

SONOMA COUNTY
AVIATION COMMISSION
Minutes of the November 16, 2017 Meeting

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Hayssen moved with support from McCord to approve the September 2017, Aviation Commission Minutes. Carrillo and McCord Abstained. Three Ayes. Motion Carried.*

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Complaint Update

Stout reported that there were 35 aircraft related complaints since the last Commission meeting. In September 2017 there were 23 noise complaints compared to 65 in September 2016, a decrease of 65%. In September 2017 there were 7 general complaints compared to 4 in September 2016, an increase of 75%.

In October 2017 there were 13 aircraft related complaints compared to 25 in October 2016, a 48% decrease. In October 2017 there were 2 general complaints compared to 4 in October 2016, a 50% decrease.

Through October 2017 there were 503 noise complaints compared to 277 in 2016, an increase of 82%. Through October 2017 there were 54 general complaints compared to 30 in 2016, an increase of 80%.

1. Mary Ott – increased noise and air traffic
2. Lauren Cartwright – loud overflight
3. Gwinn O’Gara – increased air traffic
4. James Barrett – loud overflights; air traffic should be diverted from Cotati
5. Don Albini – low overflight
6. Barbara Wolfe – low overflight
7. Barbara Wolfe – low overflight
8. Kimberly Gehl – loud overflight
9. Jay Alman – low helicopter overflight
10. Chaz Pelling – low helicopter overflights
11. Barbara Wolfe – low overflight
12. Celia Lamantia – loud overflights
13. Charles Lindell – increased air traffic
14. Philip Anacker – low helicopter overflights
15. Sylvia Ibarra – loud early morning overflights
16. Debbi Mumm – low helicopter overflight
17. Kathleen Zack – loud evening overflights
18. Celia Lamantia – loud overflights
19. Celia Lamantia – loud overflight
20. David Griffin – loud overflights
21. Carol Strode – loud, low overflights
22. David Griffin – loud overflights
23. Julie Rickard – helicopter overflight
24. Don Albini – low overflight
25. Sylvia Ibarra – loud overflight
26. James Barrett – loud jet overflights; air traffic should be diverted from Cotati
27. James Barrett – loud jet overflights; air traffic should be diverted from Cotati

28. Sandi Frati – low jet overflight
29. James Barrett – loud overflights; air traffic should be diverted from Cotati
30. Dave Oliver – commercial airline overflight
31. Rhonda Rockwood – commercial airline overflight
32. James Barrett – loud jet overflights; air traffic should be diverted from Cotati
33. James Barrett – loud jet overflight; air traffic should be diverted from Cotati
34. James Barrett – loud jet overflights; air traffic should be diverted from Cotati
35. James Barrett – loud jet overflights; air traffic should be diverted from Cotati

B. Tower Report/Update

Stout reported that there were 8,329 operations in August 2017 compared to 7,610 in August 2016, a 9.4% increase. Operations in September were 7,816 compared to 7,024 in September 2016, an 11.3% increase. Year to date there were 64,059 operations compared to 59,896 in 2016, a 7% increase.

Craig Lucas, the Tower manager, reported that October operations will probably be lower due to the wild fires. Dave Sheber is the new supervisor.

C. Airline Update

Stout reported that total passenger numbers in September 2017 were up 31.6% over 2016, 38,219 compared to 29,046. Alaska reported a 75% load factor; American reported a 73% load factor; United reported a 58% load factor; and Sun Country reported a 66% load factor. The passenger numbers for October will be lower due to the number of canceled flights caused by the fires.

Stout met with Alaska Airlines on November 2, 2017. Bookings for November were down 20% and for December down 15%, with fewer inbound due to the fires. Tourism is working on a marketing campaign. No new routes are planned for 2018.

Stout reported that American will go back to one mid-day flight per day in January and will be flying a CRJ900 operated by Mesa Air. American reported that the Phoenix flights have been mostly point to point rather than connecting.

Stout will meet with Sun Country on November 28 and with United on November 29. Based on current passenger booking numbers, STS could support three Denver flights per day depending on connections.

Stout added that according to data from Tourism, Dallas is the top marked for visitors to Sonoma County.

D. Projects Update

- Parking Lot – Ghilotti Construction is working on the parking lot; application of lime was delayed due to rain.
- Sidewalks – construction will start on November 27.
- Apron “D” Rehabilitation – Purchasing has not opened the bids, because staff have been working at the EOC after the fires.
- Hangar Roofs – another set of “D” hangar roofs are scheduled for repair on November 22. The Airport boom lift still needs to be replaced with an articulated lift able to reach the center of the hangars.
- Runway 14/32 – the runway has been repainted using a new paint sprayer which embeds glass beads with the paint.
- Tree Trimming – an area near the end of 32 is scheduled for December 1, 2017. The rest of the trimming has been completed. Hayssen asked about decreasing the ILS to 200 feet from the current 250 feet. Stout said the trimmed areas will first have to be surveyed by the FAA.

- Service Road – the project has been completed. FAA approval of the change orders has been delayed due to changes in the FAA standard operating procedures.
- Becker Boulevard Signs – the current sign has been repaired, and the replacement has been delayed due to the fires.
- Fire Damage Clean-up – FEMA has contracted to pay the Airport \$2,800 per month to use the closed landfill site on the west side of the Airport for storage of wood chips and possibly burned vehicles. Temporary fencing will be installed to separate the area from the AOA.

E. Runway Safety Action Team (RSAT) Update

Stout thanked Hayssen and McCord for their suggestions to rename the run-up areas. Naming conventions will be discussed at an FAA meeting in February 2018. Stout met with the FAA to discuss Airport capital planning, and the ALP has been moved to this fiscal year. The Airport is working with Mead & Hunt on the scope of work. The ALP has to be updated to and will include any name changes or other RSAT modifications.

ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items at this time.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Airport Commercial Leasing Policy

Stout reported that County Counsel has been working on fire related issues and coordination with FEMA, so has not completed review of the draft commercial leasing policy.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

McCord asked if the fire affected the Airport. Stout reported the following:

- The security system power board had to be replaced.
- Many Airport employees were unable to come to work.
- The terminal was without power until Tuesday night.
- American, United and Alaska canceled about a third of their flights.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Young questioned the need for a December meeting. After a brief discussion, *Delaney moved with support from Carrillo to cancel the December Aviation Commission meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

Hayssen complimented Dave and the other tower staff on their performance for a tour of the tower on November 5 for Scout badges.

ADJOURN

McCord moved with support from Delaney to adjourn. All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Stout, CAE, AAE

