

**St. Mary's County Regional Airport  
Airport Advisory Committee Meeting  
28 July 2014 Minutes**



- I. CALL TO ORDER - Mr. LaValle called the meeting to order at 1803. A quorum was present with Mr. Dan Van Orden, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Adair, the alternate. Mr. Anderson and Ms. Edgell were excused. Mr. Bednarcik tendered his resignation. Mr. Whipple, St Mary's County Staff Advisor, was present.

Public present: Mr. Weaver, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Lighthouse, Mr. Reid, and Mr. Pucciarella. Mr. Bildman was excused.

- II. June draft Minutes- Approved with minor revision.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- Membership Updates – The AAC is seeking new candidates to fill committee vacancies.
- Election of Vice Chairman – Defer election until September Meeting.
- Airport Minimum Standards Status and Update – AAC closed acceptance of public comments to Minimum Standards. Inputs will be compiled and submitted to the County Attorney's Office.
- Economic Development (New Prospects for 2W6) - The AAC Chairman had an informal meeting with Kurt Parsons, CEO and David Fluker, VP of Platform Systems, currently located in Lexington Park. This fast growing company is seeking to permanently locate their engineering and maintenance staff at St. Mary's County Airport. They are seeking to lease the county hangar for maintenance operations. The company wishes to establish a fully staffed FBO repair station to service the growing demand for General Aviation maintenance. In addition, the company is seeking to operate a repair/overhaul facility for the Beech King Air aircraft. It was recommended that Platform Systems prepare their business plan and submit an unsolicited proposal to the County for consideration.

IV. Public Comments

- Mr. Tony Pucciarella (representing the University of Maryland UAS Test Site as the Director of Operations) provided a brief on the status of UMD's site development, hangar acquisition, and operations plan for St. Mary's County Regional Airport. To address concerns about UAS flight operations from the based aircraft owners at 2W6, Mr. Pucciarella noted that initial flight operations for the UAS Test Site will be conducted at Crisfield with R&D being the initial focus at 2W6. Mr. Pucciarella added that any future operations from 2W6 will be coordinated with the local stakeholders at and near the airport. For questions about the UMD UAS Project, contact Mr. Pucciarella at (301) 863-2800 x 222 or at [tonyp@umd.edu](mailto:tonyp@umd.edu).
- Mr. Hanson requested clarification on the airport Economic Development to support the general aviation community in St Mary's.



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V. Department of Public Works & Transportation Report

- Airport Capital Improvement Plan (ACIP) Update
  - The County submitted a grant application to the FAA funding to support utility relocation in advance of the Airport Road relocation. The grant application also requested the final funding to complete the design of Lawrence Hayden Road relocation. Washington Gas is developing their cost estimate and work agreement to be submitted to the FAA upon receipt.
- County Development Review Report (TEC August 2014)
  - No major impacts or hazards to airport operations in this month's submission. The County will monitor three new minor subdivisions and ensure that appropriate notes concerning the airport are included in the record plats.
- Airport Operations and Maintenance
  - Annual Airport Inspection discrepancies received and forwarded to start corrective actions.
  - Continuing efforts to cleanup airport lease agreements.

VI. FBO and Leaseholder Report

- Airfield Operations Report/Updates
  - Working on discrepancy corrections discovered during the annual airport inspection.
- New hangar project update
  - Project on track for schedule. Concept plan submitted to County Planning Commission, upon approval the phase 1 hangars and storage units will begin construction early Fall 2014, the UMD UAS Test hangar will be included in the hangar expansion plan, tree removal effort will mulch remaining tree debris and enable start of laying road base material.

VII. New Business

- None.

VIII. Next Meeting - Next regular meeting scheduled for 22 September 2014 at 1800, terminal building conference room. There will not be a meeting in August due to summer recess.

IX. ADJOURNMENT- The meeting was adjourned at 1856.

Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daniel Van Orden".

Daniel Van Orden

**Secretary**

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacques La Valle".

Jacques La Valle

**Chairman**