

# Humboldt County Aviation Advisory Committee

## MINUTES

September 22, 2009

6:00 P.M.

Aviation Division Office

3561 Boeing Ave., McKinleyville

1. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Chairman Goodwin at 1800.
2. ROLL CALL AND PARKING TICKET VALIDATION – **Members Present:** Chuck Goodwin, Jack Limmer, Rich Fenton, George Jutila, Alistair McCrone, Dennis Lichty. **Members Absent:** Bill Davidson, Kyle Gabel, Dax Williamson. **Staff:** Jacquelyn Hulsey, Tom Mattson, Humboldt County Department of Public Works. **Guests:** Al Castaldi, Pilot; Nancy Maas, 99's; Jim Maas; William Davis, MD, Pilot; Dave Carlisle, FAA; Ezequiel Sandoval, Pilot; Tim Warlick; Rita Limmer, Pilot.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 25, 2009. It was moved by Alistair McCrone and seconded by Jack Limmer to approve the Minutes as submitted to Committee members last month via e-mail.
4. OPEN SESSION (to include community guests) - Ray Wickel asked to present his position and distribute a letter regarding the AVI8CANDO request for use of storage space at the Rohnerville airport. He has asked that the Committee support his positions and ask the Board of Supervisors to allow the use of this space for a nominal fee of \$1 per year, rather than the \$82.50 per month that the County is currently requesting from their organization. There was some discussion regarding the possibility of trading off the County's rental cost request against the value of services such as WIFI and video weather surveillance that might be offered to the general aviation community by AVI8CANDO. AVI8CANDO is to supply Ms. Hulsey with cost data for the services that they would be providing, so that this matter can move forward.
5. PRESENTATION BY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS – Ms. Hulsey passed out a summary of the County's hangar development history and Tom Mattson presented the status of his current hangar construction program analysis. This currently would provide for 17 T-hangar units to be constructed at ACV at an approximate cost of \$927,000. State hangar revolving fund money is available, as well as other financing, which might allow the County to retain the \$300,000 in funds that they currently have on hand. Design contracts may be let soon, with planning during the winter months, and a desired start of construction in the Spring of 2010.

The Murray fencing project is continuing through the FAA grant procedures and an application will be submitted in January for the design and cost estimation process. Any Murray Field hangar construction awaits a resolution to the fire suppression issue which may require an extension of the fire service water line at a large cost. Rohnerville Field still requires some site engineering issues to be resolved prior to being able to proceed with any T-hangar construction at that site.

Mr. Mattson also reported that CalTrans currently favors Option 3A for it's improvement of

the 101 Corridor near Murray Field, which would have a ½ traffic signal on the northbound lanes.

The previously contracted AWOS system installations for Rohnerville and Garberville are now scheduled for possible delay until June due to required site/program studies by the FAA. The County also needs to verify that the installation contractor will hold their prices for a delayed installation. The AWOS installation at Eureka Murray Field is on hold until after completion of the security fencing project.

## 6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. Nominating Committee – George Jutila (Chairman), Jack Limmer, and Alistair McCrone were asked by the Chairman to be the nominating committee to develop a slate of candidates for next year's officers to be presented at the November meeting.

## 7. AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

### A. Reports –

- 1) The airport terminal project is to be featured in an airport improvement magazine, resulting in some national publicity for this local improvement.
- 2) Passenger and Freight Statistics – Delta stayed in the County for an additional 2 days in September, but has left at this time. The load factor for the time Delta was in the County was close to, but not quite 70%, which would have kept the service active in the County for a full year.

### B. Projects

- 1) ACV Terminal Expansion, Baggage Handling and Grand Opening – The grand opening of this terminal project may be announced at the Committee's next meeting.
- 2) Minimum Standards for Commercial Operations at County Airports – There may be a draft report of this document available for the next meeting in October.
- 3) The County has received some money to conduct a wildlife study for the ACV airport, which will be in progress during the next year.
- 4) The County has received funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to repair and overlay the Airport Road access to ACV from Central Avenue to Highway 101. This project will start at the end of September and last 30 days.

## 8. AIRPORT REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE

A. Subcommittee for Hangar Construction – No further report at this meeting.

### B. Committee Reports:

- 1) Garberville – Dennis Lichty reports that activity is slow at the field. He also noted that the Unicom frequency from Mendocino Coast Hospital still causes some radio interference at Garberville.
- 2) Rohnerville – Dave Carlisle reported that the REIL system replacement by a contractor working for the FAA is almost complete, with testing and commissioning scheduled in the near future. Ray Wickel reported that last weekend, AVI8CANDO and the Young Eagles program flew over 40 children, and the barbeque and family gathering was very successful. He also noted that this Saturday, the annual AVI8CANDO meeting will have a guest speaker from NASA speaking on Mars exploration, and he invited all to attend this free program. George Jutila reported on the status of the John Joseph Montgomery Memorial, which includes the proposed publishing of many of his early photos and works.

- 3) Dinsmore – No report.
- 4) Murray – No report.
- 5) Kneeland – No report.
- 6) Arcata – No report.

9. CONTINUING BUSINESS

- A. Recognition Plaque at Rohnerville Airport – The County representatives reported at this meeting that if a proposal for an appropriate plaque and/or other improvements is received, that the Department of Public Works will present it for approval to the Board of Supervisors.

10. NEW BUSINESS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. ACV Runway Safety Area Improvements Bid – Mercer Frasier will be awarded the bid to construct the EMAS system and related improvements. This work will start soon, probably within a month, with a shut down for winter and continued work in the spring.
- B. Automatic External Defibrillator at County Facilities – This item is still in the County's Risk Management Department for comment and review, and Mr. Mattson will request an update from them tomorrow. Mr. Mattson reports that the Department of Public Works is in favor of the provision of these devices, as did Alistair McCrone for the Committee. It was suggested by Mr. Mattson that the item remain on the Committee's agenda until an update is received.
- C. Ezequiel Sandoval asked that a report on the number of specific requests for hangars at ACV be made available at the next meeting. Al Castaldi asked that the County provide a press release or similar economic impact data to help show the public the positive impact of General Aviation on the local economy. Mr. Mattson added that he also needs this type of economic data in order to justify airport improvement programs. Ms. Hulseley noted that she would attempt to pull some data together towards this end.

11. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Goodwin at 1916.

12. 2009 MEETING SCHEDULE: 10/27, 11/24

Respectfully submitted by: Richard Fenton, Secretary    Date: 9/23/2009

**Corrected and approved per Committee Meeting of October 27, 2009**