

Humboldt County Aviation Advisory Committee

MINUTES

August 26, 2008

6:00 P.M.

Aviation Division Office

3561 Boeing Ave., McKinleyville

1. CALL TO ORDER @ 1803
2. ROLL CALL AND PARKING TICKET VALIDATION – **Members:** Chuck Goodwin, Jack Limmer, George Jutila, Dennis Lichty, Alistair McCrone, Rich Fenton. **Staff:** None. **Guests:** Elaine Weinreb, Mckinleyville Press; Steve Moser, Developer; Ray Wickel, Pilot; David Ravetti, Pilot; Dax Williamson, Pilot
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES for June, 2008 and July, 2008. Not available for this meeting.
4. OPEN SESSION (to include community guests): Ray Wickel announced that AVI8CANDO wants to use an unused storage room @ Rohnerville for a simulator. They have sent a letter to the Aviation Division and have not yet received a response. They also have a time limit on the use of grant funding for this purpose.
5. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Chairman Goodwin read a report per County Staff:
 - Electricity at the Gardener hangars has been installed (restored).
 - The county is investigating suspected unauthorized electrical use in Nuno hangars.
 - The Chairman noted that proper and respectful decorum in future Committee meeting discussions would be appreciated and that he would enforce limits on individual comments if he observes inappropriate or unproductive/disrespectful comments.
6. AIRPORT TRAFFIC STATISTICS - Distributed to Committee members via handout.
7. AIRPORT REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE

Garberville: Fencing is in progress. Dennis Lichty indicated that pilots would like an automated coded gate for access, but construction workers have indicated that this is not included in the current project construction.

Rohnerville: O’Dell hangar sale will probably not “go through”, per George Jutila. Dr. Jutila also announced the AVI8CANDO annual conference at the Fortuna River Lodge on Saturday, September 27th.

Dinsmore: Field is closed until September 9th for re-surfacing. Bobbie Marks was recently asked to mow field.

Murray, Kneeland, and Arcata – No reports for these airports this meeting.
8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. Aviation Community Concerns from April 26, 2008 Meeting at Rohnerville Airport (FOT) – Letter designation following refers to the Minutes of that April 26, 2008 meeting.

(s) Sweeping of gravel from Shelter Cove Airport – Rich Fenton reported that he had spoken to Richard Culp, Manager of the Shelter Cover Improvement District, on August 25th regarding the status and condition of the ramp surfaces at the airport. Mr. Culp commented that he welcomes all Humboldt County pilot comments and also said that they are aware of the gravel problem. He believes that most of the issue is in a section of the parking apron that the County had previously “chip sealed” and where the gravel is now loose and scattered. The Improvement District has purchased a power sweeper but is waiting for the “first rainy day” to continue sweeping, since they received many dust complaints from residents when they initially tried the sweeper in dry conditions. Mr. Culp believes that thorough sweeping may reveal uneven or porous surfaces

under the loose gravel, which they may then need to patch. He agreed to immediately inspect the taxiway and runway end to verify that they also do not have gravel on them. The airport has to get by on about \$10,000 per year from Cal Trans & doesn't qualify for federal funding. Regarding the drainage culvert under the runway, he doesn't believe the culvert (2 each -12" round pipes) to be an issue for total capacity, but does agree that sediments from upslope development build up and need to be removed regularly. He indicated that he would appreciate any assistance that the County of Humboldt was able to offer for this ongoing maintenance issue, since the new development activity from County permitted homes seems to contribute to the total sediment loads.

Other Community concerns from the April Fortuna meeting were deferred to future meetings due to the presentation this evening by Mr. Moser and the absence of County Airport Division Staff.

B. Discussion on ACV Runway 01/19 Lighting– Deferred to future meetings due to the presentation this evening by Mr. Moser and the absence of County Airport Division Staff.

9. NEW BUSINESS AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. Airport Security – Jack Limmer reported that the pedestrian access gates at Murray Field do not work properly due to misalignment of latches and improper adjustment of automatic closers. Northern Air employees have told him that these conditions have repeatedly been reported to the Aviation Division Maintenance Department for repair. He asked that the Committee request repair of this ongoing security concern.

B. Airport Land Use Commission Hearing on Development near ACV

Steve Moser presented an update of his residential use development proposal which is to be heard by the Board of Supervisors as the Airport Land Use Commission on September 18th. He presented diagrams and renderings of proposed lots and the mixed use development on the lots for Committee review. The nearest runway distance was indicated to be about 1200 feet. Noise impacts within residences will be mitigated by construction details which will be required by the County Planning Department prior to permitting any buildings. AOPA was suggested to Mr. Moser to be a resource for aviation easement language, which he agreed would be incorporated within each property title. George Jutila moved and Alistair McCrone seconded that a general letter of recommendation for the project be forwarded to the County for their information and use.

Alistair McCrone also asked that the minutes reflect the positive effects of a new mixed use development in the County and felt that this may be a chance to provide some economic stimulus to the County.

Further discussion by the Committee reflected that the “remainder portions” of Phase 2 and 3 should not have the residential component included in the county's approval due to their proximity to the airport field and their relatively higher elevation above grade. Dave Ravetti indicated that aircraft Auxiliary Power Unit (APU) operation may be within line of sight from Phase 3 lots, and that aviation easement language may not be enough to protect the airport operations from future restrictions. Potential noise concerns and complaints were also noted to historically be increased during any type of nighttime airport operations.

10. ADJOURNMENT @ 1928 by Chairman Goodwin

2008 MEETING SCHEDULE: 9/23, 10/28, 11/25