



MUNICIPAL AIRPORTS AVIATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 4, 2025

Anchorage Fire Training Center, 1140 Airport Heights Rd., Bldg. C, Rm 9
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

Stormy Jarvis called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Stormy Jarvis, Chair
Dan Owen, *Vice Chair*
Karl Kisser
Ransom Jones

Quorum met

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

John Pratt
Marty Edwards

AIRPORT STAFF PRESENT

Earl Malpass, Airport Manager
Julie Hixenbaugh, Commission Secretary
Amy Garcia, Assistant Airport Manager

2. Review & Approval – Meeting Agenda

MOTION

Karl Kisser moved to approve June 4, 2026 agenda.
Ransom Jones seconded the motion.
The board voted unanimously to approve.

3. Review & Approval - of the Minutes

MOTION

Karl Kisser moved to approve May 7, 2026 minutes.
Ransom Jones seconded the motion.
The board voted unanimously to approve.

4. Informational Reports

A. Chair

- Stormy Jarvis recognized the Sponsors for the 2026 Aviation Celebration (**Exhibit A**)

B. Airport Management PowerPoint (Exhibit B**)**

- Earl's FYI
- Community Relations
- MRI Budget Status
- Upcoming Events

Follow up discussions on Earl's power point presentation:

- The new Arrival/Departure information for MRI will be published in the supplement effective July 9, 2026. The FAAS team has distributed it, and MRI will also share it with their distribution list and post it on Facebook.
- Earl will investigate whether the night flight restrictions have been lifted for RNY 34. He doubts it will be lifted due to the trees in the glide path.
- The PAPIs for runway 34 have been certified.
- Amy Garcia provided an update on the 2026 Aviation Celebration. She expressed her appreciation to everyone involved and encouraged greater participation in planning for the 2027 event.
- Mayor LaFrance proclaimed the week of June 1- 8, 2026 as "MERRILL FIELD'S AVIATION CELEBRATION WEEK." (**Exhibit C**)
- There are plans to increase fines for VPDs.

5. Organization Reports

- A. MRI ATCT-None
- B. AOPA-None
- C. AACA-None
- D. Anchorage Community Councils – None
- E. Alaska Regional Hospital (ARH)- None
- F. Other - None

6. Old Business – None

7. New Business Items – None

8. Public Comments-

John Diument, Palmer Airport Manager, reports that starting July 25th, Palmer Airport will be undergoing construction this summer. He will send out flyers regarding the airport closures to MRI so that they may be distributed to the MRI contact list.

9. Commission Comments-

MOTION

Stormy Jarvis moved to approve a resolution recognizing Earl Malpass and staff for building awareness of MRI's value to the community and the state.

Karl Kisser seconded the motion.

The board voted unanimously to approve.

10. Next Meeting Date

- ➔ MAAAC Meeting: Thursday, July 2, 2026 12 PM
Anchorage Fire Department Training Center
1140 Airport Heights Road, Building C, Room 9

11. **Adjournment -
MOTION**

Karl Kisser moved to adjourn

Dan Owen seconded the motion.

No objections were made, meeting adjourned at 12:54PM

EXHIBIT A

THANK YOU

To all our incredible 2026 Sponsors, for helping the Aviation Celebration exceed every expectation!



Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



UAA • Stoddard's • North Edge Airpark • Commemorative Air Force, Alaska Wing
Merrill Field Airport Manager's Office • MOA Reprographics • Alaska Regional Hospital
Alaskan Aircraft Engines • Angel Aviation • Alaska Air Transit • HDL Alaska • FAAMA
Alaska Airmen's Association • Alaskan Aviation Safety Foundation • AOPA • Swift Fuels
Alaska DOT&PF • QAP COLASKA • Neighbors Windows and Doors • Coastal Television

EXHIBIT B

Merrill Field Airport Operations Report **June 4, 2026**



EXHIBIT B

May's Operations Activity

Earl's FYI's –

- MRI ATCT Hours – ATCT able to adjust hours 8-9PM (except Fri 9-7PM)
 - Tentative plan to return to normal times – August 1st
- RSAT Meeting: FAAS Team joined. Mixed opinions; One issue to date. Monitoring daily.
 - FAAS meeting address non-towered operations, hours, best practices
- Runway 8/26 Rehab (MRI's role)
 - Working a warranty issue, no erosion, expecting re-paint RW.
- Runway 16/34 – Number change this summer (17/35)
- FAA selected MRI (1/3 in AK) for Surface Awareness Initiative.
 - Engineering in July; Implementation in August – FAA funded
- MRI will roll out the 2026 SWPPP program July 2026



May's Operations Report

Earl's FYI's - Continued

- Landfill Gas Mitigation:
 - SWS and SCS – Begin the scheduled 4 week project after 7460 approval.
 - No known exceedance in any facilities this winter reported to date.
- MRI Master Plan Status.
 - Phase 1. Contract Approved: Awaiting Purchasing Order.
- Angel Aviation Hangar Construction: Numerous delays.
 - FAA Required historical, cultural, environmental, and line of site studies.
 - FAA driving to airport level; Creating problems state-wide and beyond.
 - MRI working w/State Airports and FAA to better serve private builders



May's Operations Report

Community Relations

- Aviation Celebration: What did MAAAC members think?
 - Big shout out to sponsors, UAA, Stoddards, Pilots, Dr. Mike, and Bill Starr
- Master Plan: MRI announce Woolpert Engineering as AMP consultant.
- MRI will be the first airport in Alaska to sell unleaded Avgas.
 - Spernak Airways and Angel Aviation have Swift Fuel tanks.

MRI Budget Status:

- MRI YTD operating budget as expected 42% through the year
- MRI management requests meeting w/MAAAC in mid-July.
- Per Assembly briefing, expectations are land lease & vehicle parking increase



EXHIBIT B

Municipality of Anchorage



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Merrill Field, the oldest airport in Alaska, commemorates 96 years of service to the Municipality of Anchorage and the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the airport was established in 1930 and was named in honor of Russel Hyde Merrill, an early Alaskan aviation pioneer who was instrumental in the development of aviation throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, in 1940 the 4TH Infantry, Eleventh Airforce, and the Alaska Defense Command utilized Merrill Field as their military base prior to the construction of Fort Richardson in 1941; and

WHEREAS, due to its strategic geographical location, Merrill Field serves not only the Municipality of Anchorage, but also supports commercial, cargo, emergency response, and general aviation operations throughout Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Merrill Field is one of the largest and busiest general aviation airports and is home to over 800 aircraft, supporting over 160,000 takeoffs and landings annually; and

WHEREAS, Merrill Field supports over 1,100 jobs of the Municipality of Anchorage and the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Merrill Field contributes \$240.5 million in annual economic output and provides an estimated \$67.1 million in public health and community benefits of the Municipality of Anchorage and the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, on May 30th, 2026, Merrill Field will host an Aviation Celebration honoring 96 years of service, innovation, and commitment to the Municipality of Anchorage and the State of Alaska; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I Suzanne LaFrance, Mayor of Anchorage, Alaska, do hereby proclaim the week of June 1-8, 2026, as

“MERRILL FIELD’S AVIATION CELEBRATION WEEK”

And call upon the residents of the Municipality of Anchorage to celebrate the contributions, history, and enduring service of Alaska’s aviation community, whose dedication and pioneering spirit helped shape the Municipality of Anchorage into the great city it is today and continue to provide the backbone of Alaska’s air transportation system.



MAYOR SUZANNE LAFRANCE



May's Operations Report

Upcoming Events:

- Airport Gate & Security Grant ; Environmental: In progress (August)
- Airport Gate & Security Grant; Design & Bid – IFE In progress
- Airport Master Plan – Phase 1 to begin June 2026 (date slipped)
- Airport Master Plan – Phase 2 grant programmed– July 2026

“Never forget, aviation is a passion before it’s a profession, and family before its an industry.”



Exhibit C

Municipality of Anchorage



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MAYOR SUZANNE LAFRANCE