

**St. Mary's County Regional Airport
Airport Advisory Committee Meeting
23 January 2017 Minutes**



I. CALL TO ORDER - Erik Anderson called the meeting to order at 1800. Also present were Ted Klapka, Terry Adair, Kaz Olmeda, Bob Pearce, Bryan Barthelme, Brian Schroeder, and Eric Pratson. Hall Willard and Lou Giordarno were excused. Gary Whipple was in attendance as a staff advisor.

II. MINUTES - The December draft minutes were approved as amended.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

New committee members Brian Schroeder and Eric Pratson introduced themselves and gave a brief synopsis of their background and interest in the airport.

The committee elected Ted Klapka as Secretary for 2017 by a vote of 7-1. The committee also elected Brian Schroeder as Vice Chairman and re-elected Erik Anderson as Chairman, both by a vote of 8-0.

The committee reviewed the 23 JAN draft of the 2016 Annual Report to the Commissioners. The committee requested that the expenditure/revenue summary and the based aircraft/airport capacity summary be revised to better reflect their intentions for the report. Other formatting and grammatical revisions were noted. Approval of the report was tabled until the FEB 2017 meeting.

The committee voted to hold the current drafts of the Rules and Minimum Standards and appoint a subcommittee of Erik Anderson, Ted Klapka, Kaz Olmeda and Eric Pratson to review the Rules for recommended changes before a public hearing to adopt by ordinance. The vote was 8-0.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The committee and the public in attendance discussed the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association's (AOPA) initiative to support the Maryland Legislature Bills (S-159/H-67) introduced to eliminate the 6% sales tax on aircraft parts. The committee voted 8-0 to support the initiative, and the Secretary will draft a letter for the Chairman to sign on behalf of the committee.

V. DPW&T REPORT

Gary Whipple noted that the County is taking steps to designate him as Interim Airport Manager as George Erichsen transitions to METCOM's Executive Director. Concurrently, Bob Carlton will assume duties as Staff Advisor during this period.

Gary Whipple indicated that the current year Airport Improvement Plan grant application will include funding for easement acquisition and construction funding for Lawrence Hayden Road relocation.

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Nothing significant to report for JAN 2017 development review cycle.

Gary Whipple indicated that the restaurant establishment on 235 has taken action to reduce litter and debris around its dumpsters to avoid attracting vultures. Erik Anderson also indicated that he had made contact with DNR to take care of deer inside the fence under their depredation permit. DPW&T to follow up with both items.

Gary Whipple provided the MAA 2016 Annual Operations Estimate, which has been incorporated into the appropriate section of the 2016 Annual Report. The committee discussed alternative means to estimate airport operations.

VI. FBO & LEASEHOLDER REPORTS

The FBO, the County's Department of Economic Development and the Airport Manager will meet on 1-26-2017 to discuss appropriate projects for the \$250,000 State Bond Bill for autonomous infrastructure. The goal being the maximum effectiveness of the funds for economic development.

Phase I hangar construction is complete with the opening of Row W. Further hangar construction is dependent on a decision about the proposed Taxiway loop from the new hangar area to the existing Taxiway 'A'

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Gary Whipple handed out Certificates of Appreciation for committee members on behalf of the Commissioners.

Gary Whipple also announced the scheduled power outage for SMECO work along Airport Road as being Saturday, 2-4-2017 from 0800 to 1100, with an alternative date of 2-11-2017.

VIII. NEXT MEETING –The next regular meeting is scheduled for 2-27-2017 at 6:00 PM.

IX. ADJOURNMENT- The meeting was adjourned at 1945.

Submitted

Handwritten signature of Ted Klapka in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Ted Klapka

Secretary

Approved,

Handwritten signature of Erik Anderson in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Erik Anderson

Chairman