

# Watsonville Airport Advisory Committee

## Minutes of April 3, 2018 Meeting

Meeting called to order by WAAC Chair, Kurt Yeager at 1600.

**Attendees:** Marjorie Bachmann (99's), Ed Bogner (Non-Aviation Business), Sarah Chauvet (WPA), Gryphon MacArthur (EAA), Laura Molher (Airport FBO), Joe Shelton (City Resident), Kurt Yeager (County Resident), and Rayvon Williams (Airport Manager).

January 2017 minutes approved.

### **Discussion topics**

**WAAC is an official City “Commission”.** As such the WAAC will be posted on the City web site along with the Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Personnel Commission and Library Commission.

**Filling vacant positions.** The WAAC welcomes Ed Bogner and Laura Molher to the Commission. Ed Bogner and Laura Mohler have agreed to join the WAAC and fill the County Business Representative (Ed) and FBO representative (Laura) respectively. They will be meeting with the City Manager over the next few months.

**Runway 9/27 Visibility Zone issue:** Airport Director provided an update regarding the Runway 9/27 Visibility issue. After a lengthy discussion the WAAC advised the Airport Director as follows:

- **WAAC members have reviewed** the previously presented Runway Visibility Zone document (PDF v6).
  - ✓ In at least two cases the PDF has been shared with constituent Pilot groups.
  - ✓ Based on constituent discussions WAAC believes there may be other proposed solutions to consider relative to Runway Two-Seven.
  - ✓ Given this WAAC believes a Public Comment period is the next step and it should not last longer than 2 to 3 weeks
  - ✓ WAAC believes the Public comment Period will provide enough time to formulate additional alternatives. Such alternatives would be presented to the Airport Director and the appropriate FAA business unit for consideration.
  - ✓ At the conclusion of the Public Comment Period WAAC support a Town Hall meeting to review the Public Comments and comments to working with the Airport Director to posed additional or not yet considered options to the FAA.
- **Proposal # 3 or Proposal #4.** The WAAC believes there is merit for implementing Proposal 3 immediately and maintaining the VFR take-off limited (no IFR take-offs) option for the foreseeable future.
  - ✓ This configuration assures the 3,998 feet landing distance which in itself provides a substantial safety benefit.
  - ✓ Proposal #4 would effectively shorten the landing distance from 3,998 to 3,225 feet, but increase the take-off distance from 2,400 to 3225 feet.
  - ✓ For reference San Martin's (E16) runway is 3,095 feet and Marina's (KOAR) is 3,483 feet.
- **WAAC’s current guidance** is if the FAA does not accept any alternative proposal as a result of the Public comment period Proposal #3 would be the preferred option.

**W.E.A.C.T. update.** Marjorie Bachman provided an update on the W.E.A.C.T activities with two key highlights: (1) initiation of 501 3c status and (2) an upcoming state wide emergency drill. W.E.A.C.T. is planning an exercise later this year at WVI.

**October 2018 Fly-In.** Airport management held a "Town Hall" style meeting with a Cook-out on March 31<sup>st</sup> to discuss the potential for bringing back the Fly-In. The meeting was a success and Airport management looks forward to reporting positive results going forward.

**Airport Manager Updates:** Airport safely and successfully completed the installation of the Precision Approach Path Lighting system. Airport is on track to bring a \$1.3 mm Runway repair/slurry seal and remark effort this fall. Additionally the airport fully expects to install updated signage for the primary runway and parallel taxiway, plus new Runway End Identifier Lights (REILs approach to Rwy2).

**ADJOURNMENT - at 17:05**

**Remaining 2018 Meeting Schedule**

**April 10<sup>th</sup>**

**July 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**October 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**1600 at WAEC, 60 Aviation Way**