

MUNICIPAL AIRPORTS AVIATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 5, 2015
Anchorage Fire Training Center
1140 Airport Heights Road, Building "A" Room 3
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Jim Powell, Chair
Sharon Chamard, Vice Chair
Jim Cieplak
Don DeVoe
Jamie Patterson-Simes

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

Terry Pena *
Greg Pearce *

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES

MRI ATCT, Clarissa Conley
UAA Aviation Technology Division, Rocky Capozzi

AIRPORT STAFF PRESENT

Pat McCormick, Finance Manager
Darlene Sivyler, Commission Secretary (343-6303)

1. CALL TO ORDER
Commission Chair Jim Powell called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.
2. SELF INTRODUCTIONS
Jim asked all attendees to introduce themselves.
3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
Minutes of the September 3, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.
4. AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT
Due to Airport Manager Paul Bowers' out-of-state absence, Finance Manager Pat McCormick provided the Airport Management Report.
 - A. Noise
Pat reported that overall, the number of noise complaints is down, and there is nothing notable to report.
 - B. Vehicle/Pedestrian Deviations (VPD)
The number of vehicle and pedestrian deviations year-to-date is less than the number of incidents at this time last year. Recently, a driver drove around a construction area because signage wasn't clear on the north side of the airport and drove onto TWY A. The construction superintendent was able to get the vehicle license number as it exited the airport, and the driver was counseled.

C. Leasing Update

- Footings for the aircraft paint facility located on Lot 7C are complete. Chuck Miller, leaseholder of Lot 7C, plans to continue construction this winter on his state-of-the-art facility to be located between the ATCT and Wings of Freedom hangar.
- Airframes Alaska has acquired the Reeve Airmotive lease and plans to expand the existing hangar hopefully in 2016.
- Kontor Development Lessee Mark Renner has committed to construct the first of two multi-unit hangar facilities on this lot in 2016.
- A new hangar facility is planned on the Alaska Aircraft Engines lease lot. The foundation is in; construction is expected to resume in 2016.
- North Edge has completed water line connections for its planned hangar expansion adjacent to Hudson Circle.
- Hangar materials for the new hangar being built on the JayHawk lot are on site. Lessee Tim Karlovich has decided to delay construction until spring 2016.
- The non-commercial Premier Hangars located on the west side of RWY 16/34 are complete. Several units have been sold.

D. Project Updates

AIP grant funding for the **Security & Lighting Upgrade Phase 3 Project** was received late this summer, and a notice-to-proceed has been issued to contractor Alcan Electrical and Engineering. The project will include installation of a MRI parochial fiber optic cable; modifying the existing vertical stake fencing along 5th Avenue and adding 3-stranded barbed wire atop the chain link fencing portions along 5th Avenue; installation of security cameras on the air traffic control tower; reducing the width of Taxiway Kilo on the north side of Runway 7-25 (to effectively mirror the south side); and installation of new gate operators and ingress/egress procedures on all MRI vehicle gates.

The dynamic compaction phase of the **Taxiway Quebec Phase 4 Project** has been completed.

The **Merrill Field Airport Master Plan Phase 2 Project** is progressing. Consultant HDR is working on the 'Alternatives' chapter and is gathering Airports Geographic Information System (AGIS) data for Merrill Field's electronic Airport Layout Plan (ALP).

The **Orca Street Buildings Re-Roofing Project** is complete. The project provided new roof structures on three airport rental properties located on Orca Street: USGS at 1209 Orca Street, SkyTrek Alaska Flight Training at 1570 E. 12th Avenue, and the multi-unit commercial building at 1025 Orca Street.

The **City Electric Property Acquisition Project** has been finalized. The Municipal Real Estate Services Department has inspected the property and is assisting in developing MRI disposition options.

Future projects will include Dynamic Compaction Phases 5, 6 and 7, to reclaim former landfill areas, reconstruction of Merrill Field Drive, and RWY 5/23 lighting.

- E. User Group Meeting
The next quarterly MRI user/ Airport Manager meeting is planned for Wednesday, January 6, 2016, 3:00PM – 5:00PM in the Airport Manager's Office conference room, 800 Merrill Field Drive.
- F. Ongoing Bird Control
Airport maintenance hazes ravens from airport areas as frequently as possible.
- G. Airfield Wide Crack Sealing, Partial Airfield Painting
Airfield crack sealing and painting have been suspended for the season.
- H. Airport Engineering Consultant RFP Process
The Request for Proposal process to acquire Architectural/Engineering & Construction Management Services for Merrill Field Airport capital improvement projects has been completed. A contract has not yet been awarded.
- I. Tiedown Space Rental at MRI
Options presented by the Marketing Committee are being considered.

Pat added that Airport management has just learned that the Quantum Spatial (formerly Aero-Metric) facility is for sale.

Commissioner Sharon Chamard commented that over the years, Fairview citizens have expressed concerns about the early-morning noise generated by activities at the City Electric facility. Merrill Field has an opportunity to show concern for the nearby residents by choosing a favorable business at that location. Pat replied that we can be selective of tenants.

5. ORGANIZATION REPORTS

- A. MRI Air Traffic Control Tower
New MRI Air Traffic Manager Clarissa Conley introduced herself and provided a summary of her tenure with FAA; most recently she was the Juneau Air Traffic Manager. Clarissa stated she is looking forward to meeting MRI tenants and pilots and learning more about the Commission and Merrill Field. She encouraged airport users to call her if they have any issues with service from the tower.

Jim Powell noted that the RWY 25 VASI seems to be intermittent. Clarissa responded that she was unaware of the problem and will check on it.
- B. UAA Aviation Technology Division
Aviation Director Rocky Capozzi reported that operations at the Aviation Technology Center are normal. The Anchorage Police Department will be using the Boeing 727 for training as they stage a hostage taking scenario.
- C. Elmendorf Airfield Operations
No report.

- D. Lake Hood Seaplane Base
No report.
- E. Bryant Army Airfield
No report.
- 6. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS
None.
- 7. OLD BUSINESS AND UNFINISHED ACTION
None.
- 8. NEW BUSINESS
None.
- 9. MERRILL FIELD BUSINESS SHOWCASE
None.
- 10. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AVIATION
Dick Armstrong reported that he has learned a Crowley Petroleum barge experienced prop damage while in route to Anchorage causing a delay in fuel delivery. To remediate the problem, Crowley is trucking fuel to Anchorage which will raise the cost of aviation fuel by \$0.35/gal.

Having served on the Commission since 2003 and not seeking reappointment, Dick thanked the Airport for the opportunity to serve on the Commission. Jim Powell took the opportunity to present Dick with a Commission Resolution acknowledging him for his dedicated service to the Commission, the aviation community and the citizens of Anchorage.
- 11. COMMISSION COMMENTS
Jim Powell commented about the brochure "Economic and Community Contributions of Merrill Field Airport". Merrill Field Master Plan Consultant Carl Siebe responded that the brochure provides the essence of a report that shows the significant contributions Merrill Field makes to the Anchorage economy.

Sharon Chamard mentioned that the Fairview residents are very concerned about development in the area of Sitka Street Park and removal of the park. Carl responded by describing the area in question and explaining that in order to be in compliance with FAA grant assurances Merrill Field needs to use its property to generate income. He added that Sitka St. Park is a 'public use area' which would be moved to the west, when the area is developed. Sharon noted there is community resistance to this Master Plan recommendation and suggested the MP be more specific regarding property development in this area.

Due to the first Thursday in January being near the New Year's Day holiday, Jim asked if the commissioners had any opposition to holding the January 2016 meeting on January 14. Following discussion, the commissioners agreed to the January 14, 2016 meeting date.
- 12. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

