

Humboldt County Aviation Advisory Committee

MINUTES

November 25, 2008

6:00 P.M.

Aviation Division Office

3561 Boeing Ave., McKinleyville

1. The meeting was called to order @ 1800 by Chairman Goodwin.
2. Roll call and parking ticket validation was performed. **Members:** Chuck Goodwin, Bill Davidson, Jack Limmer, Dennis Lichty, Kyle Gabel, Alistair McCrone, and Rich Fenton. **Staff:** Jacquelyn Hulsey, Aviation Division Manager & Thomas K. Mattson, Director of Public Works. **Guests:** Elaine Weinreb, McKinleyville Press, Dave Carlisle, FAA.
3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
 1. Chairman Goodwin announced a CalTrans public meeting that will be at the Wharfinger Building on Wednesday, December 3 @ 5:00 P.M. This meeting relates to their proposal for a revision to the traffic lanes near the airport, including a ½ Stop Signal on Highway 101.
 2. Since the December Committee meeting is not usually held, January 20th will be the next meeting, per consensus of all members present this date. This is a change from the January 27th date that was previously published.
 3. Chair indicated that there are errors of fact in Item 8.B. of the March 25, 2008 Committee minutes, which evidently have not yet been forwarded by the County to be posted on the County website. These minutes were revised via a motion by Al Castaldi, seconded by Jack Limmer, to indicate that the lighting fixtures on Runway 01/19 have not been replaced, as previously stated, and are existing fixtures, not new. They also are reported to have not operated for approximately 10 years and were turned off during the tenure of Ray Beninga, a former Airport Manager. The motion to revise the minutes was passed, and the Secretary has accordingly modified the Minutes of the March 25, 2008 meeting.
4. PRESENTATION BY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
 - A. Discussion of County Policy on Small Hanger Construction – The Director of Public Works, Thomas K. Mattson, discussed the County's policy of only the County building T-Hangars, and not the private sector. He indicated that the County is about six months away from having land use approvals for ACV and about a year away from having land use approval for hangar construction at EKA. He also said that after three years from that date, if the County cannot or will not build hangars, then the policy could be revisited. Mr. Mattson indicated that they would first ask prospective hangar tenants to sign up and pay earnest money toward the lease of a hangar, prior to committing to the construction of any hangars. Committee members mentioned that it could be 4 years before any hangars were constructed. He indicated that if the Committee would do research and show the Board of Supervisors how other airports are performing hangar construction, and offer payback and revenue information, then this time frame might be shortened. A further discussion of why un-airworthy aircraft are allowed to take up hangar spaces speculated that, if the County required that hangar tenants name the County as "additional insured", they would possibly give up the hangars, due to increased insurance costs, freeing up

space for airworthy aircraft.

Mr. Mattson indicated that one of the original charges of the HCAAC, when it was formed, was to determine if the County should be in the landlord business for hangars. This statement was a surprise to most Committee members, and Mr. Mattson offered to obtain the original Board of Supervisors order so that the Committee could view the language of this, and any other, mandates given by the Board of Supervisors. Jack Limmer said that a sub-committee might be named to explore this issue. Bill Davidson, Jack Limmer and Al Castaldi volunteered to be on this sub-committee.

B. Discussion of Minimum Standards for Commercial Operations at County Airports
Mr. Mattson indicated that he has estimates from consultants in the \$15- \$18K range for them to review all current provisions from County leases and agreements and develop a “minimum standards” document for future publication on the County’s website. The consultant estimates 120 days after they get a contract to do the work, and Ms. Hulsey indicated that this could be budgeted for the next year (after July, 2009). Mr. Mattson indicated that the County’s new Property Manager would also be investigating some of these issues. Al Castaldi asked that she possibly attend a future meeting to share some of her progress on and knowledge of these issues.

C. Difibulators – Chairman Goodwin asked about the County’s process for possible approval of these devices for use in the airports. Mr. Mattson will check with the County’s Risk Manager to verify if there is any additional news on this issue.

5. OPEN SESSION (to include community guests)

A. Rob Delsman–Minimum Standards at County Airports – Mr. Delsman was not present. There was no additional public comment at this meeting.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Moved by Al Castaldi, seconded by Dennis Lichty to unanimously approve the Minutes of the September 23, 2008 and October 28, 2008 meetings. The Secretary asked that the June, July, and August minutes be approved via e-mail, with the secretary to track any proposed changes and re-send all proposed changes to all, for review and subsequent approval. OK, per consensus of members present.

7. AIRPORT MANAGER’S REPORT

A. Reports

1) Passenger and Freight Statistics – Passenger statistics were distributed to Committee members by Staff; reported to be up 7% for the year. Delta’s service is reported to be meeting their goals for the service.

2) Al Castaldi asked if there are monetary figures available for the airports’ commercial activities revenue stream to the Community. Ms. Hulsey said she would get these figures for all of the GA airports and report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

B. Projects

1) ACV Terminal Expansion – February, 2009 completion. Baggage area is still an

issue and is not yet open due to missing parts. Jack Limmer asked if the County would be getting the Conference Room back from TSA after this construction project is completed. It was indicated that this would happen, but that it might be delayed until the full term of their current agreement for the space has expired.

2)

(a) EKA: Security Fencing and Environmental Permits – This has been at the FAA since November 17th, for their expected “finding of no significant environmental impact” for the project.

(b) EKA: Gate Codes – New gate codes will be implemented when the County is able to do it, per Ms. Hulsey. The existing card reader needs repair and it may be possible to change the codes at that time, since new cards will need to be issued due to the repair. It was again explained that there is no way to have single cards which work at multiple sites – they are reported by Ms. Hulsey to be different systems. Bill Davidson asked if the gates could be “signed” to ask vehicles to stop and block access to additional vehicles after they enter. This is possible, but will require additional pavement markings.

(c) EKA: Repair of existing gates – Discussion of the status of these gates centered on whether or not the gates self close and properly latch. Ms. Hulsey indicated that her staff has checked their operation and that they work. Committee members stated that this assessment is incorrect, as Chairman Goodwin checked two of them yesterday, and found them to not be latched. Ms. Hulsey stated that she would personally check them at 0830 tomorrow.

3) Other Airports – The Garberville airport may be able to obtain an electrified operator for the access gate, if power can be obtained (or solar).

8. AIRPORT REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE

A. **Garberville** – Dennis Lichty reported 4 new private pilots based at Garberville, but there has been a general drop in the number of transient/based aircraft apparently due to the winter weather.

B. **Rohnerville (FOT)** – Ms. Hulsey reported that the County has performed some clearing of trees at the airport to prepare in case anyone would like to build another corporate hangar. Mr. Mattson was asked to clarify that the land at Rohnerville is currently available for hangar construction, versus no land is available for this purpose at EKA. He indicated that it was so designated. Chairman Goodwin inquired about the AVISCANDO request to use the building at Rohnerville Airport for their program. He was informed that this is a lease issue with the County and needed to continue to be pursued as such. There was no report on Dinsmore Airport at this meeting.

C. **Murray (EKA)** – Al Castaldi asked that the taxiways at EKA be checked for excessive weed growth through the pavement. Ms. Hulsey indicated that the airport crew was on site today to work on this and would continue to monitor and perform this maintenance.

D. **Kneeland** – No news this month.

E. **Arcata (ACV)** – Ms. Hulsey reported that the Runway 14/32 consultant will perform a 30% design exercise and finish up the NEPA portion of the grant for the Engineered Mass Arresting System (EMAS).

9. NEW BUSINESS AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. Al Castaldi asked that the fuel price at Rohnerville be lowered to allow the old stock of fuel to be sold. He feels that the County will have a problem with the fuel going bad if this is not done. It is currently reported to be \$5.95/gallon, and Dennis reports that Garberville prices are the same. This does not compare well with EKA which is lowering their price to \$4.08/gallon effective tomorrow.

B. Jack Limmer presented an e-mail that compared the relative costs to a Community of providing services for residential land use compared to that of providing services for commercial/industrial uses. It was reported that leaving land in industrial/commercial use can be beneficial to the tax revenues of the Community, without demanding near the amount of infrastructure service cost from Community resources.

10. ADJOURNMENT @ 1955. There will be no December meeting. Next Committee meeting to be held on January 20, 2009.

2009 MEETING SCHEDULE: 1/20, 2/24, 3/24, 4/28, 5/26, 6/23, 7/28, 8/25, 9/22, 10/27, 11/24