

Humboldt County Airport Advisory Committee

MINUTES

April 27, 2010

6:00 PM

3135 Boeing Avenue, Suite C

McKinleyville, CA 95519

(707) 839-0100

1. The meeting was called to order at 1803 by Chairman Williamson.
2. Roll Call: **Members Present:** Dax Williamson, Jack Limmer, Chuck Goodwin, George Jutila, Alistair McCrone, Kyle Gabel, Rich Fenton. **Members Absent:** Dennis Lichty, Bill Davidson. **Staff:** Jacquelyn Hulsey, Airports Manager, Thomas Mattson, Director of Public Works. **Guests:** Al Castaldi, William Rush, Glenn-Jon Gunther, Air Shasta Rotor and Wing LLC, Dave Carlisle, FAA, Ezquiel Sandoval.
3. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the February 23, 2010 and March 23, 2010 meetings were approved as previously submitted via e-mail to the members. Moved & seconded to approve as submitted. Passed unanimously.
4. Open Session: Announcement by Glenn-Jon Gunther, of Air Shasta Rotor and Wing LLC, that their negotiations with the County Risk Manager have been successful in asking that they be subject to the same insurance requirements as other similar operations on the airport. Mr. Gunther thanked Dax Williamson, Bill Davidson and everyone who has assisted and supported their business and students in this regard. They will be operating as a Part 91 operation at the EKA Murray Field.
5. Chairman's Report
 - a. Recommendation to Public Works Director – Discussion regarding Tom Mattson's draft letter to the FAA requesting their assistance in determining the issues and risks associated with possible future use of the cross runway lighting system at ACV. It was moved, seconded and unanimously passed to ask Mr. Mattson to make minor revisions, at his discretion, to indicate the existence of possible safety concerns rather than dwell on past reports of occurrences or complaints that may indicate actual events, but which cannot be fully documented.
 - b. Response from Public Works Director – Committee chose to take advantage of the offer in Tom Mattson's recent letter to the Chairman to have a Deputy County Counsel attend the June Committee meeting to discuss Brown Act issues for public meetings and proper procedures for a Board of Supervisors subcommittee. The Secretary requested that future official County visitors to Committee meetings introduce themselves to the Chairman prior to the meeting, as the County CAO who attended the last meeting was not known to any of the members to be in attendance.

Ms. Hulsey suggested that the Chairman ask that all attendees and members of the public perform introductions at the beginning of each meeting.

- c. Risk Manager Comments – A previous Committee item related to the proposed helicopter flight school operations insurance requirements has been resolved by the parties, as noted in Open Session, Item 4, above.
 - d. Motion/approval for Chairman to Communicate – Chairman read a proposed letter to the Chief Pilots Organization for the commercial airlines, stating reasons for the GA community’s request for reinstatement of the lighting for Runway 1/19. Discussion ensued regarding pros and cons for various parties. Tom Mattson will forward a list of comparable airports and Chairman Dax Williamson will delay any submission of the letter until receipt of this information and revision of his letter.
 - e. The Chairman presented a letter addressed to the Board of Supervisors for Committee comment regarding the Committee’s support for the return of Delta Airlines service to Humboldt County. It will be corrected and rewritten slightly and subsequently sent by the Chairman to the Board of Supervisors.
 - f. Kyle Gabel reported that the lighting on the ACV crosswind runway may not actually function at this time. Ms. Hulsey indicated that the lights are operated for about five minutes at a time and that they have probably been tested once within the last year. She also reported that the lighting equipment is very old and that the insulation resistance of the installed wires is below normal standards @ approximately 4 meg-ohms. These lights were previously reported to the Committee to be in working order and available for immediate pilot use via prior notice to the Airport Manager or in case of emergency.
6. Airport Manager’s Report – Ms. Hulsey deferred her report to later in the meeting, at which time she forwarded a Press Release regarding the Runway Safety Area. The shift of the 14/32 runway ends and the planned EMAS construction includes ACV runway closures from July 1-5, 2010. She also presented an illustration of the project and a description of the individual aspects of these modifications to the airport.
 7. Airports Reports From Committee – There have been no recent meetings and therefore no new reports at this time.
 8. Unfinished Business
 - a. Airport Managers timeline of project report – Questions from the Committee about various projects will be entertained at the next meeting.
 - b. Minimum Standards/Leasing Policy – Ms. Hulsey distributed answers to various individuals’ questions in response to the draft leasing standards document forwarded from the Consultant. It was discussed that some of the standards may immediately need to be negotiated due to unrealistic notions of personnel and equipment necessary to successfully operate a business. The Chairman will e-mail a request to the Airport manager that the County reduce the required number of aircraft and pilots required to operate an air charter service from “two” to “one”.

- c. Wildlife Exclusion Fence at Murray – Status reported in Airport manager’s handouts to the Committee – no discussion at this meeting except to reference the project as “Wildlife Exclusion Fence”.
 - d. Arcata Airport Pilot Controlled Lighting
 - i. Review letter addressed to Chief Pilots for commercial airlines – previously discussed under Item 5.d. above.
 - e. Humboldt County Hangar History – Hangar design at ACV is waiting to get on the Board agenda for approval. The County will pursue an approximate \$1 Million California State loan for the design and construction, which will retain the approximate \$300,000 in funds that the County previously thought they would use for this purpose. Tom Mattson is hopeful that this process will result in construction of hangars this summer. Ezquiel Sandoval thanked the County representatives for their continued support and work on this project.
 - f. Rohnerville Airport Plaque – George Jutila presented the plaque to the Committee and announced that the plaque will be unveiled at the airport May 1st on Jim Meade’s 90th birthday. It will be mounted by the County on the Rohnerville Field FBO Building by May 1st.
9. New Business and Correspondence
- a. FAA Wings – A presentation/town hall meeting from FAA WINGS personnel will be held after our next meeting, which will require that we adjourn the Committee’s business meeting at 1900. This will allow the FAA scheduled presentation from 1900-2100. Tom Mattson indicated that some additional coordination and communication with the WINGS personnel may be necessary due to their indication that they would also be doing a walkthrough at ACV with the County at 1930 that evening.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 1957 by Chairman Williamson.

11. 2010 Meeting Schedule: 5/25, 6/22, 7/27, 8/24, 9/28, 10/26, 11/23

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fenton, Secretary

Date: April 27, 2010