
ASCE May Site Tour Meeting Minutes

Speaker(s): John Oswald, PE (Wichita Airport Authority)
Topic: Wichita Eisenhower National Airport – Runway Rehabilitation Site Tour
Date: Wednesday, May 5, 2021
Location: Wichita Eisenhower National Airport

President Tyler Ummel called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm and opened the meeting with announcements.

Announcements

- a. ASCE Officer Elections to be held at our next meeting, May 26th. Contact any officer if you'd like to run for our local officer board.
- b. Next ASCE meeting will be Wednesday, May 26, 2021. Jennifer Jacka-Taylor, PE will speak on sustainability in design.
- c. Steak Fry is planned for 6/17/21, but keep on the lookout for official announcements.

Guest Speaker

Vice President Daniel Mealiff introduced the guest speaker, John Oswald, PE. John is a Civil Engineering grad from KSU and began his career in Salina with Wilson & Company in 1999. Now he is the Airport Engineering and Planning Manager with the Wichita Airport Authority. John is responsible for managing all airport authority capital and major maintenance projects, as well as insuring that the master plans are kept current.

John began his presentation further introducing himself to our group and introducing other managers of the project, Chris Flageolle with H.W. Lochner, Inc and Dave. The current airport runway was supposed to last only 20 years; however, it is still doing well 40 years after being built. A complete rebuild of the runway would have cost over \$100 million, but because the runway is still in relatively good shape, these main large patch jobs will only cost roughly \$22 million, saving the airport a considerable amount of money but still setting it up for the long term. Funds were limited, but grants were awarded from the Federal Aviation Administration and Wichita Airport Authority.

This really was a group effort to pull this project together. Once funds were acquired, design was already 95% complete. Construction began in fall of 2019 and has used 5 major phases and 18 subphases in order to allow for operations at the airport to continue throughout construction. Three main



sections of runway were to be rehabilitated. And the last phase in 2021 would take away access to two of the airport's three runways. Liquidated damages for exceeding this phase's allotted time would amount to \$5000/hour, so failure to meet the deadline is not an option.

Chris pointed out that when equipment failed to be delivered on time, the prime contractor, Pearson Construction, came up with a solution to keep the project rolling before even being asked. It was stressed that the teamwork and effort made by all companies has made this high-stakes project go smoothly.

It was also noted that the plans were a lot easier to construct when the engineer or architect did not include notes that the "contractor will construct in the field". When a project is on a very tight schedule, it is a lot more efficient if the contractor builds what the engineer calculates. This way calculations aren't taking up time in the field and change orders are less frequent.

The proposed runway pavement has a 24" section; it is 14.5" thick, with a deep drainable base. The concrete is 4800 psi compressive strength after 28 days and 650 psi flexural strength. The flexural strength was more important than compressive in this instance because planes have more of a sudden impact rather than the cyclical nature of cars. The current design is expected to last about the same as the old pavement, so the main runway at Wichita Airport should be prepared for the future. Funding is not available to the airport again until 2036.

Meeting Attendees

1	Jim	Armour	20	Jesse	Madsen
2	Michael	Armour	21	Layla	McDaniel
3	Eric	Armstrong	22	Daniel	Mealiff
4	Debra	Ary	23	Logan	Mills
5	Chad	Banka	24	Richard	Milner
6	Scott	Bernhardt	25	John	Oswald
7	Jake	Borchers	26	Lynn	Packer
8	Caleb	Coltrane	27	Shivraj	Patil
9	Jacob	Crowell	28	Jessica	Rhein
10	Steve	Degenhardt	29	Macee	Roemer
11	Harlan	Foraker	30	Daniel	Schrant
12	Daniela	Gonzales	31	James	Shimp
13	Justin	Harris	32	Brad	Shores
14	Patrick	Herman	33	Anne	Stephens
15	Michael	Hoffman	34	Rick	Stone
16	Christina	Holt	35	Tyler	Ummel
17	Kyle	Kerns	36	James	Wagner
18	Kenneth	Lee	37	Amy	Wegner
19	Scott	Lindebak	38	Dakota	Zimmerman

Meeting adjourned by President Tyler Ummel at 2:00 p.m.



Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Layla McDaniel.

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