

SONOMA COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the July 15, 2010 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Young called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Delaney, Hayssen, Smith, Starrett, Young and Walters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Delaney moved with support from Smith to approve the June 2010 Aviation Commission Minutes. All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Complaint Update

Stout reported that there were 17 complaints since the June 2010 meeting.

1. Rob Walling – weather balloon, possible aircraft hazard
2. Debbie Mumm – low hot air balloon
3. Bill Foss – multiple low overflights
4. Bill Foss – loud, low helicopter overflight
5. Bill Foss – aircraft doing touch and go operations
6. Bill Foss – low overflight
7. Steve Winton – unusual lights, not aircraft
8. Ebb Kolbeck – aircraft circling
9. Priscilla Cantrell – low helicopter overflights
10. Julie Seitzman – too many low hot air balloon overflights
11. Ann Fitzgerald – loud jet overflight
12. Bill Foss – aircraft doing touch and go operations
13. Bill Foss – aircraft doing touch and go operations
14. Bill Foss – low overflight
15. Charles (no last name) – loud jet overflight
16. Ann Fitzgerald – helicopter overflight
17. Virginia Cannon – frequent low overflights

The 2010 Complaint Summary was distributed at this meeting. Stout reported that copies were sent to the Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator's office.

B. Tower Report

Allie Metcalf, Tower manager, said there were no updates at this time.

C. Airline Update

Stout reported a 1% increase in passenger loads through March 2010. Horizon continues to be pleased with its service in Sonoma County. Stout said the Airport has been contacted by a company interested in providing scheduled charter service to Burbank and San Diego several times per week.

Stout reported that Travel Center Services, Inc. met with representatives from Sonoma and Mendocino County travel related businesses to discuss vacation packages. They plan to launch the program in September 2010.

D. EIR/EA Update

Stout reported that the FAA has not yet approved the revised air traffic forecast.

E. Projects

- Terminal Remodel – the new area opened July 7. One airline counter has been completed, and the other one should be done next week. The security screening equipment was moved and is ready for use. Redwood Credit Union will install an ATM, and Canteen has new vending machines in the terminal and will begin servicing the hold room in August. The entire terminal will be carpeted. The entire project should be complete in another 4 to 5 weeks.
- Obstruction Removal – the contract and notice to proceed for tree removal are complete, and work should begin August 1, pending the result of a raptor survey. Sonoma County Regional Parks will work with the property owner to landscape the cleared area.
- Taxiway Z and Taxiways D & Y – the Board of Supervisors approved contracts for those projects, and work should start after the air show.
- Security System Upgrade – the cost for the security system has been finalized. Although the project will be paid for with Passenger Facility Charges (PFC's), the Board of Supervisors will first have to approve a lease arrangement for the project. Software to all gates will be replaced, and cameras will be installed in the terminal, parking lots, airline ramp and on the Air Traffic Control Tower.
- Airport Administrative Offices – there is empty office space in the industrial park building, which was formerly occupied by Agrilink. Since the current operations' shop is in need of major repairs, this space will be used for both shop and operations specialist office space.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Set Special Meeting Date

Stout explained the need for a special or extended meeting of the Aviation Commission to invite stakeholders to discuss the Airport ordinance changes, which is currently being drafted. It was agreed that the September meeting will be extended for this discussion.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Taxi Ordinance

Stout reported that California state law requires each county to have a taxi ordinance, which the County is currently drafting. The Airport ordinance will include a commercial vehicles operators section that will include all forms of commercial transportation, however, so that it will be separate from the County ordinance. Mark Mispagel, counsel for the Airport, explained the insurance and auto inspection requirements. Stout said that trips could be monitored using RFID tags, which would allow multiple loops within a specific time period.

The Commission discussed the insurance limits currently required in the draft and suggested they be decreased. Enforcement was also discussed, and Stout explained that the Sheriff and the CHP would be able to enforce an ordinance.

The Commission agreed that taxi and commercial transportation fees should be added to the yearly rates and charges for the Airport. It was also agreed that the Commission would act as the board for dispute resolutions. Revisions and a draft fee schedule should be brought back for review at the August meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Stout announced that the next Airport neighbors meeting will be held at the Mesa Beverage Company on Tuesday, July 27, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

Young asked for an update on the transfer of ownership of Sonoma Jet Center. Stout replied that it had been approved.

Stout requested assistance from the Commission in formulating questions for the upcoming Airport user survey, and Hayssen will work on that.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Allie Metcalf, Tower manager, said the Tower is neutral when directing pilots to either of the FBO's.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Walters asked about PCAM's use of the Butler Hangar. Stout replied that final arrangements are almost complete for its use of the Western half of the hangar and that no tenants are affected.

Smith reported that Petaluma will be having a fly-in this Saturday and everyone is welcome to attend.

ADJOURN

Delaney moved with support from Starrett to adjourn. All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 9:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Stout, CAE, AAE
Airport Manager