

SONOMA COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the February 15, 2007 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Young called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Delaney moved with support from Doherty to approve the January 15, 2007 Commission Meeting Minutes. All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Complaint Update

Stout reported there were twelve noise complaints since December 31, 2006. The 2006 Noise Complaint Summary is still being compiled.

1. Archie Eckles – strange flying lights
2. Scott Griffen – loud, low overflight
3. Marc LaMantia – loud overflight
4. Sandi LaMantia – helicopter overflight
5. Jack Heidt – aircraft circling overhead
6. Sandi LaMantia – loud, low overflight
7. Clint (no last name) – too much air traffic over his area
8. Harold Benne – threatened to shoot down helicopters
9. Marc LaMantia – loud overflight
10. Sandi LaMantia – loud overflight
11. Eileen Felton – helicopter overflights
12. Silvia Ibarra – loud, low overflight

B. Tower Report

Tim Pforsich, Tower Manager, said there are no major issues to report. They are still working on traffic reports for 2006. Pforsich said some changes are being implemented for pilots on taxiing and holding. There is a newly marked Precision Obstacle Free Zone (POFZ) at the south end of Runway 32.

C. Airline Update

Stout reported that Horizon Air will begin service on March 20, 2007 as scheduled. There will be an open house on Thursday, March 15, 2007 from 1 – 5 p.m. for the public to see and climb aboard a Horizon Air aircraft. A news conference will be held in the morning.

Stout said that bookings are less than hoped for at this point. However, business bookings are usually made about three weeks in advance. Redwood Credit Union has a pledge program, which is at about \$40,000 in pledges; the goal is \$500,000. In addition, some of the larger corporations have opened corporate accounts with Horizon.

Stout will attend the Airline Airport Conference March 4 – 8, 2007 and meet with nine airlines to promote STS.

RFP's for the security contract are out and due back on March 8, 2007. TSA will provide security screening until a private contractor is certified and ready to take over.

D. ADA Improvements

Stout said work is continuing on the sidewalks and parking lot ADA improvements. There are some questions to be resolved regarding the baggage claim area. The terminal restroom remodel is nearly complete, and Airport staff is painting the inside of the terminal.

E. Restaurant

Stout reported that there were no responses to the RFP. The Airport will meet with potential operators during the month of March.

F. Neighbors Meeting

Stout reported that only nineteen neighbors attended the January 24, 2007 Neighbors meeting. Representatives from the Sheriff's helicopter unit and the CDF gave presentations and answered questions.

ACTION ITEMS

A. April CAC Meeting

Stout reported that the next CAC meeting would be Thursday, April 19, 2007 at 8 a.m., at which time the draft Airport Master Plan will be presented and explained by the consultants. Stout explained that the consultants felt it would be worthwhile for the Aviation Commission to be present at this meeting. In addition, since it is likely a quorum would be present, the Brown Act requires official publication that members of the Aviation Commission are in attendance.

Doherty moved with support from Starrett to move the April meeting date to coincide with the CAC meeting on April 19, 2007 at 8 a.m. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Airport Security Changes

Stout explained the security changes required by TSA. The Airport is auditing all gate access devices; any device not accounted for by March 15, 2007 will be deactivated. There is a delineated airline security box designated for Airport/Airline employees only. Tailgating through gates will no longer be allowed, and TSA will be spot-checking gates and may fine tailgaters up to \$20,000 per violation.

B. Noise Abatement

Stout explained the new Noise Abatement brochure, which has been mailed to all Airport tenants and flight schools and FBO's within one hundred miles of STS. The Airport is still waiting for approval for raising pattern altitudes, which were published in the brochure.

C. Fuel Recycling

Tom Walters and Sheryl Benesch, an employee of North Coast Air, gave a presentation on preflight fuel sampling and proper disposal. Walters and Hayssen will work with the Airport on a plan to provide conveniently located receptacles for waste fuel and a plan to educate pilots.

NEW BUSINESS

Young moved with support from Walters to cancel the Aviation Commission meeting on March 15, 2007. All ayes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Neisingh, an Airport tenant, suggested that the FBO's provide collection containers for fuel.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Walters thanked Sheryl for helping with the survey and presentation on fuel recycling.

Young reported there is discussion about adding user fees to fund the FAA. The AOPA is keeping the public informed via emails and comments.

ADJOURN

Doherty moved with support from Starrett to adjourn the meeting. All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Stout, C.M.
Airport Manager