

SONOMA COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the October 16, 2014 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Young called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Carrillo, Delaney, Hayssen, McCord, Smith, Starrett and Young.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *McCord moved with support from Carrillo to approve the August 21, 2014 Aviation Commission Minutes. All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Complaint Update

Stout reported that there were 53 aircraft related complaints since the last Commission meeting. This brings the complaint year-to-date total to 225, a 38.9% increase over 2013. There were 2 additional complaints due to the construction project.

1. Judith Russo – increased air traffic
2. James Wade – low overflight
3. David (Scott) Griffin – loud, low jet overflight
4. B. Lipske Jr. – loud overflights
5. Steve Berman – loud, low helicopter overflight
6. Anonymous – low helicopter overflights
7. Anonymous – low helicopter overflights
8. Dave Oliver – Alaska Airline flight pattern
9. Betsy Penn – aircraft too close together
10. James Norris – low jet overflights
11. Robert Catterton – increased air traffic
12. Tom Bensen – low jet overflights
13. Chris Bekins – change in flight patterns
14. John Kincheloe – Alaska Airline late landing
15. Jamie Hansen – low overflights
16. Patrick Bohn – aircraft too close together
17. Jan Turrini – change in flight patterns
18. Olivia Crawford – loud parked aircraft
19. Noreen Teter – loud parked aircraft
20. Norman Compton – helicopter overflight
21. Sherri Leidi – loud parked aircraft
22. Jean McMullen – loud parked aircraft
23. Marilyn Standley – loud overflight
24. Karen Mackenzie – helicopter overflight
25. Steve Botkin – loud, low jet overflight
26. Wendy Labi – helicopter overflight
27. John Heins – loud overflights
28. John Heins – low overflights
29. Myrna Werder – increased air traffic
30. Mark Stanley – loud, low overflight
31. Mark Stanley – low overflights
32. Marilyn Stanley – loud, low overflight

33. Michael Brook – increased air traffic
34. Steve Striepeke – loud, low jet overflight
35. Kim Stone – increased air traffic
36. Robert Catterton – aerobatics over home
37. Edward Brochu – low helicopter overflight
38. Linda Walsh – helicopter overflights
39. Barbara Wolfe – low helicopter overflight
40. Barbara Wolfe – low helicopter overflight
41. Chris (no last name) – Alaska Airline flights too low
42. Joanna Freund – increased air traffic
43. Christian Campanile – Alaska Airline flights too low
44. Kim Stone – increased air traffic
45. Midhi Rice – increased air traffic
46. Nicoletta Gilmore – low overflight
47. R. Lipske – loud, low overflight
48. Susan Wolf – loud, low overflights
49. Jean McMullen – loud parked aircraft
50. Roger Bolt – loud jet overflight, possibly military
51. Jeff Lewin – loud jet overflight, possibly military
52. Judith Stephenson – low overflight
53. Keith Smith – low overflight
54. Stephanie Swain – aircraft circling low
55. Irene Morgan – loud late overflight
56. Virginia Cannon – low overflights
57. Ken Freund – increased air traffic, too low
58. Deborah Settle – loud jet overflight
59. Deborah Settle – low overflight

B. Tower Report/Update

Stout reported that there were 7,644 operations in August, a 5% increase compared to August 2013, and 6,345 operations for September, a 16.6% decrease compared to September 2013. Year to date there were 52,090 operations, a decrease of 0.8% from 2013.

Robin Greisen, Tower manager, announced the opening of a new flight school in Napa, which should increase operations at STS also. Greisen said that two STS controllers are transferring to other airports and that a bid is out to replace them. The Tower supervisor and one controller will be certified next week.

Greisen said that Mead & Hunt have been great to work with during the construction project. The Airport diagram will be updated by November 13.

C. Airline Update

Stout reported that August passenger numbers were 23,282, a 5.1% increase over August 2013; September passenger numbers were 23,139, a 13.5% increase over September 2013. Year to date passenger totals were 177,681, a 4.2% increase compared to 2013. Stout predicted an increase in October due to the 2nd Seattle flight.

Stout said that the Chicago Routes conference was positive in terms of meetings with airlines, although there are no letters of commitment. There will be follow up meetings with American Airlines.

Surf Air, which is a private membership charter company, is very interested in Sonoma County. There is still the possibility of Alaska Airlines restoring the Las Vegas flight. The terminal capacity is currently an obstacle for flights to Hawaii. The Airport is reviewing options and costs for a terminal remodel and hopes to present a plan for Board consideration in the first quarter of 2015.

D. Projects Update

- Rubberized mulch – areas are still being identified and mulched to save water.
- Car wash – bids are due this week.
- Tower roof – there will be a pre-construction meeting next week, and the roof will be replaced in November, with Tower personnel using a temporary tower for three to four days.

E. Runway Safety Project Update

Runway 14/32 will open at 6 am on Friday, October 17, 2014. The flight checks were wrapped up on Wednesday. Runway 2/20 will be closed until the end of October in order to complete the seal coating and markings. The new approach for 14 will be published on November 13, 2014. The request for continuous descent on 32 was resubmitted.

A mailer showing the final configuration of the runways is currently at the printer and will be sent to all Airport hangar tenants and commercial operators next week.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are reviewing a second site for Burke's Goldfield mitigation. The Airport is still working with the City of Santa Rosa on the riparian mitigation site. Mitigation sites will require 5 to 10 years of monitoring once they are established.

Young asked about plans for future possible projects. Stout said the access road needs to be completed before the current permits expire, but no other large airfield projects are planned at this time.

Stout said there will probably be a community event next spring, which will require closure of the Airport for several hours. Events being considered include a 3K run and an aircraft pull.

F. & G. Ordinance and Development Standards Updates

The Board reports have been submitted. Both items had to be coordinated with and reviewed by General Services.

The Development Standards formalize standards for private development on the Airport. PRMD will remain the permitting department. The current Airport Ordinance was enacted in 1960, revised in 1991, and needed to be updated to include the Commercial Vehicle Ordinance (CVO). The County had to have a taxicab ordinance before the Airport's CVO could go into effect, delaying the Airport CVO by about two years.

ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items at this time.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no discussion items at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

The Commission requested that the November agenda include the revised hangar leases.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Josh Hochberg, owner of Sonoma Jet Center, complimented the Airport operations specialists for their help with late aircraft arrivals during the Airport night closures. Hochberg added that both management and staff have worked well with Airport users during the construction project.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Smith brought up the fact that the Airport Land Use Commission has not been active. Smith asked if the Airport knew who the County representative is, and the Airport Managers recommended the appointment of Art Hayssen. Stout said he will ask Supervisor McGuire about it.

ADJOURN

Delaney moved with support from McCord to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Stout, CAE, AAE
Airport Manager