

MUNICIPAL AIRPORTS AVIATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 7, 2023
Anchorage Fire Training Center, 1140 Airport Heights Rd., Bldg. C, Rm 9
Anchorage, Alaska

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Stormy Jarvis, Chair

Keenan Zerkel, Co-Chair

David Frazier

John Pratt

Dan Owen

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

Marty Edwards (excused)

AIRPORT STAFF PRESENT

Kolby Hickel, MRI Acting Airport Manager

Amy Garcia, MRI Asst. Airport Manager

Julie Hixenbaugh, Commission Secretary

BreAnn Brandlen, MRI Service Administrator

Kirsten Bowers, MRI Accountant

1. CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

Commission Chair, Stormy Jarvis called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Stormy stated the minutes for the August 3, 2023, September 7, 2023, October 5, 2023, and November 2, 2023 need revisions. Stormy will make changes and email them out for review before the January meeting.

3. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

A. CHAIR, Stormy Jarvis

The role of this Commission is to:

1. Advise and make recommendations to the administration and assembly on all matters pertaining to the annual operating budget for municipal airports; and
2. Advise and make recommendations to the administration and assembly on all matters pertaining to operations of municipal airports, including rules, regulations, and administrative guidelines in force at municipal airports.

The new Instrument Flight Procedures (IFPs), MRI presented the IFP's to the Municipal Enterprise and Utility Oversight Committee's November 2023 meeting. A final public presentation will be given at the Fairview Recreation Center on December 13, 2023.

Immediately prior to this meeting, the first Runway 7-25 Working Group Meeting was held. This discussion will continue monthly, one hour prior to the MAAAC board meeting in the same room, open to all. The runway rehabilitation is approximately 95% designed, and is scheduled for the summer of 2025.

- B. AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT-** Acting Airport Manager, Kolby Hickel reported the IFP presentation was given to the Enterprise and Utility Oversight Committee. It was recorded and can be viewed online, she urged everyone to watch and submit any questions before the final public meeting on the IFPs at the Fairview Recreational Center on December 13th - it will be live and on TEAMS.

MRI has started a volunteer list for Whiskey grooming, anyone interested, contact Amy to get involved and sign up. The new grooming equipment should arrive soon.

Amy gave an update on the quarterly User Group meeting. It will still be quarterly, but the time has been updated to 12 noon at the Manager's Office.

4. ORGANIZATION REPORTS

- A. MRI ATCT- Caleb Neville voiced his concern that all the volunteers for the Whiskey grooming need to be briefed on the Snow LOA removal at MRI and meet all the communication and clearance requirements.

Arctic Thunder Air Show is scheduled for July 20 and 21, 2024.

- B. AOPA
 C. AACA
 D. Anchorage Community Councils-FVCC- Karen Gonne-Harrell shared that

FVCC received the funds from the Department of Transportation Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program Grant.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. MAAAC Election for Chair and Vice-Chair positions
Keenan Zerkel nominated Stormy Jarvis for Chair, Dan Owen seconded the nomination, passed with a unanimous vote.
John Pratt nominated Keenan Zerkel for Vice-Chair, Dave Frazier seconded the nomination, passed with a unanimous vote.
- B. MAAAC Members Marty Edwards Seat 4 Reauthorized until October 14, 2026 by AM 2023-817
- C. MAAAC Members Stormy Jarvis Seat 6 Reauthorized until October 14, 2026 by AM 2023-816
- D. MAAAC New Appointment Daniel Owen Seat 5 until October 14, 2026 by AM 2023-818
- E. IFPs – Kolby shared that the IFP presentation given at Enterprise and Utility Oversight Committee meeting with the assembly was well attended and the assembly was pleased and in support of the project. There were no questions submitted from the public.
Keenan said no one from FVCC was in attendance, he asked that anyone attending the December 13th meeting at Fairview Rec Center watch the presentation given at the EUOC and submit any questions to Kolby Hickel prior to the meeting.
- F. Obstacle removal/lighting update – Steve Kegler reported all the trees have been removed and light poles and buildings lit. MRI has given Hughes Aerospace permissions to ADIP so they can add obstacles. The FAA has approved the obstacle removal and lighting tasks given to MRI.
Amy Garcia stated MRI will need to contact Hughes to have them help get the NOTAM lifted to cancel the night operations limit.
Steve Kegler reported the snow removal has gone smoothly so far this season.
- G. Ski runway grooming plan – Amy Garcia has been working with 10-12 volunteers for grooming Whiskey strip, they have put together a three-page grooming plan and a volunteer agreement with the Municipality to mitigate risks. MRI will share this plan with ATCT when finalized. The volunteer program is in a trial period and will be evaluated by the new Airport Manager. Whiskey has been groomed once this season and awaiting the delivery of the new grooming equipment.
Jeff Conway, grooming volunteer, asked if the equipment could be stored at Whiskey so that it will be available after hours? MRI believes it might be possible.
Amy inquired if anyone had a suggestion for a Made in America snowmachine, so that CARES money could be utilized for the purchase.
- H. Tech 1 position - has been posted first, to the Union Hall, then will be posted to the municipality.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Karen Gonne-Harrel asked if the new lighting for the runway 7-25 rehab will affect residents in Fairview? No, the lights are approach lights on the runway.

7. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Keenan welcomed Dan Owen as a new appointment to the MAAAC board, also, thanked Stormy and Marty for renewing their appointments. He also thanked all the MRI employees for their commitment to the airport. He reminded everyone that there will be a monthly meeting, one hour prior to the MAAAC meeting, in the same room, for the discussion of the rehabilitation of runway 7-25.

Stormy said the meetings for runway 7-25 rehab will open a discussion for the Airport Master Plan and the Airport Layout Plan, these plans inform the process for receiving Airport Improvement Project (AIP) grant funds. There is one vacancy for a board member for a resident within 1 mile of MRI. Stormy explained the requirements for all MAAAC seats. The application process is online through the municipal website. Stormy said that MRI has an economic impact on the entire state not just Anchorage.

Dave would like the position to be filled by a licensed pilot.

John reminded all, the MAAAC board was set up to be representative of the community.

8. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Airport User Group Meeting: Wednesday, January 3, 2024, 12:00 PM
Airport Manager's Office and TEAMS
- Runway 7-25 Working Group Meeting: Thursday, January 4, 2024, 11 AM AFD Center, 1140 Airport Heights Rd., Bldg. A, Room 1 & 2
- MAAAC Meeting: Thursday, January 4, 2024, 12 PM
Anchorage Fire Training Center, 1140 Airport Heights Rd., Bldg. A, Room 1 & 2

9. ADJOURNMENT at 12:49 p.m.