

HUMBOLDT COUNTY AVIATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

September 24, 2011
11:00 AM
River Lodge
1800 Riverwalk Drive, Fortuna, CA 95540

1. The meeting was called to order at 1100 by Chairman Gregg Foster. **Members Present:** Gregg Foster, Alistair McCrone, Chuck Goodwin, Jack Limmer, Rich Fenton, George Jutila, Dennis Lichty, Kyle Gabel. **Members Absent:** John Ash. **Staff:** Jacquelyn Hulse, Airports Manager; Tom Mattson, Public Works Director. **Guests:** See attached list.
2. The Chairman introduced himself and the Committee to the Avi8Cando Airport Day group and asked the individual Committee members to identify themselves as well.
3. Open Session for Community Input
 - a) William Rush, MD noted the status of his current work towards getting portable defibrillators installed at the County airports. Resulting discussion noted that there is no opposition to this, and it is in the process of review by the County Risk Manager.
 - b) Nancy Maas asked that the percentage increases of the October airport hangar rentals be discussed at the next Committee meeting, as she does not believe that they were fairly apportioned at the various airports. Tom Mattson agreed that this item would be researched and a report presented at the October meeting.
4. The approval of the Minutes of the July 26, 2011 Committee meeting was deferred to the next meeting, as they are not yet available.

The Chairman announced that John Ash, Committee Secretary, has informed him of his desire to resign from the Committee and that there will be a forthcoming opening on the Committee. This replacement position is the responsibility of the Forth District Supervisor to appoint, but the applicant can reside in any District of the County.

The Minutes of the August 24, 2011 meeting were approved by a unanimous voice vote, with a motion for approval by Alistair McCrone, and a second from Jack Limmer.

5. Airport Manager's Report
 - A. Airport Project Reports
 - 1) Final ACV hangar plans have been completed and are virtually ready for the bid of the project. The County is currently seeking financing and needs to revise its application to show a more complete ability of the project to pay back the financing. Tom Mattson noted that there is another issue, in that the firm that was tasked with performing the County's "single audit" did not complete it and any new public financing is dependent upon this

document. It is currently unknown when the financing will be in place, but Tom Mattson indicated that the hangars are still intended to go forward, hopefully late this year.

- 2) The contractor performing the bluff stabilization work on Runway 14 at ACV is 60 days into his 120 day contract, and the work is reported to be on schedule.
- 3) The AWOS systems installed at Rohnerville and Garberville airports will require continued maintenance certification services that were unknown and not budgeted at the time these systems were purchased. This is new information and further detail will be available at the October meeting. The County has trained two Aviation Division Maintenance Workers in order to perform the routine daily operations and monthly services, but there is an additional requirement to have a service contract with FCC certified technicians on a quarterly basis. It is currently unknown if this is proprietary service work, or if a competitive market exists for this type of service.
- 4) Dinsmore – No new information to report.
- 5) Kneeland – A runway safety area survey is necessary in order to pursue funding for the stabilization of the runway end which has been sloughing off.
- 6) There has been no additional information received by the County regarding the FAA’s proposed changes to the ACV instrument approaches.
- 7) The existing “Nose Hangar” at ACV is the County’s choice for a new airport fire station location. The building is in deteriorated condition, and many believe unserviceable. It will need an official assessment of its condition and historical value in order to be removed and have the project proceed. The Airport Manager stated that the new fire station design is envisioned to use some of the architectural design elements of the existing hangar in deference to its long existence on the airport grounds.
- 8) The Airport Manager announced that the North Coast Honor Flight will leave ACV at 0700 on October 4th, returning at 1900 on October 5th on a charter flight provided by Allegiant Air. These flights honor World War II veterans and, at no cost to the veterans, take them and their caregivers to visit the World War II memorial in Washington, D.C.
- 9) Chuck Goodwin inquired regarding the progress of the Ad Hoc Committee on Minimum Standards, which met yesterday. The Airport Manger replied that the meeting, among five members, was productive and an e-mail has been sent from Jess Walls, announcing the next meeting date of 5:30 PM Thursday, October 6th at the Prosperity Center, 520 E Street, Eureka.

B. Report on “Fly Humboldt” and Air Service Development Efforts

Allegiant Air will be flying into ACV for the Honor Flight charter trips on October 4th and 5th and it is hoped that the experience will help them decide favorably towards providing service from ACV to Los Angeles or eastward. Gregg Foster announced that he is hopeful that the County’s recent \$500,000 FAA grant application for air service development will be successful. He is expecting some notice from the FAA soon. He announced that another unnamed airline has set up a meeting with the County in November regarding potential air service, and news of any developments will be forwarded when available. A question was forwarded from the audience regarding the possibility of Delta returning to this market, and Chairman Foster indicated that they have not currently shown any renewed interest. The County and “Fly Humboldt” continue

to encourage both Delta and Horizon (Alaska) to return daily air service to Humboldt County. Chairman Foster also reminded the audience to continue to ask their friends and acquaintances to respond to the "Fly Humboldt" consumer survey on the County Aviation website.

6. Old Business

None at this meeting other than the previously reported discussion of the defibrillator device use status noted under Item 3.A.

7. New Business

- A. Cal Fire issues for operations at Rohnerville will be discussed at the October meeting, as Cal Fire is currently in the process of fighting a wildfire in the Ruth Lake area and was unable to attend this meeting.
- B. Tom Mattson discussed the LightSquared Company's application to the FCC to use a frequency close to the GPS signal spectrum, which is expected to cause GPS system interference. He noted that the U.S. Congress has now slowed the process somewhat and further testing will be required prior to allowing the company to move forward. George Jutila made a motion for the Committee to prepare a letter to the Board of Supervisors asking them to consider an official opposition position to this system, unless full testing is performed showing no GPS system interference. Chuck Goodwin seconded the motion and asked that the motion be amended to include support for the Save GPS Coalition. Dr. Jutila accepted this amendment to his motion and it was passed unanimously by voice vote.
- C. Chairman Foster announced that the County Counsel will hold Committee member training on the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown act, which governs certain aspects of how our Committee performs. The training is scheduled for October 19th from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.

8. Discussion of Items for the October Meeting

- A. AWOS system maintenance cost increases – report from the County
- B. County October 2011 hangar rent increases.
- C. Cal Fire report on Rohnerville operations.
- D. HCAAC annual report to the Board of Supervisors – start discussion.
- E. Report from Ad Hoc Committee regarding revision of the Minimum Standards document.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 1150 by Chairman Gregg Foster, with thanks from Avi8Cando for convening the regular Committee meeting in Fortuna this month.

2011 MEETING SCHEDULE: October 25, and November 22

Attachments: Attendance sign in sheet

Respectfully submitted on October 25, 2011 by Richard R. Fenton, Acting Secretary

Meeting Sign-In Sheet

Aviation Advisory Committee

Date: 24-Sep-11

PRINT NAME	ORGANIZATION	PHONE	EMAIL
1. Rita Limmer	99's	822-6966	
2. Nancy Maas	"	443-0386	
3. Cheryl Bender		768-3543	CHERBEND@suddenlink.net
4. Tom Bergers			bergers@attglobal.net
5. John Henningo	Avi-8-CANBO	443-6108	jhh1@aerobank.net
6. Jess Walls		876-1601	JessWalls@ymail.com
7. Rey Urbach	Avi & Conto	801-8552	urbach@suddenlink.net
8. Russell Dobson	EAA 1418	986-7753	rdobson@asis.com
9. Tom Oliver		672-6018	
10. JAYME GONZALES		725-5014	
11. Bernice Christen		845 0494	bncchrist@suddenlink.net
12. Charles Reischer	West Air "FedEx"	480-861-1725	chucky0283@aol.com
13. WILLIAM RUSH MD	MED SOC	707 442-7874	warush@suddenlink.net
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