

# Humboldt County Airport Advisory Committee

## MINUTES

March 22, 2016  
6:00 PM  
Prosperity Center  
520 E Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL at 1802 by Chairman Ravetti  
**Members Present:** David Ravetti, Rich Fenton, Dom Bucciarelli, Tim Callison, Alex Stillman, Joe Shepp, Justin Zabel  
**Members Absent:** Kyle Gabel, John McBeth  
**Staff:** Emily Jacobs, Humboldt County Department of Public Works  
**Guests:** Steve Bowser, Doug Holsclaw

The Committee reserves the right to bring presentations by invited guests forward as a courtesy to those individuals. *No agenda modifications were made at this meeting.*

2. PUBLIC COMMENT  
This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Committee on any matter *not* on this agenda that is under the jurisdiction of the Committee.  
(The Committee has the right to limit presentations to three minutes.)

Steve Bowser presented a summary of discussions that occurred last Saturday at the local EAA meeting held at Rohnerville Airport. He indicated that their membership has a variety of concerns with how the County Aviation Division is operated, and that their membership will have a more complete presentation or statement of support for management alternatives at the next Committee meeting. A short discussion of fuel pricing was deferred to later in the meeting, as it is an item on the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – 2/23/16 meeting minutes. The previous meeting’s minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote of the members present.

4. AVIATION DIVISION REPORT

A. Airports Projects Update

1. ACV and EKA ALP/ALUC – Land use planning documents are being completed by the County’s consultant and will likely be brought to the Committee’s April meeting for review and comment.
2. Airport land storage use RFP – This is a possible item for future discussion, but is not a current County RFP consideration.
3. ACV restaurant lease discussion was deferred to Tom Mattson for future information, as there is no new information available from Aviation Division staff at this time. The Board of Supervisors has approved funds to bring the restaurant area up to current codes, but it is believed that this work may need to be completed before serious interest in the restaurant opportunity is

revealed. Emily Jacobs reported that on April 21<sup>st</sup>, Ramones will be opening their new location in the ACV Gift Shop area, offering coffee, pastries, beer, and wine. Newer vending machines with specialty coffee and snacks have been installed inside of the TSA security area.

B. Aviation Division Update

1. ACV and County solar power – The solar power generation option is being added by the consultant to the ALP plans so that it will be an allowable use in the future.
2. Vagrant aircraft issue – No new information was available at this meeting.
3. Hangar usages – Pricing & Occupancy – Eight hangars are currently rented at ACV. Tenants are moving to EKA or FOT as hangars open up, leading to varying occupancy rates at ACV. The possible option of using vacant hangars for other storage uses until aircraft tenants surface was discussed, with suggestions that the extra income would be positive, but that the management headaches of operating a semi-storage facility might outweigh the temporary benefit of the added income.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan – The Aviation Division is working with the County Land Use Department to explain the layout of the required protected lands for each type of runway and instrument approach in the County. This is currently in the hands of the Land Use Department and is it hoped that it will come back to the Aviation Department for review. Tom Mattson may provide a follow-up of the status of the project at the next meeting.
- B. TSA cuts at ACV – The County has received leftover Measure Z income to fund approximately \$138,000 of the expenditures that have been required to provide a Deputy for TSA operations at ACV. The new PennAir air service is expected to increase the required TSA hours at ACV, and the County has already made this expansion request to TSA.
- C. Penn Air Service Update – New air service starts April 21<sup>st</sup>. The celebration of their new service will be on their second flight of the day. Code share has now been implemented with Alaska Air, as of today.
- D. Aviation Enterprise Zone funding and implementation strategies – RFP discussion regarding two proposals. This item is to be referred to Tom Mattson for information.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Hangar usages and occupancy – Possible use for storage during periods of lax airport usage? Possible land leases for alternate uses, including storage of cars or RV's? Both items were discussed, as well as, possible consolidation of freight operations into ACV and the McKinleyville community.
- B. Fuel pricing analysis at County airports. A pricing and inventory report for the various airports was provided by the County Aviation Division (attached). If fuel sales were to double at Rohnerville and Garberville, the County would probably be able to lower fuel prices to the consumer approximately one dollar per gallon and still have the same net income from sales. They would consider this if a purchasing commitment was made by the local pilots. Joe Shepp reported that other northern California airports are able to sell fuel far cheaper than Humboldt County. He has offered to approach another supplier to see what pricing structure might be obtained for future deliveries to Humboldt County airports.
- C. AWOS contract maintenance cost analysis – Maintenance costs and reliability of the devices was discussed. Emily Jacobs reports that although there have been recent

errors in reporting, they have all been reporting on the “safe” side. Recent calibrations are expected to correct some of the issues.

- D. Dinsmore Airport fencing – Emily reported that if the County has available crew members, they will look at repairs to the fence at the airport. She also indicated that if there is someone who can report on the river channel and its current proximity to the runway pavement, the County would appreciate it. There was a brief discussion of a possible weather camera system at Dinsmore Airport using solar power. It would still need an internet connection to be functional, and nearby land owners, including the store, were suggested.
7. ITEMS for the April 26, 2016 Committee meeting
- Planning items for a possible ACV airport day and Coast Guard celebration
  - Restaurant lease update
  - TSA cuts and/or expansion regarding new airline service at ACV
  - PennAir and Ramones opening day celebration reports
  - Alternate fuel supplier report from Joe Shepp
  - Automated fuel at ACV
  - Garberville runway and taxiway rehabilitation funding report
8. ADJOURNMENT at 1925 by Chairman Ravetti

Attachment: Fuel Pricing Summary

***Respectfully submitted on April 19, 2016 by Richard R. Fenton, Secretary***