

Humboldt County Airport Advisory Committee

MINUTES

January 19, 2010

6:00pm

Aviation Division Office

3561 Boeing Ave., McKinleyville

1. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 1800 by Chairman Williamson.
2. ROLL CALL AND PARKING TICKET VALIDATION
Members Present: Dax Williamson, Kyle Gabel, Dennis Lichty, Jack Limmer, Chuck Goodwin, George Jutila, Rich Fenton.
Members Absent: Bill Davidson, Alistair McCrone.
Staff: Jacquelyn Hulsey, Airport Manager
Guests: Rita Limmer, William Rush, Al Castaldi, Keith Newcomer, Ezequiel Sandoval.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF November 24, 2009 -- Jack Limmer moved and Dennis Lichty seconded approval with the correction under Item 8.F. that the comment by Mr. Sandoval regarding paving at Kneeland Airport actually applied to the Samoa, Eureka Municipal, Airport. This motion was unanimously passed by voice vote and the corrected notation will appear under Item 5 of the approved November 24, 2009 Minutes.
4. OPEN SESSION (to include community guests) Jacquelyn Hulsey commended past Chairman Chuck Goodwin for his three years of excellent service to the HCAAC as Chairman.
5. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Setting up committees for 2010 – The Chairman presented his vision of subcommittees that he feels need to be set up or expanded. The initial emphasis desired is to expand and develop the existing subcommittee for exploring construction of T-hangars via private development. This subcommittee would be tasked with studying the existing policy and those in effect at other locations with the goal of a recommendation, with supporting data of a change in the County’s current policy prohibiting private development of T-hangars on county owned airports. Jack Limmer, Bill Davidson and George Jutila will continue on the subcommittee, Al Castaldi, Keith Newcomer, and Ezequiel Sandoval also volunteered to be on this subcommittee, as it was confirmed by the Chairman that actual membership on the Committee was not a requirement to participate on HCAAC subcommittees.
6. AIRPORT MANAGER’S REPORT
 - A. An initial meeting for an FAA funded wildlife hazard assessment for the ACV field was conducted last week, conducted by Mead & Hunt, as well as other specialists. This criteria for this type of study does not apply to Murray Field, as it is a Part 135 airport and does not serve passenger air carriers.
 - B. Deer fencing for Murray Field is to be a priority for construction this year, as discussed under Item 9.B. below.
7. AIRPORT REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS – No reports.
8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. Rohnerville Airport Plaque – Discussion relating to the status of this previous community request resulted in the Chairman asking William Rush to coordinate with the requesting

individuals the details of the desired verbiage and size, as well as, the provision for payment of costs to fabricate the plaque. The County Airport's Division will mount the plaque at the airport, per Ms. Hulsey.

B. Minimum Standards / Leasing Policy – Committee comments are to be turned in to the Airport Manager by next Friday, January 29th so they can be forwarded to the County's consultant in a timely manner.

C. Hanger waiting list written policies & procedures – The waiting list protocol is a procedure, not a policy, and can be changed within the Airport Division Office, per Ms. Hulsey. Dax Williamson, Jack Limmer, Al Castaldi, Ezequiel Sandoval, Keith Newcomer, Bill Davidson volunteered to be on a subcommittee to study alternate Waiting List procedures which may better serve the pilot community.

9. NEW BUSINESS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. HCAAC meeting location change – Ezequiel Sandoval offered his business conference room for the 2010 meetings of the HCAAC. This is located at 3135 Boeing Avenue, Suite C. It is a larger facility and there is no shortage of parking space at his office. Chuck Goodwin moved and George Jutila seconded this change – passed unanimously by voice vote. It was discussed that the HCAAC meeting announcement posting procedures need to be reviewed carefully and the County's website needs to be updated by the Airport Manager as soon as possible so that there is no confusion among the public regarding the changed meeting location. Mr. Sandoval was thanked for his generous donation of this meeting space.
- B. Deer Fence at Murray – The grant application for design funding is expected to be submitted to the FAA by the County to meet a March, 2010 deadline. Design and construction is expected to proceed this year, if possible. This project will complete the fencing all around the field. The proposed height is to be about 8½ feet, with the possibility of a “Y” design at the top of the fence. Discussion on possible ways to expedite the timeline for actual construction were discussed, with several suggestions offered to the Airport Manager.
- C. Arcata Airport Pilot Controlled Lighting – The Airport Manager is currently attempting to contact Ray Beninga, a former Airport Manager, to ascertain why these lights were turned off and what the concerns would be if these lights were to be restored to full operation. One of the issues was reported to be the lack of a second frequency to operate each individual runway separately. Other airports which have similar issues were noted to be currently operating on a single frequency in this manner, such as Crescent City and Redding. There are some other issues, including, possibly, a lack of complete visibility from the end of one runway to the end of the other runway. A written response from the former Airport Manager is expected, and will be reviewed by the Airport Manager and the Committee after receipt.
- D. North Coast Journal article “The Plane That Wasn't There” – Ms. Hulsey asked to be excused prior to this discussion, and left the meeting at this time. Ezequiel Sandoval asked to see the written policy or procedure that is followed by the County Aviation Division in order to cover situations such as this occurrence. Al Castaldi called, via telephone, Seattle Center to inquire as to their policy should radar contact be lost with an aircraft while in flight. According to the person he spoke with, the Humboldt County Airport Services Division and the Humboldt County Sheriff would initially be called to conduct a ramp search and alternatively, the Coast Guard might be used for this purpose if the former parties were not available. The NTSB report for this accident is now posted on the Web, and it is reported to be fairly similar to the newspaper article. Jack Limmer asked that Committee members read the actual NTSB report, and others indicated that the newspaper report needs to be viewed with caution since it

may not reveal all of the facts of the case. The Committee decided to request that the Airport Manager supply the County's current written policy/procedure for missing or overdue VFR and IFR aircraft incidents at any County airport for the Committee's review.

10. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Williamson at 1925.

11. 2010 MEETING SCHEDULE: 2/23, 3/23, 4/27, 5/25, 6/22, 7/27, 8/24, 9/28, 10/26, 11/23

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fenton, Secretary

Date: January 19, 2010