

SONOMA COUNTY
AVIATION COMMISSION
Minutes of the June 21, 2018 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Young called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Ahrens, Carrillo, Delaney, Hayssen (left at 8:20 a.m.), Starrett and Young.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Hayssen moved with support from Ahrens to approve the May 2018, Aviation Commission Minutes. All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

ASSISTANT AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Complaint Update

Stout reported that there were 11 aircraft related noise complaints and 1 general complaint since the last Commission meeting. Year to date there were 40 aircraft related complaints compared to 320 year to date in 2017, an 87.5% decrease. This data is being compiled for the Annual Report. Young asked how we would explain the decrease. Stout explained that numbers appear to be related to Allegiant Air complaints which left STS in July 2017. Delaney asked if REACH had moved operations to Sacramento. Stout replied that REACH still maintains some operations at STS.

1. Barbara Wolfe – Low flying aircraft
2. Sylvia Ibarra – Noise
3. Don Jinks – Helicopter close proximity
4. Marilyn Stanley – Noise
5. Matt Higginbotham – Close proximity
6. Margery – Constant commercial planes flying over neighborhood
7. Shay Wells – Noise and smell of jet fuel in house
8. Mark Wilmarth – Plane hitting trees on landing
9. Kimberley Sone – Noise
10. Don Albini – Low flying aircraft
11. Chuck Bartley – Noise

B. Tower Report/Update

Stout reported that there were 7,116 operations in April 2018 compared to 7,188 in April 2017, a decrease of 1%. Total operations year to date are up 9%, 24,897 compared to 22,835 in 2017. There was a discussion on airline operations and the impact on total operations.

Tower Manager, Craig Lucas, reported that the RSAT meeting is next Tuesday, June 26 and will cover runway incursion and approach issues. Lucas reported that a controller trainee resigned two days ago due to medical reasons. There are no inbound controllers. There are 9 controllers now, 11 at one time and only 1 trainee currently on the way to certification.

C. Airline Update

Stout reported that passenger numbers in May 2018 were 37,770 compared to 33,092 in May 2017, a 14.1% increase. Year to date passenger numbers are 158,052 compared to 140,960 for 2017 year to date, an increase of 12.1%.

American is still evaluating adding a second flight to Phoenix in the morning, but has not yet made a commitment.

Stout attended the JUMPSTART Air Service Conference and spoke to several Airlines including:

- Alaska – confirmed that aircraft will all be jets by the end of the year.
- Sun Country – bookings are now going well for the flight to Las Vegas which begins in August.

- Southwest – is experiencing some contract issues and currently need a minimum of 6 flights per day; will re-evaluate in 2 to 3 years.
- JetSuiteX – a private jet charter company, is expanding operations and is interested in providing services from STS to Reno, Burbank and Las Vegas. They have equity funding from JetBlue and Qatar to add additional 40 seat aircraft to their fleet. They are interested in starting with 3 flights per week in order to evaluate the market. Stout will be coordinating a site visit late summer or early fall.
- United – the Airport is waiting on the DOT grant in order to provide Denver service.

D. Projects Update

- PCAM – agreement approved by the Board. New contract effective July 1, moving to new location by next year. Delaney asked about drones at Airport. Stout confirmed you can have drones at Airport with approval.
- Sidewalk – Working on Notice of Completion.
- Service Road – Working on Notice of Completion.
- Mowing work – Catching up currently.
- Tie-Downs – Part of Apron D which is done now. New tiedowns are now available on the Westside for non-airworthy aircraft, and 3 are to be moved there soon.
- Roofing on Admin Building – Starting project, will be done by September. Operations has been working on acquiring a boom for hangar roofs; the cost is between 70 and 80 thousand dollars, which is more than was expected. The Airport is currently renting a boom as needed.
- Terminal – Finished schematic and received feedback from airlines; pushing for ARFF relocation options. FAA says 4 to 5 years to fund terminal. Proceeding with build in place right now rather than move location. FAA understands concerns and needs and may move funding to next summer with supplemental AIP funds.
- Tent Expansion – TSA approved a checkpoint lane in the tent, which will require an additional 10 feet. It is anticipated that bids will go by the end of August and that work will be completed by the end of 2018.
- Giacomelli Demolition – Complete.
- Mumm Property – The Mums are relocating but still living in the house. The Airport will need to evaluate leasing options for property.
- Solar – Out for bids now. There were a lot of attendees and interest at the conference. Proposals may be moved to a later date due to the amount of interest.
- EV Charging Stations – Grant has been approved. Waiting on final paperwork. Tesla will provide dedicated Tesla chargers for free, but the Airport will need to install them.
- Parking Lot – Operational now, some glitches due to setup for badge swiping and other issues.

E. Runway Safety Action Team (RSAT) Update

Stout discussed working with the FAA on modifications to standards for current recommendations.

F. Lease Management/ Accounts Receivable Program Update

The Airport is still waiting for the list of requirements from the County Auditor and will provide a checklist to the interested companies to evaluate whether they can comply. If there are problems with full compliance, QuickBooks Pro may be used in the interim to handle AR functions.

ACTION ITEMS

There were action items at this time.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no discussion items at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at this time.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Young reported that the July 5 meeting with Supervisor Gore will be rescheduled.

ADJOURN

Ahrens moved with support from Carrillo to adjourn. All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Stout, CAE, AAE
Airport Manager