

Airport Advisory Committee
Minden-Tahoe Airport
June 20, 2016

The June 20, 2016 meeting of the Airport Advisory Committee (AAC) was held at the Board of County Commission Chambers, 1616 Eighth Street, Minden, Nevada. Members present were Mike Cowan, Blayne Osborn, Bill Henderson, Rodney Aiglstorfer, Bill Driscoll and Laurie Ricardi. Airport employees or representatives in attendance were, Bobbi Thompson, Airport Manager, Chris Johnson, Airport Operations Supervisor and Cathie Kite, Office Manager.

1. **Opening.** The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Chairman, Bill Henderson.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance.** Led by Laurie Ricardi
3. **Public Interest Comments** – Jim Jackson spoke to the Board about noise from certain glider tow planes and the routes they take when towing and releasing gliders. It appears that some pilots that don't cut the engines after they release the glider create a great amount of noise over residential areas. Some seem to avoid the residential areas and some do not. Chairman Henderson advised Mr. Jackson that the glider operation would be notified of his concerns.
4. **Approval of Agenda** – Bill Driscoll made the motion to approve the agenda; motion seconded by Mike Cowan – vote was unanimous.
5. **Approval of Previous Minutes** – Chairman Henderson called for approval of the April 18, 2016 minutes. A motion was made by Laurie Ricardi, seconded by Bill Driscoll and passed unanimously.
6. **Airport Advisory Committee Update.**

a. Low-cost infrastructure ideas for safer/cheaper glider operations at KMEV - Rodney Aiglstorfer

Concerns about safety and effective operations were presented to the Board along with some ideas for temporary infrastructure on the east side of the airport that might minimize runway incursions, etc. as well as provide covered storage for glider owners. Laurie commented that there would still be a need to have access to the west side of the airport at this point for social events and food, etc. Power for plugging in golf carts, etc. and other utilities would also be necessary. Chris pointed out that there are already tie downs on the East side, but rodents getting in the aircraft have been a problem in the past.

b. Use of “mobile” tower during peak hours and seasons – Rodney Aiglstorfer

The potential use of a temporary tower at the airport was suggested by Rodney on behalf of some other airport tenants. Temporary towers have, at this point been funded by the USFS or BLM through the FAA for firefighting purposes. While Bobbi agrees that the airport desperately needs a tower for safety reasons as well as better control of traffic, this will need to be addressed during the Master Plan process. There cannot be a tower on the airport without an approval provided by a vote of the people. Laurie did indicate that she believes a tower would not be embraced by the soaring community and might lead to them searching for other venues

that do not have towers. Bill Driscoll commented that he didn't believe the community will approve a tower at this time.

7. **Staff Update.**

a. **A.J. Frels departure** – Bobbi advised the Board that Mr. Frels has accepted a new job out of the area. The County Manager's office will be posting the position for applications and a new board member will be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners.

b. **Collings Foundation event** – Chris Johnson reported on the success of the Wings of Freedom event at the airport from June 16 – 20th. The Collings Foundation was very pleased with the turnout and their reception at KMEV.

c. **Marine Training Project** – Chris Johnson reported on the weekend "RUT" (Realistic Urban Training) held at the airport the same weekend as the Collings event. KMEV was the host for an estimated 200 U.S. Marines for a training event that included helicopters, C130's and a number of Ospreys. The training exercises went well and the Marines came, trained and left without incident.

d. **Master Plan Update** – Armstrong Engineering has now finished the environmental and financial section of the Master Plan and copies will be forwarded to committee members. After recommendations and modifications are made from the Master Plan Committee it'll be taken to a public hearing and to the Board of Commissioners in draft form for further discussion.

e. **Lighting Project update** – This project will update our 1940's wiring at the airport. This 90 day project will include new high intensity runway lighting on the primary runway. The \$500,000 project was put out for bid and was awarded to the second lowest bidder because the lowest bidder wasn't certified to meet FAA requirements. The project will begin as soon as the grant funding is received.

f. **Fencing project update** – we haven't seen the final RFP for this project. This project will fence the entire airport with an 8' fence and include electronic gates with gate cards required for access. The intent is to make the airport more secure. Commercial operators will be required to provide access for clients or deliveries on an individual basis. All tenants will be provided access at a gate near their business or hangar and will be required to use that gate only. This is approximately a 90 day project.

e. **East Side Utilities Update** – While this project is ongoing, there has been a glitch in the process do to the lack of a complete utility easement for a portion of Bliss Rd. We are in the process of correcting that omission.

h. **Wildlife Hazard Assessment** - It has been very quiet on the airport the past few months. The representative assigned has recorded very little, if any, activity at this time.

8. **Final public comments.** Discussion only, no action can be taken. No public comment.

9. **Adjourn.** The next meeting will be August 15, 2016. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM. Motion by Laurie Ricardi, and second by Blayne Osborn; unanimous vote.