

4S2 Airport Advisory Committee
21 October 2021
4:00 PM-5:30 PM
4S2 FBO

MINUTES

PRESENT: Tor Bieker, Brook Bielen, Margo Demeler, Heather Gehring, Greg Hagbery, Dave Koebel, Adam Young, John Benton, Chris Robuck, Gemmaro Avolio

REGRETS: Michael McElwee, Darren Lacock, Ken Musser

ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING REMARKS

- The meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM.
- Roll call was conducted and no introductions were needed. Chris made the request to have an updated roster of committee members, to include their term dates. She also requested this be updated on the Port Website.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM LAST MONTH

- Motion was made by Dave to approve the meeting minutes from last month. Margo commented that the "Absent" portion of the minutes were incorrect as she was out of town but there were no absent members listed. There was also a typo on the Items Discussed section, Groundlease bullet last month. With the above items noted, the minutes from last month were again motioned for approval by Dave seconded by Margo. Chris requested that a new and updated attendance sheet be made available to show current AAC members and their terms.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- None

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- Agenda was approved with no additions.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- No previous business was discussed.

ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Aviation Tracking Technology: The aviation tracking project has concluded. Chris gave a debrief of the data that was analyzed. The full report was sent to the AAC and Port Staff. The recommendation was made to forward on to the Port Commissioners. Below is a synopsis of the project data:
 - The limitations of the data provided from FlightAware was noted. FlightAware uses ADSB out to gather tracking information. This limits the ability to only track aircraft with ADSB out transponders. Furthermore, terrain can also play into the ability, or inability, to track an ADSB out equipped aircraft. The tracking project was conducted and data analyzed with these limitations in mind.
 - 58% of the aircraft located in leased T-hangars have had no FlightAware data recorded in the last 12 months. These aircraft either did not fly or are not equipped with ADSB Out.
 - The mounted game camera captured 78 arrivals and departures over a 4 day period. Of these operations, 58% were not recorded in FlightAware.
 - WAAAM estimated that there were 280 planes that attended the annual Fly-In last month. Of those in attendance, 59% were not recorded in FlightAware.
 - From this data, it is reasonable to conclude that FlightAware misses just over half of the total operations in Hood River.
 - Data collected:
 - Annual Operations- 4S2 to 4S2 (Departure and Arrival) 1792
4S2 to Other (Departure and Arrival) 1225

Other to 4S2 (Departure and Arrival) 1526

Total Annual Operations

- Seasonality- Most flight operations are conducted during the summer months.

- Purpose of Operations-
 - 62% Recreational
 - 28% Commercial
 - 18% Based in HR
 - 9% Itinerant
 - 3% Sheriff
 - 1% Civil Air Patrol
 - 6% No detail

- Length of Stay-
 - 24% <1hr
 - 13% 1-2 hr
 - 7% 2-3 hr
 - 5% 3-4 hr
 - 6% 4-12 hr
 - 7% 12-24 hr
 - 4% 1-2 days
 - 7% >2 days

- Largest Users
 - 17% TacAero
 - 6% Based Plane 1
 - 4% Based Plane 2
 - 3% Based Plane 3
 - 3% Sheriff
 - 67% Others

- The next step in this project is to provide the data to the Port Commissioners to use as they see fit. If this data proves to be valuable to them, more effort could be put into utilizing a more accurate and costly data collection solution (Vector, Invictus, etc.)
- John continued to question the purpose of the project and how this could be used to further the economic development of the airport. Commissioner Gehring asked John what his thoughts were to improve the airport. John mentioned that he is a huge proponent of ground leases which lead into the next discussion item.
- Ground Leasing: There was not much discussion on this topic. The AAC had motioned last month to unanimously recommend that the Port Commissioners consider ground leasing as a revenue generating process. The AAC once again recommended this.
- Pilot Controlled Lighting: Pilot controlled lighting at 4S2 is fully operational as of last Friday (15 Oct.). Tenants have been notified of this and a message has been added to the end of AWOS stating this. Procedures for the operation of airfield lighting are per standard FAA procedures. John brought up a concern that aircraft with no radios or aircraft that may be experiencing an electrical malfunction will not be able to operate the airfield lights. Discussion was given that pilot controlled lighting is the standard at non towered fields and that no special consideration for non radio equipped aircraft is needed.
- Fuel Tank: The latest estimate for the arrival of the new fuel tank is November. Port staff are working with permitting and the Fire Marshall in the meantime to ensure that everything is ready, administratively, when the tank arrives. Dave requested that the existing fuel tank is not decommissioned prior to the new tank being commissioned in order to avoid a lack of fuel available.
- Ordinance 23: This discussion topic was brought up last month, specifically with regards to the AGLA, to ensure that we are operating in accordance with what is written in Ordinance 23. AAC members reinforced the recommendation that the Port work with their engineers to come up with appropriate signage to ensure compliance while not highlighting ourselves to the FAA. Dave brought up the Glider Club conducting concurrent operations while AGLA is in use stating that if the operation is pre-briefed by all concerned aircraft, that the operation can occur. Dave has recommended that this not be conducted until Ordinance 23 can be revised to specifically state that.

- Security Cameras: Two meetings ago, a Port Commissioner suggested that staff look at web cameras that are currently being used at the Truckee airport in Truckee CA. This was suggested as an inexpensive means to gain additional security at the airfield. The Port staff is looking into having a camera mounted that could perform this function. Tor mentioned that the following service, <https://weathercams.faa.gov/map/>, provides similar information and may be worth looking into to have installed.
- FBO Update: Monthly fuel sales is 2612.2 gallons from the Island and 598.8 gallons from the truck so far this month. Tie down fees have collected \$1015.00 this month. Fuel surcharge numbers are being discussed at this time with the Port. Should have a solution by the next meeting.
- WAAAM: traffic has been increasing as the number of river cruise ships pulling into Hood River has been increasing. This helps to offset the oncoming slow months.
- Glider Club: Cory R. sent in a status update to Dave. Glider club has continued to stay busy. Most tows have been conducted on the weekends with a few during the week.
- New Business/Public Comment: Dave brought up the need to start thinking about snow removal on the airfield. In the past, there have been some inconsistencies with snow removal. Dave would like to come up with a plan that meets all pilots needs and has requested that Greg reach out to find the existing plan as well as solicit input from tenants.

ACTION ITEMS

- Greg- Provide an updated AAC member roster with term dates included and update Port Website accordingly.
- Greg- Ensure Commissioners are aware of the AAC's unanimous recommendation to consider ground leasing options.
- Greg- Get with PAE to design a sign that will address AGLA hold short procedures.
- Brook- Ensure that FBO is in communication with the Port regarding the commissioning of the new fuel tank. Make sure that there is no lapse in fuel availability during this evolution.
- Brook- Have FBO get together with Port Facilities to work out a snow removal plan.

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 5:05PM.

NEXT MEETING DATE

- Next meeting is set for November 18th, location TBD. Agenda will be sent out prior to the next meeting and will detail the date, time, and location.