Swanson Field Airport Commission (2W3)

State of the Airport - 2022

1st Annual report

February 13, 2023

Chairman: Rick Adams

EMC 2.35.080 Annual report. The airport commission, at or before its second regular meeting of the calendar year, shall provide the council an annual "state of the airport" report to include a report in writing to the town council of its studies, findings, recommendations, safety, airport maintenance, volunteer accomplishments, and projects completed during the prior calendar year. (Ord. 2022-02 § 1, 2022).

Council Members and Mayor

This being the first report of its kind provided to the Eatonville Town Council, I will follow the outline the requirements of the Ordinance.

Studies:

The only study we have in place is the Airport Layout Plan completed and adopted in 2009.

The plan defines the airspace and surface zones identified to provide for safe and efficient aircraft operation, and serve as a benchmark against which to measure potential impact of development within the airport district and the surrounding airspace properties.

22 Aircraft call Swanson Field home

Last year it is estimated Swanson Field had 1,499 landings and takeoffs. (We had one aircraft that made a good landing but not good enough to take off again. Thankfully no one was injured...just a little hurt pride.)

The Department of Natural Resources based their helicopter fleet at Swanson Field last summer to fight the "Busy Wild" forest fire last summer.

Life Flight Northwest used Swanson Field in 2022 to save 3 lives.

With the one exception, the data base the state uses to determine airport use and economic impact, Swanson Field generated \$26,875 in visitor revenue associated with the pilots and their passengers visiting Eatonville. Of the 1,500 landings, 215 or 14% were transient.

For 2023 we hope to provide the Council with

An Airport Manager's Job Description

A Business / Marketing Plan

We will be participating on behalf of Swanson Field in the town's Comprehensive Plan update

Findings:

We appreciate the opportunity provided us to contribute to the town's Capitol Facilities Plan you are discussing tonight. The priorities reflect our investment recommendations for 2023.

We realize accomplishing these goals will be through a grant application process and look forward to providing the expertise, time and effort required.

AIRPORT PROJECTS

A1 Improvements to Restrict Vehicle Access - \$111,000

A2 Update Airport Layout Plan - \$2,000

A3 Real Estate Acquisition - \$287,500 -

A4 Airport Fueling Station - \$266,000

A5 Repair Dips in Runway - \$30,000

Total Airport Projects ---- \$696,500

2022 Airport District Taxable Assessment C/O Pierce County Assessor's office

Land and Structures \$19,834,600

40 parcels "Land Attribute "assessment <u>levied only upon land</u> not structures

.0134% Of \$8,585,800 comes to \$115.05

Safety: Is our #1 Priority

As reflected in the Capitol facilities plan, our greatest concern is the unmanaged access to the runway itself and Runway Surface Area (RSA) that extends 125' east and west of the centerline.

The placement of gates to manage vehicular access to the runway will help us lower the potential of aircraft and vehicular incident. The recommendations to levy penalties that we forwarded to you in December of last year, is the first step in our proactive effort to address this phenomenon before an unnecessary accident occurs.

We have taken steps to improve the safety of Swanson field users by....

Some commission members participated in the removal of the cedar trees on the Eagles' property on Center Street that had grown up into the approach and departure path of arriving and departing aircraft.

We have cleared the brush and trees (Thank You to the town crew and chipper) on the south side of Reagan Ln. that had also grown into the flight path.

We have submitted a purchase request to Seth for 4 powerline marker balls to be installed on south side of Center Street across from the Eagles.

We have asked the FAA to incorporate Swanson Field into their expanding nationwide weather cam network (at no charge to the town) so that aircraft in flight, and for flight planning, as well as community members can view the weather conditions in Eatonville in real time 24hrs 365 days a year.

Maintenance:

The asphalt sea I coating and re-lettering of the runway project came in on budget and on schedule.

This is the first time it has been done since the paving in 1997.

The WASDOT Aviation Division in 2019 completed a statewide assessment of the runways of the state and ranked Swanson Fields a 91 on a scale of 100. The original paving job was very well done.

We will be developing a maintenance and replacement schedule this spring and summer to establish a bench line of operating expenses so that we may quantify labor hours, equipment needs and establish an infrastructure/capital budget time line.

Volunteer Accomplishments / Recognition:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the volunteers who contributed their time and resources helping to improve the safety access and maintenance of our town's own airport.

Dallas Clement wrote the successful grant application that provided the funding to seal and restripe the runway.

John Henricks Coordinated with the DOT "Airport Passport" program staff, Seth Boettcher and Boy Scout Cody Womack's Eagle Project that made the information/ Passport Kiosk a reality.

John was instrumental in recruiting a crew and working with them to remove the trees and brush on the south end of Swanson Field south of Reagan Ln.

John mowed grass on the field all summer and wore out his lawn mower's transmission

John coordinated with the National Guard Black Hawk Helicopter pilots and ground crews who used Swanson Field as a base for forest fire water drop training.

John also coordinated with other pilots, and also gave rides to the Boy Scouts that helped build the Kiosk.

Rick McNary Helped push the asphalt crack seal tar pot up and down the runway in the heat of the summer afternoon.

Roslyn Henricks Thank You! For taking the initiative to care for the Swanson Field Facebook page.

https://www.facebook.com/swanson.airport.2w3

Erv Luke provided his hangar in which the scouts and their mentor constructed the Kiosk

Rick French Rick has been the intermediary between the Eagles and the Airport Commission and helped with the removal the cedars next to Center St.

Rick uses his tractor and fuel to mow the grass on the east side of the runway.

Rick also volunteered his time and aircraft to give the Scouts rides.

Jim Bieker Also provided also his Cirrus 4 seater to take the Scouts for a ride.

Dan Phillips Dan was a great help in clearing the brush on Regan Ln.

We are grateful for his efforts in acquiring donated bicycles for the use of visiting pilots and their passengers, making travel from Swanson Field and the towns businesses, just a short bike ride from the airport.

The Irelands who helped mow grass and fill the chuckholes in the grass and gravel on the east side of the runway.

Swanson Field
Airport Commission
2022
1st Annual
"State of the Airport"
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Swanson Field Eatonville, Washington

AIRPORT LAYOUT PLAN
NARRATIVE REPORT



500 108TH AVE NE SUITE 1200 BELLEVUE, WA 98004

412 E. PARKCENTER BLVD SUITE 100 Boise, ID 83706

FINAL REPORT
December 2009



The First Volunteers 1952

The men who built Eatonville Airport – (back row, from left) Preston Parrish, Seg Osterdahl, Ralph Weigard, John Swanson, Earnie Christian and Fritz Guske, and (front row from left) Earnie Osterdahl, Norm Olden, Roy Block, Woody Wilson and Chuck Medlock. Not pictured — Roy Treadwell and Clarance Gemmel, heavy-equipment operators, Don Murphy who owned equipment and John Van Eaton and Cecil Jordon who supplied fuel Picture Courtesy of Eatonville to Rainier Website Di Mettler and Chris Bivins



2022 Kiosk Crew

Boy Scout Troop 164



































