

Humboldt County Airport Advisory Committee

MINUTES

May 24, 2016

6:00 PM

Prosperity Center, 520 E Street, Eureka, CA 95501

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL – The meeting was called to order at 1802

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Ravetti, Rich Fenton, Tim Callison, Kyle Gabel, Dom Bucciarelli, Justin Zabel, Alex Stillman (via teleconference)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF: Tom Mattson, Emily Jacobs, Humboldt County Department of Public Works

GUESTS: Steve Bowser, Al Castaldi, John Vandermolen, Gregg Foster

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 time.*

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.)

Tom Mattson – There is an FAA proposal to remove the RCO service from EKA (Murray). Published in Federal Register on April 28th; comments due to FAA by June 27th. Special Meeting may be held with 24 hours published notice. A special meeting will be held Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 6:00 PM to review the draft FAA ALP documents. This RCO deletion item will be added to that meeting's agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – 4/26/16 meeting minutes. A motion was made to approve the past minutes as presented, by John McBeth and seconded by Kyle Gabel. Passed by unanimous voice vote.

4. AVIATION DIVISION REPORT

A. Airports Projects Update

1. ALP review – This complex subject is to be the subject of a June 7th special meeting of the Committee. Emily Jacobs reported that Dave Ravetti has already submitted written review comments, and she encouraged all Committee members to do the same prior to the special meeting.
2. Garberville runway/taxiway funding update. Tom Mattson reported that the FAA has approved \$1.7 million for rehabilitation of the runway and taxiways. The tentative construction period is September/October of this year.

B. Aviation Division Update

1. ACV restaurant rehabilitation and Ramones opening update. Ramones main floor terminal opening is “soon”, per Tom Mattson. The upstairs restaurant needs code building and equipment updates and the County now has a consultant on board to design these improvements. Alex Stillman asked that

care be used in protecting the existing bar, as it is the second one that was ever built by local millwork provider Wallace and Hines.

2. Leasing on non-aeronautical land at county airports – This will be further discussed at the special meeting to be held on June 7th. Emily noted that the FAA is strict about not allowing modification of an ALP on a case by case basis as projects come up, and non-aeronautical development needs to be proposed and included in the ALP now, if there are future desired uses on the airport property.
3. Report on BOS action regarding submission of RFP – This item was deferred for future action, as the Board realized that there were two competing uses proposed for the available funding. Tom Mattson reported that his subcommittee meets this Friday and they will report to the Board how they recommend that the Board allocate the limited funding – Staffing a temporary economic development position at the airports, or funding an RFP to obtain recommendations for the overall airport development, administration, and operations?
4. Aviation Enterprise Zone funding and implementation strategies – The existing “free trade zone” at ACV was briefly discussed. Gregg Foster commented that the enterprise zone funding needs to be part of a larger discussion for airport development. Tim Callison noted that UPS could be a future tenant at ACV if they outgrow their current facility in Eureka, but he felt that the County may need a broker to negotiate such a large item.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Dinsmore Airport fencing – River encroachment still an issue? Aerial photos were provided for review. The previously reported river encroachment issue was during a period of winter snow cover and may have been mistaken, per Emily Jacobs. Tom Mattson indicated that there is an existing fence that can provide a positive indication if there is movement of the river channel. Review of the photos determined that there probably is no immediate concern, and that the situation should be monitored by the County. Emily Jacobs indicated that the County does not currently have the money to pay a contractor to repair any fencing at the airport. If staff time becomes available, they can do it “in house”, but staffing at this time will not allow this work unless it becomes an emergency need.
- B. Fuel pricing report through Eastern – Joe Shepp reported that fuel prices continue to be much lower in all other areas of the state. Current prices are posted on AvWeb and other aviation sites. He feels that Humboldt County is losing a significant amount of fuel revenue, as well as associated revenue, as pilots will continue to bypass Humboldt County airports in favor of others that have competitive fuel prices. Rich Fenton spoke with Mick Kendall, of Eastern, today regarding Shell’s interest in selling aviation fuels to Humboldt County. They currently sell both Jet-A and Avgas in Del Norte County through Cal-Ore, and it could be beneficial to all parties if partial loads could be avoided by combining orders. He is enthusiastic, and willing to meet with Northern Air and the County of Humboldt, to see what his company can do in the continuing goal of lowering aviation fuel prices in Humboldt County. Discussion evolved towards how to get rid of the current inventory of aviation fuel that the County has in stock that was purchased at higher prices. Joe Shepp told Tom Mattson that it might be wise to go to the Board of Supervisors for permission to sell the current inventory at a loss in order to get an opportunity to benefit from the current

- market's lower fuel prices. Mr. Kendall is willing to meet with Northern Air and/or the County in order to discuss what the projected prices for avgas and/or jet fuel would be with Eastern Aviation Fuels as their supplier. The County is currently not under any contract for fuel supply and it was decided that Rich Fenton would ask Mick to Call Northern Air and the County of Humboldt so they would be able to set up individual informational meetings. It was also decided that asking the Board of Supervisors for permission to liquidate the County's current higher priced fuel inventory would not be productive until it is determined how the "loss" might be repaid by an increased sales volume of newly purchased lower priced fuel.
- C. Clark Museum WW II display at ACV terminal update – July 16th has been set for the opening ceremonies for this exhibit. Al Castaldi asked about the possible display of the John J. Montgomery glider as part of this exhibit. Tom Mattson asked that he coordinate any desired changes to the exhibit with their office, as it is currently for a set amount of display items and space.
 - D. ACV Mezzanine Carpet Repair – Completed, per Alex Stillman. She feels that it is a tremendous improvement to the waiting/observation area and she has posted photos of the completed work. The Cher-Ae Heights Casino, Supervisor Bass, Supervisor Fennel, Supervisor Ryan, Alex Stillman, and Dave & Linda Ravetti all contributed in order to fund this work.
 - E. ACV Airport day / USCG Days dates and events. August 27th is the date that has been set by the Coast Guard. Emily reported that she needs a plan soon to turn in to TSA for review. Dom moved, John seconded a motion to ask the Board to proclaim August 2016 as Aviation Appreciation Month this year. The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote. Secretary to create request letter to Board of Supervisors.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. HCOG update – Alex Stillman has presented a request for continued HCOG consideration to fund a new freight study for the airports. Tom Mattson noted, and Dave Ravetti confirmed, that the Committee had earlier, at the January 26th meeting, decided to not pursue this funding during the current funding cycle.

- 7. ITEMS for the June 28th 2016 Committee meeting – Items for this meeting will be forwarded after the June 7th special meeting.

- 8. ADJOURNMENT -- The meeting was adjourned at 1912 by Chairman Ravetti.

Attachment: Announcement for Father's Day Airport Celebration and Breakfast on June 17th, Benton Field, Redding.

Note: The following committee member attended via teleconference with locations open to the public:

Alex Stillman, TuTuTun LODGE 96550 N Bank Rogue River Rd, Gold Beach, OR 97444

Respectfully submitted on June 3, 2016 by Richard R. Fenton, Secretary