

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
August 19, 2010

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AIRPORT BOARD SELECTS SEARCH COMMITTEE TO ASSIST WITH RECRUITMENT OF DIRECTOR

(Spokane, WA) – At yesterday’s monthly meeting of the Spokane Airport Board, two motions were unanimously approved relating to the search process for the open Airport Director’s position. The first was to appoint a search committee to assist with the completion of the job description as well as the screening, evaluation, and interviewing of candidates. The second motion was to authorize the Airport Board’s Personnel Committee to contract with an executive search firm to assist with the overall recruitment process. The recruitment will commence immediately and the Board is committed to ensuring it is an inclusive and deliberative process. It is anticipated that the search will be completed no later than January 2011. The job description requirements, along with the selection of an executive search firm, will be presented at the September 22, 2010 Board meeting.

The search committee is comprised of Airport Board members and community leaders:

- Jeff Hamilton, Chair, Personnel Committee, Spokane Airport Board
- David Brukardt, Chair, Finance Committee, Spokane Airport Board
- Skip Davis, Interim Airport Director, Spokane Airports
- Greg Bever, Publisher, Spokane Journal of Business and incoming Chair, Greater Spokane Incorporated – the Spokane region’s consolidated Chamber/EDC organization
- Scott Morris, President, CEO, and Chairman, Avista Corp. Mr. Morris has previously served as the Chair of both Greater Spokane Incorporated and the former, Spokane Area Economic Development Council
- Lisa Rousseau, General Manager, United Airlines, Spokane International Airport. United Airlines has provided continuous service to the Spokane Region since 1929.

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Ex officio members of the Search Committee include representatives from the Spokane County and the City of Spokane:

- The Honorable Todd Mielke, Spokane County Commissioner and member, Spokane Airport Board
- The Honorable Joe Shogan, President, Spokane City Council and member, Spokane Airport Board

Contracting with an executive search firm is a common industry practice. During the last three years, nationwide, at least 28 openings for Airport Directors have been filled at small, medium and large hub airports, and in most instances, a consultant assisted with the process. Airport managements operate within a specialized and highly regulated industry segment. The Airport Board felt it was beneficial to work with a firm that possesses knowledge of the industry, an understanding of the job requirements, and has familiarity with the experience and educational requirements necessary fill the position with the most qualified candidate.

The new Airport Director will oversee Spokane International and Felts Field Airports, as well as, the Spokane International Airport Business Park. Spokane International Airport is designated as a small hub airport and Felts Field is general reliever airport. The Airport Board assigned interim director responsibilities to Ryland "Skip" Davis following its acceptance of previous Airport Director Neal Sealock's resignation at the July 21, 2010 Board meeting. General Sealock left the position for family reasons and to pursue academic interests.

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