



MUNICIPAL AIRPORTS AVIATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 6, 2025

Anchorage Fire Training Center, 1140 Airport Heights Rd., Bldg. A, Rm 1 & 2
Anchorage, Alaska

The Purpose of the MAAAC is to advise and make recommendations to the Assembly and the Administration regarding the Airport budget and operations.

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Commission Chair, Stormy Jarvis called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Stormy Jarvis, Chair
Dan Owen, *Vice Chair*
John Pratt
Karl Kisser
Marty Edwards (via TEAMS)
Ransom Jones (via TEAMS)

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

Dave Frazier-excused
Quorum met

AIRPORT STAFF PRESENT

Earl Malpass, Airport Manager
Julie Hixenbaugh, Commission Secretary

2. Review & Approval – Meeting Agenda

MOTION

Stormy moved to add, Seward/Glenn Connection to Old Business 6A.
John Pratt moved to approve the agenda
Karl Kisser seconded the motion.
The board voted unanimously to approve.

3. Review & Approval - of the Minutes

MOTION

Karl Kisser moved to approve, January 2, 2025.
Dan Owen seconded the motion.
The board voted unanimously to approve.

4. Informational Reports

A. Chair

- New Appointments and Re-Appointments to MAAAC Board- Welcomed new MAAAC Board appointments Seat 3 Karl Kisser and Seat 7 Ransom Jones. Reappointed Seats 1 John Pratt and Seat 2 Dave Frazier.

B. Airport Management PowerPoint (Exhibit A)

- Earl's FYI

- Community Relations
- MRI Budget Status
- MRI “Annual Aviation Celebration”
- Airport Project Status
- Upcoming Events

5. Organization Reports

- A. MRI ATCT-**Caleb represents the FAA management side of the ATAAPS and is not a part of the AD HOC Committee. The ATAAPS is now in the AD HOC phase, it will provide recommendations on how the proposal will work or not work, the committee to made up with members from AOPA and Alaska Airmen’s, Earl Malpass, Dan Owen and Stormy Jarvis are also on the committee. All findings will be made available for public comment this fall, specifically around September.
- B. AOPA-**None
- C. AACA-**None
- D. Anchorage Community Councils** – Allen Kemplen-Fairview Community Council -is concerned about the flight safety patterns especially with the runway construction this summer.

6. Old Business –

- A. Seward/Glenn Connection Project-**
 - 2 routes will impact MRI immensely, there has been limited input from MRI on the project, they have recently been invited to the discussions.
 - Stormy proposed drafting a resolution indicating that the MAAAC Board does not endorse the surface routes; instead, it supports the development of an underground route. A formal resolution will be prepared for a vote.
 - Maps of the project can be found at [Seward to Glenn Connection PEL Study PEL Study](#)
 - DOT believes that the underground route, tunneling through the landfill is viable and can be engineered.

7. Business Items –

- A. Rehabilitation Runway 7/25 Project - HDL & Quality Asphalt Paving (QAP)-Erik Jordt**
 - The grant has been appropriated and QAP has a signed contract for the rehab project.
 - Project start time is pending supply deliveries schedule, should have a firm start time by next MAAAC meeting.
 - The government funding has been confirmed, the project is proceeding as normal. The MOA is protected financially if the funding were to be stopped.
 - The Community Councils will be keep updated on the entire construction process, through flyers, emails or meetings.
 - A couple of big things could delay the construction, weather or long lead times on material orders. There is a firm 60-day max runway closure.
 - Outreach will be the key, working together through the closure.

Follow up discussions on Erik Jordt presentation:

- Caleb Newville-MRI ATCT supervisor- reported there is an in-depth plan in place to allow the North/South runways to handle the air traffic during the 7/25 closure. Priority will be given to iterant as opposed to local pattern traffic.

- MRI will communicate with all the surrounding airports about the closure and hopefully it will self-moderate traffic coming into MRI.
- Tower hours will operate as usual from 7am to 10pm.
- AL Merrill would like to see MRI flight schools get priority in the pattern on touch and go's. Caleb said it will be first come, first serve.
- Earl will contact other flight schools off field, so they are aware of limited training time on the runway. Will suggest using MRI during slow periods 7am to 8am and in the evening.
- Matt Wavra- QAP- during the milling and paving of the runway, crews will operate around the clock; however, we will make efforts to minimize noise levels.
- Marty proposed that the flight schools collaborate to develop a coordinated plan for working together.

B. Election for Chair and Vice Chair

MOTION

John Pratt nominated Stormy Jarvis for Chair and Dan Owen for Vice-Chair.

Karl Kisser seconded the motion.

The board voted 5- Yes, 0- No, 1- Abstain

8. Public Comments- None

9. Commission Comments-

- Stormy welcomed new members Karl Kisser and Ransom Jones to the board.
- Marty suggested splitting the runway during construction. Caleb said it was explored but there was no safe way to accommodate this. There are more than one landing surfaces at MRI, so no waiver was granted. Erik Jordt can provide FAA contacts if anyone has more questions on the closure safety decisions.

10. Upcoming Meetings

- MAAAC Meeting: Thursday, March 6, 2025, 12 PM
Anchorage Fire Department Training Center
1140 Airport Heights Road, Building C, Room 9

11. Adjournment -

MOTION

Dan moved to adjourn

John seconded the motion.

No objections were made, meeting adjourned at 1:13 PM

EXHIBIT A

Merrill Field Airport Operations Report February 6, 2025



EXHIBIT A

January's Operations Activity

Earl's FYI's –

- Earl attended numerous meetings pertaining to ATAAPS and IAP process. Earl, Dan, & Stormy are on Ad Hoc Committee
- 2026 Budget process begun.
 - Review of CPI history, labor budget needs, operating budget needs, revenue streams, operating budget trends, future tenant expectations, future expectations, etc...
- Continue ALP "Patch" meetings on process
- Economic Impact Study: In process; Thanks to all who completed stakeholder surveys.



January's Operations Report

Earl's FYI's - Continued

- MRI Mx still short-staffed due to medical leaves.
- Much work on adjusting Special Land Use Permits (SLUP) fees to address MRI's non-compliance to Grant Assurances 24/25. (Airport Revenues)

Community Relations

- Earl is planning to attend all the next community council meetings.

MRI Awareness:

Merrill Field Airport Bulletin – Going digital. At print.



January's Operations Report

MRI Budget Status:

- MRI 2024 "End of Month" budget - As Expected at 8% YTD.

MRI "Annual Aviation Celebration" Status - Amy

- 2025 Aviation Celebration tentative date: May 31st
- Volunteers needed



November's Operations Report

Upcoming Events:

- Runway 7/25 Construction Pre-ground work: GC getting subs under contract
- Planning meetings. Begin Mid-February 2025
- ALP w/ IAP; HDL Completion April 2025
- Taxiway A &N – Environmental Grant (apply 2025)
 - Yet to be determine
- Iditarod Air Force Launch from MRI – March 2025

