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**MEDIA RELEASE  
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***Ports of Chelan and Douglas County to consider new joint operating agreement for Pangborn Memorial Airport***

The Ports of Chelan and Douglas Counties, which jointly own and are responsible for Pangborn Memorial Airport, will consider and take action in December on a new agreement that will redefine the process for the governance and management of the airport. The proposed new agreement was developed by an informal drafting committee consisting of the two Port Directors (Mark Urdahl and Pat Haley) a Commissioner/Airport Board member from each Port (Jim Knapp and Jim Huffman) and legal counsel for each Port.

“This agreement will replace the agreement that was approved as an alternative to litigation, back when the two Port districts didn’t work very well with one another,” stated Chelan County Port Commissioner Jim Knapp. “The old agreement served the community well enough in its time, but times have changed and the airport has become a more complex operation, especially after September 11, 2001.” Port of Douglas County Commissioner Jim Huffman agreed, adding that “the Ports want the new agreement to be a vehicle that will help enhance regional cooperation, and that will increase accountability to the residents of both counties. This new agreement significantly moves us in that direction”

The new agreement places the Port of Chelan County in charge of day to day aviation operations, with the Port of Douglas County assuming responsibility for the development of the non-aviation properties. The five member airport board will be disbanded, with the combined Commissions of the two ports serving as the overall policy board for the airport.

Copies of the draft agreement can be obtained at either Port District, the Pangborn Airport Manager’s office, or these websites:

Port of Chelan County  
Port of Douglas County  
Pangborn Memorial Airport

<http://www.ccpd.com>  
<http://www.portofdouglas.org>  
<http://www.pangbornairport.com>

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