

SONOMA COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the February 21, 2013 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Young called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Carrillo, Delaney, Hayssen, McCord, Smith, Starrett (left at 8:42 a.m.) and Young

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Hayssen moved with support from Carrillo to approve the January 2013 Aviation Commission Minutes. Starrett Abstained. Six Ayes. Motion Carried.*

ACTION ITEMS

A. Dragonfly Leasehold Subcommittee for RFI

A copy of the Request for Interest (RFI) was included in the agenda packet. Stout requested that the Commission appoint a subcommittee to review responses to the RFI and make recommendations based on the best aeronautical uses for the site. Carrillo, Starrett and McCord volunteered to on the subcommittee.

Young moved with support from Delaney to appoint Carrillo, McCord and Starrett to serve on the subcommittee to review responses to the RFI and make recommendations to the Airport Manager. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

B. FY 13/14 Fee Schedule

Stout reported that the County Administrator has moved the deadline to submit the FY 13/14 Airport Rates & Charges to March 8, 2013. Stout explained that Cal Fire rates have not increased since 2007 and will have to be recalculated based on the change in the CPI from 2007 to the present and will be part of their contract renewal in 2014.

McCord moved with support from Smith to recommend adoption of the FY 13/14 Airport Rates & Charges to the Board of Supervisors. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Complaint Update

Stout reported that there were 5 complaints since the January 2013 meeting. Complaints in 2012 were up 3.5% over 2011. The 2012 Annual Report will be distributed in April 2013.

1. Judith Hower – increased air traffic in area
2. Dean Davis – loud jet take-off
3. Scott Griffin – loud jet take-off
4. Bill Foss – loud jet overflights
5. Kelley Rayala – air pollution caused by air traffic

B. Tower Report

Allie Metcalf, Tower Manager, was not present. Stout reported that operations in 2012 were down 1.1% from 2011.

C. Airline Update

Stout reported that January passenger numbers were up 2.4% over January 2012, continuing the January upward trend. Stout said that Alaska Airlines maintains a 7 day per week flight schedule compared to Horizon Air, where Horizon would reduce to less than daily service in January on some routes. This January flight numbers were up, however, resulting in lower load factors even though the overall passenger numbers were up.

Stout will be attending Network in March and has appointments scheduled with Southwest, Aero Mexico, American and American Eagle, Volaris, U.S. Air and Allegiant. Alaska Airlines has expressed interest in a flight to Hawaii after the runway extension is complete. Stout added that an eastbound connection is still a priority with the Airport.

D. Projects Update

- Lighting Retrofit – the project was completed under budget; the light output is greater than estimated, with a 75% decrease in power needed to operate.
- Rubberized Bark – the grant request was submitted in January, and the awards have not yet been announced.
- Hold Room – the hold room has been repainted, and decorative ceiling tiles are being installed.

E. EA/EIR Update

Stout reported that Supervisors McGuire and Rabbitt met with Congressman Thompson and Huffman in Washington D.C. to discuss the timeline necessary for U.S. Fish and Wildlife’s biological opinion in order for the runway project to start in 2013.

Stout said there is a court date in August for valuation of the third parcel of land required for the project.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no discussion items at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Duvander, board member of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), stated that the EAA cannot afford the current rent it is paying for its site. Stout explained that when the current lease was negotiated, the rent was just below 50% of the market at that time. As part of the agreement, the EAA maintains the buildings. Stout also explained that if the Airport diverts revenue, i.e. rents, it is in violation of FAA grant assurances.

Carrillo requested a report on the EAA rents for the March Commission meeting.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

There were no Commission comments at this time.

ADJOURN

McCord moved with support from Carrillo to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Stout, CAE, AAE
Airport Manager