

## SONOMA COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

### Minutes of the January 16, 2020 Meeting

#### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Art Hayssen called the meeting to order at 7:59 a.m.

#### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Larry Carrillo, Tim Delaney, Art Hayssen, Jim McCord and Del Starrett.

**Absent:** Marlon Young.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

McCord moved with support from Carrillo to approve the November 21, 2019 Aviation Commission Minutes. **All Ayes:** Motion Carried.

#### **AIRPORT MANAGER REPORT:**

##### **A. Complaint Update**

Stout reported there were 14 aircraft related complaints in November, and increase of 180% from 5 complaints received in November 2018. Year-to-date through the end of November 2019, the Airport received 334 complaints, an increase of 112% from 157 in 2018. The Airport also received 1 non-aircraft related complaint in November 2019.

Don deBrauwere	Overflight/noise
Nancy Suitro	Overflight
Chris Plum	Overflight/noise
Sylvia Ibarra	Overflight/noise
Bud Schroeder	Overflight/noise
Dale Oliver	Overflight
Don deBrauwere	Overflight/noise

Scott Wilson	Noise
John David	Overflight
Lois Fisher	Overflight/noise
Bud Schroeder	Overflight/noise
Elisabeth Bollman	Overflight/noise
Chris Plum	Noise
Elisabeth Bollman	Overflight/noise

Stout further reported there were 22 aircraft related complaints in December, and increase of 450% from 4 complaints received in December 2018. In 2019, the Airport received 356 complaints, an increase of 121% from 161 in 2018. The Airport also received 2 non-aircraft related complaints in December 2019.

Elisabeth Bollman	Overflight/noise
Elisabeth Bollman	Overflight/noise
Elisabeth Bollman	Overflight/noise
Chris Plum	Overflight/noise
Chris Plum	Overflight/noise
Elisabeth Bollman	Noise
Chris Plum	Overflight/noise
Chris Plum	Overflight/noise
Elisabeth Bollman	Overflight/noise
Lois Fisher	Overflight/noise
Kate Greene	Overflight/noise

Elisabeth Bollman	Noise
Lois Fisher	Overflight/noise
Elisabeth Bollman	Noise
Elisabeth Bollman	Noise
Leslie Kneeland	Noise
Sylvia Ibarra	Overflight/noise
Lois Fisher	Overflight/noise
Elisabeth Bollman	Overflight/noise
Elisabeth Bollman	Overflight/noise
Robert Catterton	Overflight
Elisabeth Bollman	Overflight/noise

As discussed in previous meetings, staff continues to work to find more effective ways to present noise complaint data to the Commission. November and December data are presented on a summary spreadsheet rather than including individual forms for each complaint. Stout reviewed the fields included in the summary spreadsheet, including newly reported data on operation type, runway, point of closest approach (PCA), altitude at PCA, and nautical miles (NMI) of complainant from the Airport. Stout also presented data visuals based on the summary spreadsheets. Commissioners discussed patterns in the flights generating complaints, including time of day, operation type, aircraft type, and runway.

Stout reported that staff also has been working to formalize procedures for the correlation of complaints to specific aircraft and for responses to complaints. The Airport's software vendor is working to correct and re-correlate all 2019 noise data.

Delaney asked if weather might be a factor in the inconsistencies of approach. Stout acknowledged that it could be a factor, but our noise management software does not currently pull weather data. Hayssen mentioned that his flight into the Airport from Los Angeles made an unusual landing (several turns) due to fog. Delaney also asked whether complainants are updated on the Airport's noise abatement efforts. Stout stated that Supervisor James Gore regularly meets with a group of neighbors in his district, and Stout is meeting with a group from the Olivet area of Santa Rosa.

Supervisor Gore's office and the Airport have prepared a letter to send to Alaska regarding noise issues and requested assistance on noise abatement. A version of the letter will also be sent to the other airlines. Stout stated that Alaska has been receptive to noise concerns, however, details will need to be provided for the airline to make the changes the Airport is suggesting (use of instrument approach whenever possible, implementation of a standardized visual approach, and increased use of the Western approach).

#### **B. Tower Report/Update**

There were 6,905 operations in October 2019, a decrease of 14.8% from 8,106 in October 2018. Year-to-date through October there were 72,370 operations, a decrease of 1.3% from 73,308 in 2018. There were 6,596 operations in November 2019, an increase of 12.3% from 5,873 in November 2018. Year-to-date through November there were 78,966 operations, a decrease of 0.3% from 79,181 in 2018. As Stout reported at the November 2019 meeting, October's closure effected the Airport's annual numbers. Craig Lucas did not have any further tower updates.

Stout expects the total operations for 2019 to be approximately 85,000. The Airport has still not seen general aviation (GA) come back to the same level as before the recession of 2008.

#### **C. Airline Update**

There were 38,882 passengers in November 2019, an increase of 11.3% from 34,938 in November 2018. Year-to-date at the end of November the Airport had seen 443,815 passengers, an increase of 8.7% from 2018. There were 44,364 passengers in December 2019, an increase of 37.5% from 32,263 in December 2018. In 2019 the Airport saw a total of 488,179 passengers, an increase of 10.8% from 2018. Stout reported that the airlines continue to represent around 10% of total Airport operations. In 2020 the Airport will be up to 19 (out of a maximum of 21) commercial flights per day on peak days.

In February, American will add a second flight per day to Phoenix, and in April resume service to Dallas and Los Angeles. In March, Alaska will add a second flight per day to both San Diego and Orange County. United will also be adding a second daily Denver flight in June. Sun Country has not yet provided a firm date on which it will resume operations, but it will not be coming back in May. Their return will likely be closer to mid-August.

Delaney asked if any changes would be triggered if the Airport reaches 500,000 passengers per year. Stout responded that our TSA index would change, which would in turn mean changes in both internal Airport operations and in law enforcement response time. TSA will test law enforcement response time by using the panic phone in the terminal and timing the response. There would be no noticeable difference to the public.

#### **D. Projects Update**

- **Hangar Maintenance/Repairs:** Board of Supervisors (BOS) has approved a three-year contract for repair and preventative maintenance on hangar electrical systems. The contractor will address critical items before moving on to maintenance and lower-priority items. Maintenance staff continues to work to repair roofs with known leaks. Daaboul explained the process staff is using to seal the roofs. Stout described the recently-enacted OSHA standards that have required additional staff, training, and equipment, causing delays in the progress of repairs.
- **Staffing:** With the addition of an Office Assistant II (currently in medical review), the office will be fully staffed. With the addition of an extra-help maintenance staff member (currently in background), operations and maintenance will be fully staffed.
- **Modular Tent Expansion:** Kickoff for tent improvement occurred last week. PRMD had some changes and requests before the anticipated issuance of the permit, causing a delay in the project commencement. Stout expects the contractor to start early February and complete in August.
- **Terminal Improvement:** Plans were submitted to PRMD before the end of the year. Stout expects work to begin in August.
- **Solar Panels in Parking Lot B:** The Airport has submitted the glare analysis study to the FAA. FAA must provide an official denial before we can appeal and apply for an exception. Funding is already secured for this project and Stout anticipates eventual approval in April.
- **Airport Management Software:** After some back-and-forth with the vendor on the contract, Stout anticipates the contract to go before the BOS around the end February.
- **Parking Lot Management:** Official transition to new parking management firm, SP+, went into effect on January 15. SP+ will be deep cleaning then painting the lots and continuing to clean on a monthly basis. There will also be some new customer options, including those SP+ will make available with the addition of an electric vehicle, such as service to/from vehicles as needed, jump starts, air for ties, etc.
- **Airport Restrooms:** Working with a company to be a pilot airport for monitoring restroom use for the purpose of improving customer service. A QR code/number to text will be posted in each restroom for passenger to report any issues. Additionally, the Airport will be able to schedule janitorial services around times of peak restroom use.
- **Development of Rental Car Facility:** The five car rental companies on the Airport will sign a development agreement for due diligence, then assign the lease with the one company that does this kind of work to build the facility. Since the Airport did not do a formal bidding process, the BOS will need to approve the contract with a 4/5 vote rather than a simple majority. Construction costs will be covered through market share. The facility will be comprised of a parking lot, drop off, car wash, maintenance area, etc.

**E. Runway Safety Action Team (RSAT) Update**

FAA has completed the hot spot video. The Airport has finished the geometry evaluation and draft modification to standards, which was sent to the FAA last week. Stout anticipates painting will begin next spring. McCord stated that he hoped to facilitate a local safety seminar to premier the video on February 6.

**F. Sheriff's Garden/Jail Facilities**

Airport staff is working with the Sheriff's office to define the area that they will maintain. Fair market data has been sent to the County Administrator's Office, after concurrence from General Services. Stout believes the yearly rent for the property the Sheriff's office will ultimately occupy will be roughly \$500,000 per year, which will go into the Airport budget.

As part of the BOS review of all County-owned land, Airport property was considered for a temporary relocation of some individuals from the Joe Rodota Trail encampment. However, due to remaining ampules and ammunition from World War II, the property is no longer under consideration.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

There were no action items at this time.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:****A. Noise Abatement Guide:**

Stout reported that he and Airport staff met with volunteers from the Commission to discuss updating the Noise Abatement Guide. Progress is on hold pending our noise management software vendor's work to validate the data. Staff will then revalidate all 2019 noise data. At that point, another meeting can be scheduled.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

No new business at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comment.

**COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

No Commission comments.

**ADJOURN:**

McCord moved with support from Carrillo to adjourn. **All Ayes.** Meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jon Stout  
Airport Manager