

MUNICIPAL AIRPORTS AVIATION ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 3, 2009  
Anchorage Planning and Development Center  
4700 Elmore Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Dick Armstrong  
Rick Davis  
Don DeVoe  
Tony Follett  
Erin Marston  
Jim Powell

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

Allen Kemplen\*

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES

MRI Air Traffic Control Tower, Sherry Strizak

AIRPORT STAFF PRESENT

David A. Lundeby, Airport Manager  
Alex B. Jumao-as, Assistant Manager  
Patrick McCormick, Finance Manager  
Linda Luebke, Acting Commission Secretary (343-6303)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Tony Follett, Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.; self introductions were made.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the July 9, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

3. AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

David Lundeby noted there was one Vehicle Pedestrian Deviation (VPD) in July. The individual was apprehended after he rode a bicycle across Runway 25 at Taxiway Juliet, from south to north. APD responded and issued a citation. There have been a total of four (4) VPDs year to date; all were caused by pedestrians crossing Runway 7-25. The new Golf Taxiway barrier gate will soon be operable which will help prevent future deviations at this location.

\* excused absence

3. AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT (continued)

Two noise complaints were received during the past two months. Two complainants reported aircraft making an early turn when departing Runway 22 and over the Eastridge Subdivision. Dave also noted that he has been working with the control tower regarding the early crosswind turns; the situation has improved significantly. Letters and diagrams were sent to tiedown customers parking in the Whiskey Apron to remind them of the Runway 04-22 arrival and departure procedures. Emphasis was placed on following the pattern for Runway 16 when using the Chester Creek departure from Runway 22.

Two vandalism incidents have been reported. Fuel was reported stolen from a vehicle parked south of ACE Hangars. Three aircraft were broken into at Evergreen Helicopters; headsets and electronic equipment was reported taken. A notice has been sent out to airport users encouraging everyone to be watchful and report any suspicious activity to APD.

The Compass Rose was repainted Saturday, August 22, by the Alaska Chapter 99's. The Compass Rose was recertified last year as the magnetic declination had changed. We thank Patty Livingston of the 99's for coordinating the painting project.

Dave gave an update on airport projects. The dynamic compaction of the block 5 Apron Rehabilitation project (Phases 4 & 5) is nearly complete and aircraft are starting to move back to the leasehold lots. The Charlie South apron is almost complete; anchors are being installed. The barrier gates at Golf and Quebec should be operational within two weeks. The area near Merrill Field Drive that was disturbed by the Taxiway Golf gate replacement project and the AWWU sanitary sewer project is complete.

A new project, "Rehabilitate Taxiway Quebec and Adjacent Portions of Block 5 & Q Aprons", includes demolition, dynamic compaction of soils and landfill waste, and reconstruction of Quebec Taxiway and aprons. This project will start in the spring of 2010; the construction contract has been awarded to Granite Construction.

Chugach Hangars is making good progress in the construction of a third hangar. The new structure will be the same as the existing two buildings; they hope to have the structure enclosed before winter.

Stoddard's new facility project is progressing and the building is now enclosed. They expect to have the area paved before winter.

After discovering a fault in an aged underground power cable located on Merrill Field north of Taxiway Alpha, Municipal Light & Power (ML&P) repaired the problem by replacing the entire line. The repair area has now been paved and all associated aircraft moved back to their original locations.

Construction activity at the Fire Department Training facility is in full swing. The building foundations are in, and there is a lot of activity at this area east of the airport.

3. AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT (continued)

The UAA project to renovate the former ERA building has begun. The contractor has demolished the north portion of the building of the original hangar. Some rehab of the disturbed area is underway.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Glenn Highway Expansion (Alaska DOT project) is nearing completion. The barrier fence wall is being completed along with property grading and paving. The SOA hopes to have this project completed this year.

Erin asked Dave for details regarding the ML&P project, specifically regarding power outages and backup generators for the airport. Dave explained we have a backup generator and it is set up to come on if we have a power bump. The Air Traffic Control Tower also has a generator; it provides electric service to the tower only. Tony asked if the theft and vandalism incidents were caught on the airport's camera system. Dave explained the problems we are currently having with the cameras and noted that some images cannot be seen. We currently have a contractor working on the problem. However, last winter the cameras did identify an individual who was breaking into aircraft; APD, with the aid of our cameras, subsequently apprehended the individual.

4. ORGANIZATION REPORTS

A. MRI Air Traffic Control Tower

When asked about Merrill Field operations, Sherry Strizak reported that traffic has been down. Dick commented on the increase of fuel sales at the ACE Fuels facility on Runway 04/22.

B. UAA Aviation Technology Division

None.

C. Elmendorf Airfield Operations

None.

D. Lake Hood Seaplane Base

None.

5. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Merrill Field Pioneers' Picnic

Tony reported he thought the Pioneers' Picnic was a huge success and thanked everyone including the Mayor's office for their hard work in making it such a special day for the five aviation pioneer families. Jim Powell acknowledged the facility was great but we need an additional grill next year, the turn-out overwhelmed the grill. It was determined that approximately 240 hamburgers and 120 hot dogs were served. Dave acknowledged how much work the staff had done organizing and setting up the facility for the picnic. We would like to thank our volunteers and we offer special recognition to our picnic

A. Merrill Field Pioneers' Picnic (continued)

donors: ACE Hangars; Aero-Metric, Inc.; Coca Cola of Alaska/Odom Corp.; Indian Valley Meats; Municipal Light & Power and UAA. We appreciate FAA for their support and are very pleased they made this a very special day for Aviation Pioneer Honoree Richard Ardaiz.

6. OLD BUSINESS AND UNFINISHED ACTION

None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Merrill Field Airport Proposed 2010 Operating and 2010 – 2015 Capital Budgets

Dave explained that the draft, proposed budget information provided to the Commissioners in July was revised. Pat McCormick, Merrill Field Finance Manager, noted that the 2010 Statement of Revenues and Expenses was changed due to a change in the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) amount and the amount of depreciation. Dave added that the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) was increased for 2010 contingent on receiving federal grants. Therefore, the draft Resolution presented in July has been edited to include reference to the CIP budget amendment.

Dick made a motion to support the Merrill Field Airport Proposed 2010 Operating and Capital Budgets and to pass the Resolution recommending the Assembly approve the Merrill Field Airport Budget. Jim Powell seconded the motion. Following a discussion about State of Alaska grant funding, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

B. H2H, Highway to Highway Project

Dick made comments about the Highway to Highway project going through parts of Merrill Field Airport. He requested an update on the project at the next meeting in November. Dick stated he had sent a letter to the project manager and has not yet had a response. He will bring the letter to the next meeting.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AVIATION

Rob Swenson congratulated everyone on the success of this year's annual aviation picnic. Rob noted that the Aviation North Expo is in Fairbanks this year October 15-17. More details can be found at the Aviation North Expo web site:

[www.Aviationnorth.org](http://www.Aviationnorth.org).

9. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Tony noted that some Commission terms will expire this fall, he stated that he has re-applied for his position; Dick responded that he has reappplied for his also.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.