

# SONOMA COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the February 21, 2008 Meeting

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Young called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Delaney, Doherty, Hayssen, Starrett, Walters, and Young.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Hayssen moved with support from Walters to approve the January 17 Commission Meeting Minutes as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

## **AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **A. Complaint Update**

Stout reported 25 complaints since the December 2007 meeting.

1. Mrs. Sandoval – low flying aircraft “talking to people”
2. Dawn Woo – loud, low jet overflights
3. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits
4. Katherine Greenbough – low overflight
5. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits
6. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits
7. Scott Griffin – loud overflights
8. Jim Lindgren – loud overflight
9. Kevin Scanlon – loud overflight
10. Anonymous – planned Las Vegas flights are too late at night
11. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits
12. Christina Raymond – loud jet overflight
13. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits
14. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits
15. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits
16. Don Albini – low overflights
17. Lorrie Stillings – too many aircraft flying over Petaluma
18. Christina Raymond – loud, low overflight
19. Kendra Scherrer – loud overflights
20. Bruce Abramson – increased flights over Healdsburg
21. Scott Griffin – loud, low overflights
22. Harold Ball – helicopter circling overhead
23. Bruce Edwards – helicopter circling overhead
24. Ryan Woltering – helicopter circling over Cotati
25. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits

The 2007 Noise Complaint Summary should be ready for the March 2008 Commission Meeting.

**B. Tower Report**

Tim Pforsich, Tower Manager, was not present.  
Stout reported a 5% increase in operations in 2007 over 2006.

**C. Airline Update**

Stout reported that Horizon Air has been doing well and has announced a daily flight to Las Vegas starting April 24, 2008 to replace the third LAX flight.

Stout said he plans to meet with a number of airlines at the Network USA Conference in March.

**D. Master Plan Update**

Stout reported that the interviews for environmental consultants were held and that a meeting has been held with the preferred candidate to negotiate a contract.

**E. Gate Card Audit**

Stout reported that most tenants have responded to the gate card audit. Gate devices signed out to tenants who do not respond will be deactivated starting on February 25, 2008.

Stout said the Airport might have to upgrade the walk-in gates in the future. A meeting is scheduled with a security company to demonstrate closed circuit cameras at Airport gates.

**F. Neighbors Meeting**

The Airport Neighbors meeting was held Thursday January 24, 2008. Only a few neighbors were in attendance. Dave Robertson, Deputy Director of Transportation & Public Works, provided an overview of road improvements currently underway and those planned for the Airport Blvd. area. Art Hayssen explained the flight patterns recommended in the Airport Noise Management guide.

**G. Coffee Bar**

The coffee bar in the terminal is scheduled to open on February 15, 2008.

**ACTION ITEMS**

There were no Action Items at this time.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Possessory Interest Taxes**

Stout reported on a meeting held with representatives from the County Assessor's office regarding the calculation of possessory interest taxes. The assessor did explain that the term used for the tax base had changed from 3 years to 5 years in 2007, which caused changes in tax bills. Gloria Cote, the Airport Secretary, is compiling a list of questions to submit to the Assessor prior to the March Commission meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Hayssen requested information about the Airport's response to Sonoma Jet Center's letter of concerns regarding Apex Aviation and Kaiser Air. The Commissioners expressed concerns that both businesses be treated equally. Stout responded that the Aviation Commission would receive a copy of the written response.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Steve Penning, from Sonoma Jet Center, stated that Apex Aviation has been out of compliance with its operating agreement for some time. Stout explained the steps the County has taken to date to bring Apex Aviation into compliance.

**COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Hayssen reported on a runway safety meeting he recently attended in Napa.

Delaney suggested the Airport do a comparison of complaint statistics with airports similar to STS.

Walters complimented Penning on Sonoma Jet Center's patience during the process of dealing with Apex Aviation.

**ADJOURN**

*Delaney moved with support from Doherty to adjourn. All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 9:23 a.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Jon Stout, CAE, AAE  
Airport Manager