

Humboldt County Aviation Advisory Committee

Approved Minutes

January 28, 2020

6:00 PM

Prosperity Center, 520 E Street, Eureka, CA 95501

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Alex Stillman at 6:00 PM.

Members in Attendance: Kyle Gable, Chris Nelson, Alex Stillman, Bill Wickman, John McBeth, Brian Renner, Joe Shepp, Justin Zabel

Members Absent: Lt. Jacob Dorsey

Staff: Cody Roggatz, Jennifer Corgiat, Humboldt County Department of Aviation

Guests: Lee Rector, Don Richie, Richard Fenton, Aaron Patterson, Doug Holsclaw, Steve Pritchard, Steve Bowser, Al Castaldi, Brian Morrison

The Committee reserves the right to bring presentations by invited guests forward as a courtesy to those individuals.

2. Public Comment

A. Richard Fenton, former Aviation Advisory Committee secretary, brought up the subject of the restaurant and bar at ACV. He stated that at the Board of Supervisors January 19, 2016 meeting, \$250,000 had been allocated to the Public Works Department specifically for a short term project to repair building deficiencies at the ACV terminal where there once had been a successful restaurant for many years. In the years since the allocation, various sources have indicated that the Department of Public Works had spent between \$25,000 to \$100,000 of this allocation investigating the use of the restaurant/bar area for meeting rooms or on other unintended “planning” and operational projects. He requested that the overall matter be put on the agenda for a future Committee meeting and that the “work product” for the funds

previously expended by the Public Works Department be tendered to the Department of Aviation. The video discussion of the Board's intent for these funds is available:

humboldt.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=5&clip_id=1008&meta_id=72787, and it clearly states that it was allocated for specific physical building repairs to the existing restaurant/bar leasehold, and that it was for a short term project that would be designed as soon as the Board had authorized the funding (Relevant portion starts at 03:22:50 of the video).

Another local restaurant company has recently expressed an interest in opening the restaurant and bar at ACV and Mr. Fenton was questioned by them about the status of the liquor license. Mr. Fenton investigated with the ABC office and has found that the license was automatically cancelled since the previous operators had failed to renew it. Mr. Fenton asks that:

1. An accounting of all charges made by the Public Works Department against the \$250,000 monetary allocation be made public.
2. The work product from the Public Works Department's planning and/or design efforts be delivered to the Department of Aviation and the Committee.
3. The Department of Aviation to investigate and report to the Committee how the liquor license can be renewed for use by another tenant at ACV.

General comment followed and the ACV restaurant will be on the agenda for next month's meeting. Hard copy documentation of the January 19, 2016 Board Agenda Item H-3 and the ABC liquor license status was given to Jennifer Corgiat by Mr. Fenton.

- B. Don Richie brought up the subject of his unsuccessful attempts over the past few years to build a hangar at ACV. He concluded that, in his opinion, the Humboldt County Department of Aviation was the most general aviation unfriendly organization with which he had ever dealt.

Cody Roggatz stated that the County could only offer a short term construction lease with final monies of a long term land lease to be determined after December 31, 2020 and completion of the airport lease study.

General comment was that no business person would accept such a lease and that no bank would finance under those terms.

3. Approval of Minutes

The December 10, 2019 minutes were approved as submitted

4. Aviation Department Report

A. Cody Roggatz made a report to the committee.

- 1) There are multiple projects underway
 - a) PFAS project, the soil sampling of sites where fire suppressing film forming foam residue may be present.
 - b) Studies are being conducted prior to beginning construction of the micro grid solar array project including glare and airspace analysis. Hopefully construction will begin this summer.
 - c) Lighting ground contamination tests have been underway. Sometime by 2022 the lighting problem may be addressed.
 - d) AFRF project is only about 2% over budget.
 - e) The office staff is in place and doing good work.
 - f) Revenues so far this fiscal year have already exceeded total revenues from last fiscal year due to a transfer of billing responsibilities from Public Works to the new Aviation Department.
 - g) There was a general discussion of Department of Aviation staffing. Eight unfunded and frozen positions have been permanently deallocated in the new budget. There was a discussion of various staffing and budgetary tactics. Suggestion was made that the greatest contribution to revenue could be made by enhancing the general aviation community. There was general discussion of the maintenance and the sustenance of general aviation.
 - h) FAA. Land use compliance matters are under study. Approximately \$325,000 has been allocated to study these problems and comply with the terms of the past summer's FAA investigation and report. Eight items are identified in the report; two have been addressed and six remain as outstanding items.
 - i) There is a court issued stay regarding further Humboldt County ACIP grant applications due to the "United States of America, ex rel, Doe, Plaintiffs, vs. Humboldt County, Defendant" lawsuit.
 - j) TSA. Work is ongoing with the TSA.

5. Old Business

- A. CalFire FOT/ACV high rock crew. High rock crews have been more active working around ACV and FOT.
- B. PAPI at EKA. No work has been done. It was pointed out that the current budget showed an expenditure for Murray Field of \$99000 to replace the VASI damaged years ago. It also was previously reported that an insurance payment of \$95000 had been received by DPW but had not been expended to repair this equipment.
- C. Trees at EKA. Al Castaldi and Bill Wickman have been in touch with BOS member Rex Bohn concerning removal of the tree obstructions at EKA. It has been stated by Phil Miller of CalTrans Aviation that if these obstructions are not removed EKA may be designated a “daytime use only” field.
- D. Weed removal at FOT. Working with the scheduling. The crews cost about \$240 for 15 men for a day.
- E. Fuel at FOT. Work is continuing with the state water quality control board. Estimated cost of repair is about \$40,000. Estimated cost of replacement is about \$85000. The County intends to pursue the repair option.

6. New Business

- A. Fuel at Garberville. The estimated cost of repair will be about \$5000 and may be completed next month.
- B. ACV Library. There has been quite a bit of interest in the brochures and books available at ACV.
- C. County Budget. Proposed Committee resolutions. There was general discussion of the resolutions. The consideration of the proposed resolutions was postponed till next month. Bill Wickman will work with Jennifer Corgiat to resolve any problems or inaccuracies with these resolutions.
- D. General Aviation improvements at ACV.
- E. Procedures for construction of a hangar at ACV were discussed in public comment. Landscaping at ACV update. Chris Nelson updated on the situation and suggested local landscaping interests may be available. It is said that \$25-\$50,000 had been allocated to this purpose. There is question as to where this money has gone. A current accounting of the allocated money would be valuable.
- F. Alex Stillman is working with a local company on signage for the General Aviation exit gate at ACV.
- G. The next meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2020

7. Meeting adjourned at 7:56