

**St. Mary's County Regional Airport
Airport Advisory Committee Meeting
22 June 2015 Minutes**



- I. CALL TO ORDER - Mr. LaValle called the meeting to order at 1757. A quorum was present with Mr. Lowry, Mr. Klapka, Ms. Sawyer, Mr. LaValle, Mr. Adair, and Mr Olmeda in attendance. Both Mr. Anderson and Mr. Willard were excused absences. Mr. Whipple, St Mary's County Staff Advisor, was present.

Public present included: Mr. Bildman, Ms. Setser, Mr. French, Mr. Reid, Ms. Capozzi, Mr. Capozzi, Mr. Hanson, and Mr. Lightstone plus several others who did not sign in.

- II. April draft Minutes- Approved.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. LaValle reviewed the May 2015 Airport Inspection report commenting that it was the second time a checklist format had been used and that process proved helpful in both conducting and reporting on the inspection. Major findings of the inspection included; large sink holes along the storm water drain pipes between taxiway A and runway 11; deteriorating asphalt in specific ramp and taxi surfaces; and run-off erosion by the wind sock access area and the helicopter ramp areas. Two items of the report still need DPW&T input and it is expected to receive final review and approval at the July meeting.

The St. Mary's County airport permit process was discussed in depth. Consensus was reached that the Advisory Board should review the existing permit process and decide if changes be recommended to meet expected needs for a "fast tracked" permit to support short term business needs at the airport. A review of current permit process will be on the agenda for the July meeting.

IV. Public Comments

- Multiple comments were made from St Mary's Airport pilots and aircraft owners concerning future UAS operational plans for the airport and the immediate vicinity. Concerns were stated that Maryland State law S370 may limit local control over such UAS operations and that flight safety of manned aircraft could be jeopardized. It was requested that a public forum be established to brief all St Mary's County airport users of the UAS plans and establish an improved communications vehicle to disseminate current information to pilots.

V. Department of Public Works & Transportation Report

- Airport Capital Improvement Plan proceeding with road relocation and taxiway completion bidding process. Plans are to begin this 150 day long construction as soon as September if funding allows. Airport access will be affected during the construction phase with plans to maintain one-way traffic flow to and from the airfield.
- The TEC identified one potential conflict within the airport safety area and the planners were notified of the restrictions.

**St. Mary's County Regional Airport
Airport Advisory Committee Meeting
22 June 2015 Minutes**



VI. FBO and Leaseholder Report

- AirTec has purchased Piedmont Flight Center and is moving ahead with plans to reorganize and expand the business to include a flight school, sightseeing rides, glider operations and full service maintenance. Lease amendments have been submitted to the county to support these goals. The flight school portion of the business is being supported by the Navy Annapolis Flying Club which has expanded its Part 141 flight school operation to St. Mary's Airport with new aircraft.

- **New Hangar Project update (T-hanger construction)**

Two rows of hangars are complete with vigorous work underway to complete all hangars by November. Access to the new areas should be opened in September.

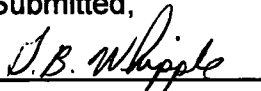
VII. New Business

Plans to host a St Mary's Airport "open house" event in the October timeframe were addressed by Mr. Bildman and Ms. Setser. This event would showcase the activities ongoing at the airport and provide an opportunity for County citizens to gain an understanding of the vitality and impact of the airport to the local community. Mr. LaValle made a motion for the County to strongly endorse this plan which was seconded by Mr. Klapka and approved by the advisory board. Ms. Setser volunteered to continue planning and scoping of this event.

VIII. Next Meeting –The next regular meeting is scheduled for 27 July 2015 at 6:00 pm; Walter F Duke Terminal Building conference room.

IX. ADJOURNMENT- The meeting was adjourned at 1930.

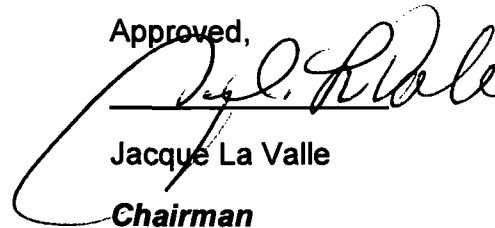
Submitted,



for Wilson R Lowry

Secretary

Approved,



Jacqué La Valle

Chairman