



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION
3561 Boeing Ave., McKinleyville, CA 95519
Phone: (707) 839-5401

**Humboldt County Aviation Advisory Committee
AGENDA**

Tuesday, February 23, 2021
6:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96280307256>

Meeting ID: 962 8030 7256

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1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

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

Committee Attendees: Ben McWhorter, John McBeth, Chris Nelson, Kyle Gabel, Justin Zabel, Alex Stillman, Caleb Lesher

Staff: Cody Roggatz – Director of Aviation, Cathy Canepa – Interim Senior Administrative Analyst

Others: Greg Foster, Doug Holsclaw, Steve Pritchard, Rich Fenton, Bob Hamilton, Ooana Smith, Matt Stephenson, Brian Morrison, Al Castaldi, Bill Wickman

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Committee on matters *not* on the agenda and under the jurisdiction of this Committee.

(Presentations limited to three minutes.)

A. Al Castaldi: VASI and Tree Removal-both on the agenda

B. Brian Morrison: comments from prior meeting were not included in the minutes. We will adjust the minutes to reflect that.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – February 2, 2021 – We are letting the minutes stand corrected with the revision above.

4. FLY HUMBOLDT PRESENTATION – GREG FOSTER

Currently, enplanements are down 55%, but loads are relatively high. We are running (5) weekly flights to LAX, (1) or (2) daily flights to SFO, and DEN is suspended. Starting June 3, 2021, there will be new service to PHX via American Airlines. RREDC engaged with Voltaire to do a market study in 2019 and will continue discussion regarding potential resumption of service while continuing to work on advertising in the ACV terminal with new displays.

Discussion was had pertaining to connectivity options for outbound passengers on the PHX flight as well as trying to attract inbound customers to the National Parks and other recreational opportunities in Humboldt County.



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5. DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION REPORT

A. Aviation Department Update

1. **Operational Manager:** New hire, Curt Eikerman, is the prior San Jose Operations Manager. His start date is fluid as he is acquiring housing, but it's looking to be late March, early April.
2. **ARFF Building:** Staff moved in (3) weeks ago. IT has been helping set up workstations and are working on a system for Airport Operations to connect remotely while at GA airports.
Discussion amongst the group of the part-time employees working at all six airports.
3. **Microgrid:** The final EA and FONSI have been approved by the FAA. This has been published and posted to the Aviation website. That is the final FAA blessing needed from an environmental standpoint to get the perimeter fence up and start installation of the solar panels.
Discussion of CalFire work and capabilities related to efforts prior to the tree falling.
4. **GA Pilots: Temporary set-up in east area of ACV hangars:** Cody needs to get back in touch to set up a diagram and review where the parking will be for this space.
5. **FAA land use (all airports):** Today the board reviewed the County's fee schedule and approved Aviation's fees. Overall, the average increase among all airport's hangar and tiedown fees is \$23.97 per month, 10 rates went down, there will be a 243% increase to other county departments compared to what they pay today, and the max increase on any one aeronautical rental fee is 18%. 84% of the fees overall were addressed within the first year, and the 16% remaining will be a multi-year approach of 18% each year until brought to the fair market value established by AMCG.
Discussion of the non-aeronautical rents and how that relates to the study. The non-aeronautical rents are set to take effect on July 1 in conjunction with the new County Budget year.
There was clarification of how the non-aeronautical rents will be applied to other County Departments that utilize space at multiple airports.
Cody indicated that the most lenient (lowest) increase approach acceptable to the FAA was utilized in increasing aeronautical rents.
6. **FAA Inspection:** Still ongoing. The new Operations Manager will be helping address Part 139 regulatory compliance matters.
7. **2021 Projects:** Purchasing a foam cart for ARFF, preliminary concept study to help phase out and see what priorities and cost are of projects for electrical work at ACV, pavement analysis at all airports, wildlife hazard assessment and management plan for ACV, and an airport systemwide study, which will address the VASI.
8. **Trees at EKA:** Cody has been in correspondence with CalTrans and is hopeful to have part of the issue dealt with in the next couple of weeks. The other trees are a work in progress.
9. **VASI at EKA:** The approach the County took previously would currently be approximately \$100,000. That option is not something that meets FAA standards. That method would use direct burial, which is not approved by the electronic standpoint any longer. The approach we would now have to take is install a new electronic line to a new PAPI with an estimated cost of \$275,000-300,000. One of the upcoming projects mentioned above, the airport system wide study, will address the need for the VASI and the steps we need to take the acquire it.
Discussion of funding methodologies was had on how this could be done quicker, including the possible use of CARES Act funds.
Discussion of the accident that caused the VASI destruction was had, including discussion of the safety benefits of a new PAPI system.



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6. OLD BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Welcome to Ben McWhorter!
- B. The Aviation Committee needs a replacement Vice Chair (previously held by Joe Shepp).
- C. The Aviation Committee would like to find somebody to help in the development of the minutes.

8. GENERAL AVIATION IDEAS:

9. Tuesday, March 23rd, 2021 – 6:00 pm.

10. ADJOURNMENT