

**St. Mary's County Regional Airport
Airport Advisory Committee Meeting
5 December 2016 Minutes**



I. CALL TO ORDER - Mr. Erik Anderson called the meeting to order at 1800. Also present were Ted Klapka, Terry Adair, Hall Willard, Kaz Olmeda, and Bob Pearce. Rusty Lowry, Margaret Sawyer and Bryan Barthelme were excused. Gary Whipple was in attendance as a staff advisor.

II. The October draft minutes were approved.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Rules and Minimum Standards documents were finalized by County staff and hard copy was presented to the committee for their review before scheduling the public hearing. The committee requested that the drafts be submitted electronically and posted to the 2W6 Users Group in advance of any presentation to the Commissioners.

The committee reviewed a revised draft of the 2016 Annual Report to the Commissioners. Gary Whipple walked through the updates to the document from the original draft. Erik Anderson asked that all members continue to review the document and be prepared to provide comment and finalize at the JAN 2017 meeting.

Erik Anderson provided an update on his efforts to map out the General Permit process with current work focusing on developing an adequate insurance binder with the assistance of various insurance carriers and Ken Reed.

The status of the 2016 Annual Inspection will be reviewed at subsequent meetings in the first quarter CY2017.

IV. Public Comments

Jim Alexander invited the committee and attendees to the UMD UAS Test Site Open House scheduled for 08 DEC 2016.

The attendees also expressed concern with wildlife hazard management concerning deer on the airside and turkey vultures in the vicinity around the airport.

V. Department of Public Works & Transportation Report

The Airport Road utility relocation has continued with water main and electrical primary distribution lines underway. SMECO work mostly complete, and water main has been installed from Cottonwood Parkway to the east side of the SMHEC. Due to delays and the end of the construction season, the County will be negotiating a schedule revision to mobilize the road work for May 2017.

The Department provided the draft CIP sheet for locally funded projects. Gary Whipple highlighted the FY2018 plans to replace the AWOS and terminal HVAC equipment.

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Nothing significant to report for DEC 2016 development review cycle.

VI. FBO and Leaseholder Report

The FBO indicated that there is a forthcoming proposal to extend the runway to 8,000 feet to facilitate economic development. The extension would not require a change in the currently planned ARC or runway/taxiway separation. The extension would move the runway further west past Lawrence Hayden Road. The committee discussed how the proposal would require an Airport Master Plan and Environmental Assessment, which would delay the development of the project. A longer runway could make the airport eligible for funding from commercial airlines as an emergency landing location. It was the consensus of the committee that potentially significant increases in revenue merit further County review. The committee passed a motion to recommend that the Commissioners review the runway extension proposal and economic impact plan upon receipt.

The FBO now has full-time weekend staff at the Piedmont Flight Center, and there will be an open house on 17 DEC 2016.

VII. New Business - None.

VIII. Next Meeting –The next regular meeting is scheduled for 1-23-2017 at 6:00 PM.

IX. ADJOURNMENT- The meeting was adjourned at 19:00.

Submitted,

Handwritten signature of Wilson R Lowry in cursive script, positioned above a horizontal line.

for Wilson R Lowry

Secretary

Approved,

Handwritten signature of Erik Anderson in cursive script, positioned above a horizontal line.

Erik Anderson

Chairman