

Airport Advisory Board Meeting (Monday, June 26, 2023)

Generated by Allison Swint on Monday, June 26, 2023

Members present

Henri Sahut, Robert Lightstone, Albert Babcock, George Hill, Sam Hughes, John Eid

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Information: 1. Chairman/Vice Chairman reports

Information: 2. DPW&T Report

Information: 3. FBO Report

Information: 4. Pax Air Ops Report

Information: 5. DED AeroPark Updates

D. OLD BUSINESS

Action, Discussion: 1. Review updated draft LOA for R-4007 access

Motion to approve the Airport Manager to forward the draft LOA to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County for approval and signature.

Motion by Henri Sahut, second by Albert Babcock.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Henri Sahut, Robert Lightstone, Albert Babcock, George Hill, Sam Hughes, John Eid

Action: 2. Approve April 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes & Action Items

To approve the April 24, 2023 meeting minutes & action items

Motion by Henri Sahut, second by Albert Babcock.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Henri Sahut, Robert Lightstone, Albert Babcock, George Hill, Sam Hughes, John Eid

Discussion: 3. Review/Update Action Item list

E. NEW BUSINESS

Information: 1. Next business meeting August 28, 2023 at 6PM

F. PUBLIC COMMENT

G. ADJOURN

Action: 1. Motion to adjourn

In Person Meeting at Regional Airport Terminal

Airport Advisory Board Minutes – 06/26/2023

Meeting Start: 6:00 PM

Members Present: Lightstone (Vice Chair), Hill (Secretary), Babcock, Eid, Sahut, LCDR Hughes (ex-officio member from NAS Pax River)

Others Present: Allison Swint (DPWT) Jim Gotsch (DPWT), Chris Kaselemis (DED), Ken Reed, Pat Weaver, Dave Stanton (RCS Services – FBO), Tim Wilson (local pilot), Corey Smith (local pilot), Wes Yancey (local pilot)

Vice Chairman's Remarks:

The annual Pilot Forum with NAS Patuxent River Air Ops will be June 28 at TechPort.

A question was raised regarding wording of the NOTAM concerning 2W6. The NOTAM status is dependent on obstruction removal; once obstruction removal is completed the NOTAM will go away.

DPWT Report (Jim Gotsch DPWT, Allison Swint, Airport Manager):

Contracts for obstruction removal are in bid document preparation phase. RFP should go out in early May.

Three real estate acquisitions were approved by the Commissioners. Documentation packages are being sent to the FAA.

Perimeter fence has been cleared. The only potential further work would be stump removal to allow smaller vehicles to transit.

Environmental assessment (related to trash removal) has been approved and sent forward. Two thirty-day public hearings will follow, meaning it will be at least Oct before trash can be removed.

Anticipate taxiway will be complete before the asphalt plants shut down for winter. Runway extension completion will likely take until the end of the paving season in 2024.

Anticipate new contractor (AECOM) will finalize contract negotiations within a few weeks. First task is runway assessment. Hold up has been regarding terms and conditions within the contract. Pavement study will require runway closures for as much as four days. Further information will be provided in this forum.

Airport manager attended deer hearing and was promised that if she submits a request for “shoot to kill” permit, it will be approved.

AUVSI competition was successfully conducted. Approximately 25 teams participated. Competition will be orchestrated by ROBONATION going forward. Date in the third week in June has been selected for next year’s event.

Short discussion of what items should be located in the pilot’s lounge. Airport manager is accepting inputs and investigating survey distribution to obtain ideas and desires.

FBO Report, NTR

Pax Air Ops Report (LCDR Hughes): No significant inputs received regarding LOA changes. Latest version of the LOA was reviewed. Motion to approve as written with two minor modifications. Motion: (Sahut), second (Babcock). Approved.

Full coverage will be briefed following signed approval by both parties (CO of NAS and Commissioner President).

AEROPARK Update (Chris Kaselemis, Director of Economic Development): County owns about 20 acres on the West end of the airport. MEDCO has been contracted to oversee the development of this acreage.

Grant for \$380K received from the state for development of the landscaping of the area in front of the Terminal.

Way finding signage has been contracted and plans are underway to complete the work.

Consultant hired to plan the Terminal improvements. Money was not appropriated by the Commissioners.

Old Business: Approval of April 24, 2023, Meeting Minutes & Action Items. Motion to approve as written (Sahut); second (Babcock). Approved.

A Review/Update of the Action Item list was completed.

Action item 34 regarding update of the LOA was closed following vote to accept.

Action item 39 regarding planned completion of pilot’s lounge. Airport manager plans to release a survey to local pilots for suggestions and inputs.

Action item 40 regarding methods to improve mobile phone coverage at the airport. Dave Stanton (FBO) pointed out that an Internet extender could be obtained from Verizon by making a phone call to the local office. He volunteered to make the call and coordinate with the Airport Manager.

Action item 41 added regarding AUVSI competition. Corey Smith asked for analysis of the benefits of this competition compared to the imposition to the local community. Bob Lightstone (Vice Chairman) said an action item would be accepted.

New business: None

Public Comment:

Corey Smith asked questions about clearing trees needed for approaches to RWY 11. (See comments regarding obstruction removal in DPWT report.)

Corey Smith also questioned level of communication received regarding AUVSI Competition. He voiced that many people are upset but not speaking out regarding the acceptance of the impositions caused by the Competition.

Tim Wilson offered his “thank you” to the Airport Manager for seeing that soap has been installed in the men’s bathroom.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:57 PM. Motion (Sahut); second (Hill).

Next Meeting: August 28, 2023 6 PM

Submitted by: Hill (Secretary)

Airport Advisory Board Sign In Sheet
 June 26, 2023

Name **Initials** **Organization** **E-Mail or Phone #**

Jim Alexander		AAB Chairman	(on-file)
Bob Lightstone	<i>BL</i>	AAB Vice Chairman	(on-file)
George Hill		AAB Secretary	(on-file)
John Eid	<i>JE</i>	AAB Member	(on-file)
Albert Babcock	<i>AB</i>	AAB Member	(on-file)
C.T. Sahut	<i>CT</i>	AAB Member	(on-file)
Kevin Suggs		AAB Member	(on-file)
Robert Zaorski		AAB Member	(on-file)
County Staff:			
Jim Gotsch	✓	Director DPW&T	(on-file)
Allison Swint	<i>AS</i>	Airport Manager	(on-file)
Gary Whipple		Deputy Director, DPW&T	(on-file)
✓ Chris Kaselemis		Director, Economic Dev	(on-file)
Ken Reed	<i>KR</i>	S. Hunt Aero, LLC	(on-file)
Pat Weaver	<i>PW</i>	S.M. Hangars, Inc.	(on-file)
Dave Stanton	<i>DS</i>	Piedmont Flight Center	(on-file)
MARK BOIS		ARTES	
<i>SAM HUGHES</i>	<i>SH</i>	<i>NAS PAX</i>	
<i>JK Smith</i>		<i>Tenant</i>	
<i>Dave Stanton</i>	<i>DS</i>	<i>RCS</i>	

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