Marina & Leasing Administrator
Larry Keister, Port Commissioner

Community Members:
Bill Carter
Jim Landgraf

I. Welcome & Meeting Overview

- The facilitator opened the meeting by reviewing the outcomes for the meeting.
  - Update on the Airport Master Plan (AMP)
  - Share Economic Impact Study (EIS) Results for Grove Field Airport
  - Understand airport incident frequency and protocol

- Grove Field Airport Guidelines exercise

Updates & Question Tracking

- The facilitator shared that there weren't any new questions added to the tracker, so the current one committee members have is current.
- A committee member gave an update from the City of Camas Planning Commission, noting that the Grove Field zoning passed unanimously.

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II. AMP Update

- Lam reported that Grove Field's inclusion in City of Camas' urban growth area was a positive step; a formal annexation request is planned for next year. The Airport Master Plan Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), which includes county and city representatives and neighbors, reviewed the engagement process, survey feedback, and the committee's refined vision and goals. Further revisions replaced "rural" with "local character" to reflect the airport's zoning, while the final goal retained rural-related considerations. The committee reordered the goals and changed them from numbered items to bullets, emphasizing airport modernization, economic development, aviation workforce opportunities, flexible spaces, and community benefits. TAC reviewed the first two chapters of the plan, covering current airport conditions, and will continue its review over the next three weeks. Chapter three will address opportunities and design, with topics brought to this committee. That work is expected to conclude in January or February, followed by an open house and additional feedback. The commission adopted the vision and goals on October 21. The commission also adopted the preliminary budget, including discussion of hangar and credit card fees. Budget refinements will continue through November.

III. Economic Impact Study Results

- The facilitator presented Grove Field Airport's economic impact results in 2025. Grove Field supports 40 jobs, $1 million in labor income, $3 million in annual economic output, and $56,000 in leasehold tax revenue. The airport recorded 25,000 visitors in 2025, with 18% from outside Washington. For the first time, the study used Placer.ai cell phone data to track visitation; broader visitor-related economic impacts have not been calculated. Port operating spending at Grove Field totaled $770,000, with two Port staff members; the flight school accounted for 35 jobs. Conducted every five years, the study surveys tenants and non-tenants. This study focused on Clark County, while the previous study covered a broader area, including Portland. The complete Economic Impact Study will be shared more broadly in November, once finalized.

IV. Airport Incidents

- Plantenberg shared that the annual Fire Marshall and Port inspection of the hangars at Grove Field happened today. He explained that Fire Marshal inspections are required for the Port to obtain an operating permit and that the Port conducts its own inspection alongside the Fire Marshal to ensure each hangar tenant follows the Rules and Regulations. He noted that violations decreased significantly this year and cited "daisy-chaining extension cords" as the primary violation. Moving on to the incidents, he shared that there have been 5 off-field crashes with 4 fatalities since 2019, and 2 on-field crashes resulting in one fatality. Port staff consistently test fuel to ensure compliance and notify government stakeholders after each incident. Plantenberg noted that his team conducts checks of the airport lighting and runway sweep as well.

V. Guidelines Exercise

- The facilitator reviewed the Committee brainstorm on Grove Field's rules and regulations from the last meeting, including guidance tailored to pilots' expertise and a definition of "fly friendly". Members discussed considerate flying, taxiing, and fueling; sound judgment; noise abatement; limiting night flights between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.; following published traffic patterns; and minimizing neighborhood disruptions. Takeoff suggestions included reaching altitude at Vy and reducing power after attaining a safe altitude. Ground-use suggestions included designated vehicle parking, yielding to aircraft, driving slowly, and maintaining adequate clearance for grass runway operations. Members also discussed limiting pattern-work hours, minimizing traffic patterns over residential areas, and operating equipment professionally and predictably to respect other users and neighbors.
- The committee also discussed how the Port enforces rules in its guidelines and leases. There is evidence of subleasing, and the Port will notify tenants to show their connection to aircraft in the hangar, not in their name. The facilitator also shared that the State of Washington does not require aviators to carry liability insurance for their aircraft, nor does it require insurance for a hangar lease, and that this will likely be required soon. The committee expressed support and shared principles staff could use to help enforce the rules and regulations.

VI. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

- Meeting feedback
- The next meeting will be a joint meeting with the Airport Master Plan Technical Advisory Committee on Thursday, December 17: 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.