

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Watsonville Airport Advisory Committee Council Chambers

275 Main Street, 4th Floor, Watsonville, California
Remote Teleconference Meeting

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/185040565>

By Telephone: 1(786)535-3211 Access Code: 185-040-565

July 29, 2020

7:00 PM

1. ROLL CALL

Marjorie Bachman (Monterey Bay 99's), Hugh Seagreaves (Non-Aviation Business), Glen Ceresa (County Resident), Dave Guerrieri (Airport Fixed Based Operator), Jeremy Lezin (Watsonville Pilot's Association), Joe Shelton (City Resident) Scott Randolph (EAA #119).

Absent: Hugh Seagreaves

Staff members present were Airport Director Rayvon Williams, Assistant Administrative Analyst Alexandra Aguado

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Sarah Chauvet led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Oral Communications from the Commissioners & Members of the Public

Elizabeth Atilano- Atilano expressed her excitement about the chat capability. It is an important educational tool for those who are new to local government. It is a vital part of the meetings as the community members can use this to network and learn from each other.

Dave Guerrieri- Guerrieri suggested exploring lower fuel prices for locals and businesses on the field.

Rayvon Williams- Williams suggested the following agenda item: "Update on Watsonville Airport Advisory Committee Bylaws".

Marjorie Bachman- Bachman requested the corrected minutes from January 29, 2020 and November 19, 2019 meetings.

Scott Randolph- Randolph requested that minutes are provided to the committee within a week of the WAAC meeting.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Motion Approving Minutes for January 29, 2020 Meeting

Marjorie Bachman moved to approve minutes, Dave Guerrieri Seconded. Minutes approved.

5. ITEMS REMOVED FROM AGENDA

6. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

A. 2019 Year in Review

Scott Randolph- Randolph commented that Lowlight #5 (RWY 27 take –off NA continues due to Runway Visibility Zone) has impacted operations on a windy day and would be interested in discussing what can be done with Williams.

Rayvon Williams- There is three options; (1) Relocate the threshold which will shorten the runway to approximately 3,200 feet (2) Remove 31 hangars on rows Hotel, Juliet, India and Kilo which will impact 15% of the hangar revenue (3) What can we do that will help lengthen the runway by 100 ft.

Jeremy Lezin- Lezin asked what Lowlight #4 (Continued non- compliant AvGas purchases) referred to. Williams explained an incident that took place earlier in the year where an individual drove into the airport, purchased 260 gallons of AvGas fuel and drove off. The airport's aviation fuel contract requires that the airport ensure that the sale of fuel is for aviation purposes only. If aviation fuel is used for a non-aviation purpose and it is traced back to the airport, the airport can get their contract voided. Lezin shared that he knew the individual and that he was a licensed pilot. Randolph commented that although the airport has a duty to the fuel provider to ensure that fuel usage is compliant we do not need to go to extraordinary lengths to prove that every fuel usage is compliant. Bachman added that the Airport Rules and Regulations state that fuel purchased needs to be used for aviation purposes. Lezin commented that there is no rule that prohibits that an individual to drive in to purchase fuel and drive off.

Dave Guerrieri- Guerrieri would like the lobby to stay open 24 hours a day and suggested a 24 hour security patrolling the airport.

Marjorie Bachman- Bachman asked if there were any leads on who stole the ATM.

Scott Randolph- Randolph gave Williams kudos on the array of "Highlights".

Scott Randolph- Randolph asked for confirmation on his understanding of no increase to capacity; no additional paved area (no new hangars, no new tie-downs, and no new runway). Williams explained that the permanent tie-down area is failing and we need to repair that as well as other infrastructure.

Scott Randolph- Randolph asked how much of the Airport fund balance is committed to the Airport Master Plan Update and the Pavement Maintenance Management Plan. Williams restated that both projects would be fully funded by the FAA.

Marjorie Bachman- Bachman requested the Year In Review be sent to the WAAC members.

B. Municipal Airport Master Plan Update

Dave Guerrieri- Guerrieri asked about the scope of the Master Plan Update. Guerrieri also suggested an instrument approach from the North and a hotel on the airport.

Rayvon Williams- Williams stated that if we gain an instrument approach from the North we would have to give up a different approach. Williams suggested that Guerrieri, Randolph and those interested get together

and submit a request to the FAA's IFP Gateway.

Scott Randolph- Randolph inquired about the constituency of the Planning Review Committee for the Airport Master Plan Update. Williams will take an interest in those who would like to get involved. Bachman asked for the commencement date of the AMPU, which is August, 2020.

Dave Gurrieri- Guerrieri recommended a campground on the west side of the airport.

C. Presentation of the 2019 Municipal Airport Economic Benefit Analysis

Dave Guerrieri- Guerrieri asked about the total asset value of the aircraft located at the airport. McPheters responded that 24 million is the total asset value of the aircraft based at Watsonville Airport per the Santa Cruz County Assessor's Office.

D. Presentation on Harkins Slough Road Walking Trail- Safety Zone Six

Sarah Chauvet- Chauvet shared her involvement in the discussions pertaining to an agreement made with Pajaro Valley Unified School District (PVUSD) regarding playing fields at Pajaro Valley High School. She stated "The WPA, Division of Aeronautics and the Coastal Commission agreed that the PV High could have the playing fields, the auditorium and the music structures needed on the 54 acres that was already approved for the school and that any further development on that are would not be allowed." Per a letter from Mr. Fuentes, the trail appears to be on Pajaro Valley property and will require a change in the Coastal Development permit. Chauvet questioned why Murray went to the advisory committee instead of the Watsonville Pilot's Association (WPA). She continued by stating that she doesn't see "how the WAAC has anything to say outside of the airport." From her point of view and her research, they cannot authorize anything without discussing it with their attorneys. Chauvet states that it is premature and that "this is very bad homework doing by Mr. Fuentes who did not contact the correct people." The advisory committee has nothing to say about this, they were not been involved in the lawsuits or agreements. Chauvet would advise her group not to approve it until the attorneys have cleared it and there is more information available.

Jeremy Lezin- Lezin asked for clarification from Chauvet: is she speaking on WPA's behalf? Chauvet responded that she is speaking on her behalf and the involvement in all of the proceeding that went into setting up the agreements that are now in existence to allow PV High School to have their playing field, auditorium and anything else on their footprint.

Rayvon Williams- Williams expressed that Murray was only following direction and does not agree with Chauvet's statement that "Mr. Fuentes didn't do his homework." Chauvet stated that Mr. Fuentes should've reached out to the WPA.

Jeremy Lezin- Lezin stated that the WPA has the proposal and that it will be under review by the attorney.

Murray- Murray was asked to come before the group with the following two questions: (1) pertaining to the high school property (2) Is safety zone 6 an acceptable use for that area. Lezin believes that it is a terrific use for that area and reiterated that they will pass the proposal to the attorney for review. Chauvet questioned why the trail cannot be built on the east side of the road. Murray explained that the proposal is based on the existing sidewalk on the west side of Harkins Slough Rd. There is sidewalk on the west side of Harkins Slough Rd. from the highway to the entrance of the high school. Continuing the sidewalk will allow students and pedestrians to stay on that side and once the sidewalk went past Lee Rd. they would be able to cross the sidewalk where there is less traffic instead of having them cross immediately on the driveway where there is more traffic. Chauvet reiterated that if there is no agreement, the trail will need to

be built across the road. Williams questioned Chauvet's statement by saying "even though that would be more dangerous to students crossing the road?" Chauvet responded "that's probably true but the high school is a damn danger anyway" and continued with "we spent 20 years fighting about this". Bachman suggested that the WAAC get a recommendation by the WPA's lawyers by the next WAAC meeting or possibly sent out to the WAAC. Randolph suggested that we avoid going too far with the topic.

ADJOURNMENT - at 20:44

The next Committee meeting will be held on October 28, 2020