

Humboldt County Aviation Advisory Committee

MINUTES

February 24, 2009

6:00 P.M.

Aviation Division Office

3561 Boeing Ave., McKinleyville

1. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order @ 1800 by Chairman Goodwin.
2. ROLL CALL AND PARKING TICKET VALIDATION **Members:** Chuck Goodwin, George Jutila, Jack Limmer, Dennis Lichty, Bill Davidson, Alistair McCrone, Rich Fenton, Dax Williamson. **Staff:** Jacquelyn Hulsey, Aviation Division Manager. **Guests:** Elaine Weinreb, McKinleyville Press; Al Castaldi, Pilot/former Committee member.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF June 24, 2008, July 22, 2008, August 26, 2008 and November 25, 2008. George Jutila moved and Jack Limmer seconded the approval of the Minutes of June, July, August and November, 2008 -- passed unanimously. Rich Fenton moved and Jack Limmer seconded the approval of the January 20, 2009 minutes – passed unanimously.
4. OPEN SESSION (to include community guests) – Al Castaldi announced that, in a couple of east coast locations, TSA has been reported to have “escorted” pilots to and from their general aviation planes in a reported “test” of increased security measures that he feels may spread to other areas. He asks that the Airport Manager advise the Committee if she hears of any attempt to perform similar measures in the local area. Ms. Hulsey agreed to do so, but believes that it might be a measure aimed at larger aircraft, not small GA craft. She also noted that she had not heard of any actions of this type planned for this area.
5. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT
George and Sylvia Jutila are to be honored by the Quota Club International. Chairman Goodwin announced this and offered his congratulations to Dr. Jutila and his wife for all of the good things they have done for this community.

Chairman Goodwin announced that the Board of Supervisors today accepted Federal Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Grants for \$8.76 million and committed approximately \$460,000 in County matching funds for improvements to the Arcata/Eureka Airport. They also accepted additional AIP grants for approximately \$180,000 dedicated to the purchase of AWOS weather reporting systems for Rohnerville and Garberville airports.

6. AIRPORT MANAGER’S REPORT

A. Reports

- 1) Passenger and Freight Statistics – Statistics were passed out to Committee members. Delta’s passenger load dropped off somewhat in January and the airport is considering some advertising to boost travel. They have also asked people with “travel bank” accounts to try to use some of their reserve to support this service. Ms. Hulsey also noted that January is historically a lower travel month in the industry, since it follows the end of year holidays.

- 2) Notice of Proposed Rule Making regarding Large Aircraft Security Program – No new information on this program at this time, but it is reported to be proceeding through the public comment process.
- 3) Ms. Hulsey provided cost estimates and narrative descriptions of the AIP projects mentioned above in the Chairman’s report, as follows:

Relocate Runway 32 Threshold	\$1,475,000
Relocate Runway 14 Threshold	\$640,623
Relocate Runway 1 Threshold	\$200,000
Relocate Runway 19 Threshold	\$435,000
Install EMAS System on Runway 32	\$6,470,000

The extension of the Runway 32 threshold 200 feet towards the town of Mckinleyville will allow the relocation of the threshold of Runway 14 and restore the 6000’ takeoff length of the runway.

The relocation of the threshold of Runway 14 will restore the traditional 6000’ length for takeoff.

The projects above which will relocate the Runway 01/19 thresholds approximately 40 feet to the south will improve their runway safety areas and will transition the safety area end slope into the airport perimeter barrier.

Design and installation of the EMAS (Engineered Mass Arresting System) system will provide the required Runway Safety Area at the end of Runway 32.

B. Projects

- 1) ACV Terminal Expansion – The terminal expansion is almost complete, but the County has informed the contractor that the baggage handling system does not meet the contract specifications. The contractor will have a set period of time in which to respond and possibly correct the situation, prior to any further action.

GA Ramp Construction – This project has been complete for some time and at least one corporate hangar proposal is believed to be in the application process for a County building permit.

- 2) EKA Security Fencing and Gate Repairs – Ms. Hulsey reports that the security fencing at Murray Field remains a top priority. Pedestrian gates are being worked on and the vendor for the access gates is working on the access card reader.

7. AIRPORT REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE

- A. Garberville – Dennis Lichty reports very slow aircraft activity at Garberville due to adverse weather. There will be an AWOS-AV installed at the field in the near future as reported by Ms. Hulsey earlier.
- B. Rohnerville – George Jutila noted that he is still working on obtaining an agreement for use of a room at Rohnerville for a simulator and that internet access is imperative. Ms. Hulsey indicated that she will facilitate a meeting with all parties early next week. Rohnerville is also due to have an AWOS-III installed at the field. This will have the capability of reporting a “ceiling” at the airport and will be a welcome addition.

- C. Dinsmore – Ms. Hulsey reported that there is now an additional based aircraft on the field, bringing the current total to two. The existing hangar on the field has been purchased and will be improved, with doors added, in order to shelter the aircraft.
- D. Murray – Al Castaldi reported that the gate at Murray Field works with multiple access code numbers and should be checked out by the Aviation Division Maintenance or the gate access vendor.
- E. Kneeland – Ms. Hulsey reports that environmental review documents to allow repair of the ends of the runway are to be prepared.
- F. Arcata – No further report.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Subcommittee for Hanger Construction – No report. A meeting will be set up this month.
- B. HCAAC Membership – Ms. Hulsey reported that Dennis Lichty was nominated by Supervisor Jimmy Smith to be the Committee’s District 5 member and Dax Williamson and Bill Davidson were appointed as Alternate Members of the Committee by recent Board of Supervisors actions.
- C. Committee Duties and Responsibilities – Ms. Hulsey will obtain the original mission statement for the Committee from the County, in order to reacquaint all with the original vision of the HCAAC.
- D. Election of Officers for 2009 – Chuck Goodwin was nominated to serve another year as Chairman, Bill Davidson as Vice Chairman, and Rich Fenton as Secretary. George Jutila moved and Jack Limmer seconded a motion that the nominations be closed and the nominated slate of last year’s officers was elected to serve during the coming year 2009.

9. NEW BUSINESS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Expansion of Sheriff’s Farm at Rohnerville Airport – There were 56 recently fallow acres at the airport and the Sheriff’s Department has taken over management of this extra farmland. Ms. Hulsey stated that the Sheriff’s SWAP program has been instrumental in performing significant labor to improve this airport and others, in exchange for the use of the airport land. Some Committee members expressed concern about a possible increase in the number of “scavenger” birds living in the area, but Ms. Hulsey reported that, with the clearing of brushy areas and trimming of trees, that the numbers may actually have decreased.
- B. Ms. Hulsey thanked Al Castaldi for his volunteer service on the Committee since its’ inception, many years past. Mr. Castaldi indicated that he would continue to participate as a member of the public and a subcommittee advisor.

10. ADJOURNMENT @ 1857 by Chairman Goodwin.

2009 MEETING SCHEDULE: 3/24, 4/28, 5/26, 6/23, 7/28, 8/25, 9/22, 10/27, 11/24