

MUNICIPAL AIRPORTS AVIATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, MARCH 2, 2023
Anchorage Fire Training Center, 1140 Airport Heights Rd., Bldg. C, Rm 9
Anchorage, Alaska

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Stormy Jarvis, Chair

David Frazier

John Pratt

Keenan Zerkel, via Teams at 12:06 p.m.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

Philip Logan

Michael Williams

Marty Edwards

AIRPORT STAFF PRESENT

Rich Sewell, Airport Manager

BreAnn Brandlen, Commission Secretary stand-in for Julie Hixenbaugh

1. CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

Commission Chair Stormy Jarvis called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Roll Call taken. Quorum 4 of 7 members present.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes postponed.

3. INFORMATIONAL REPORT

A. CHAIR

No Report. Stormy specified this is an informational meeting only.

B. AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

Rich brought up the issue of flight check costs regarding the Hughes new approach procedures contract and who will pay for them every two years. He said Dan Owen (AAT) approached him after the January MAAAC meeting and offered to do them pro bono because he is qualified and it directly impacts his business. Rich reported he held a meeting with

several stakeholders on field to gain MRI historic information. Rich commented on the 200+ truckloads of snow removed off MRI for Fur Rendezvous events and the Iditarod, and how the airport does that annually. Stormy acknowledged and thanked him for the email the Manager's office sent out notifying stakeholders of a temporary alternative lot to dump their excess snow.

I. Community Relation

None.

II. AIP Grant Funds/Projects

No report.

III. Cares Act Funds/Projects

No report.

IV. Financial Position

No report.

4. ORGANIZATION REPORTS

A. MRI ATCT - None

B. CAP – None.

C. AOPA – None.

D. Lake Hood – None.

E. AACCA – None.

F. Fairview Community Counsel – President Allen Kemplen announced Fairview, in conjunction with NeighborWorks Alaska, was selected for a federal grant of \$537,000 for the improvement of pedestrian safety and corridor revitalization. He said the corridor of Gambell and Ingra Streets is a major focus of the project. He also highlighted Orca Street and the development possibilities there, recollecting former Airport Manager Ralph Gibb's thoughts on Launch Alaska being a good candidate for an aeronautical tenant. He also stressed that MRI pilots need to be considerate of Fairview residents, specifically regarding following the rules of flying over residences. Stormy commented on ILS and WAAS systems to approaches.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

- a. Mark Swenson (HDL) stated the last of the MRI Master Plan was completed by HDR. He detailed the MRI history of the CARES Act funding and its evolving process, starting in April 2020 with \$18M granted. He stressed the process has evolved over time, specifically in how the funds could be spent as allowable reimbursable expenses. Originally the funding agencies said the funds could be spent how MRI would spend their own funds. However, over time the rules have evolved, and the FAA decided Sponsors could use the funds for staff expenses and not building maintenance without converting the funds to a “development grant.” Mark went on to state MRI is currently working with the FAA to implement the funds into a development grant for maintenance on eleven airport owned buildings. Part of that process requires environmental work, which HDL has produced in accordance with the National Environmental Protection Act and MRI is waiting on FAA approval of the development grant application. Mark noted the CARES Act funding expires in April 2024 and it is unlikely MRI can expend all the funds in that time frame.
- b. Kyle Christensen (FAA Senior Aeronautical Specialist) stated that a recent aeronautical study was done on MRI (the last one was in 2015) revealing 90+ obstructions and penetrations to the airspace. He said the existing instrument approaches would not be usable until the obstructions were corrected, which Rich stated MRI has already begun to mitigate. Kyle and Rich both said some are simply vegetation on field. Mark added that the obstructions were identified by the aeronautical survey that was completed last year as the last part of the Master Plan process that MRI started many years ago. Marshall asked who owns the published plates. Kyle replied that MRI will own the Instrument Flight Procedures and anyone who wants to use the IFPs must be approved by MRI and the FSDO otherwise it would be a violation. Kyle added the IFPs won't be published.
- c. Rich announced the MRI simulators have officially been sold and removed from field to a local company in town for \$150,000.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

7. COMMISSION COMMENTS

John Pratt stated a quorum was met with Keenan's online attendance.

8. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Next Airport User Group Meeting April 5, 2023, 5:00 PM, at the Airport Manager's office.

The next MAAAC meeting will be Thursday (first Thursday of the month)
April 6, 2023 (Anchorage Fire Training Center, 1140 Airport Heights
Rd., Bldg. C, Rm 9).

9. ADJOURNMENT at 1:05 p.m.