

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes of the June 21, 2012

Regional Aviation Committee Meeting

Attendee	Affiliation
Michael McCartney - RAC Chairman	Philadelphia International Airport
Walker Allen	DVRPC
Joy Bose	Perkiomen Valley Airport
Daniel Bower	Philadelphia International Airport
Paul W. Comtois	ETC
Tom Defant	HNTB
Elaine Farashian	Aero Club of PA
Bobbie Geier	DelDOT Planning
Jeff Gilley	NBA
Gary Hudson	CCAAA
Jan Kopple	TransSystems
Lori Ledebottom	FAA
Gerard Leipfinger	NJ DOT Aeronautics
Elliott Lindgren	AECOM
Dave Metzler	DVRPC
Roger Moog	NJAA/ACP
David Nelson	Brandywine Airport
Reiner Pelzer	DVRPC
Robert Powell	Cecil County Airport
Jeff Price	QED/Meriden-Markham Airport
Mary Scheuermann	Parsons Brinckerhoff
William Sieg	PennDOT
Selina Shilad	Alliance for Aviation Across America
Fran Strouse	L.R. Kimball
Thomas Thatcher	L.R. Kimball
Mike Thompson	Philadelphia City Planning Commission
Tom Tomczyk	PennDOT BOA
Anne Tyska	CHPlanning
Lucy Walter	Mercer County, Board of Chosen Freeholders

1. Introductions

Committee Chairman Mr. McCartney opened the meeting at 10:15. He asked all in attendance to introduce themselves by name and affiliation.

2. Minutes of the of March 15, 2012 RAC Meeting

The minutes of the 03-15-2012 RAC meeting were passed without comments.

3. Status of Regional Airport Systems Implementation (2 Min Reports)

Delaware State Airports:

New Castle County

Ms. Geier, DelDot had nothing new or noteworthy to report. An airport representative was not present.

Summit

Ms. Geier had nothing new or noteworthy to report. An airport representative was not present.

New Jersey State Airports:

Camden County

Mr. Leipfinger, NJDOT reported the airport received a grant offer to widen runway 5/23 by 10 feet and install new lighting. The airport has not acted on the grant offer since receipt. A 45-day notification letter from the Department of Aeronautics urging them to make a decision to continue or terminate the grant was sent to the airport. No response has been received as of this date. Mr. Leipfinger mentions that the airport may not accept the grant offer due to a lack of matching funds.

Cross Keys

Fran Strouse, Kimball provided an update on the grant situation at the airport. All projects are currently on hold since the NJDOT grants have expired. The airport submitted grant extension requests, but have not received notice that grants will be extended. Mr. Leipfinger of NJDOT noted that his office met with the airport and their consultant on 4-23-2012 to discuss such grant issues. During the meetings NJDOT requested the consultant to prepare an update on project cost for the runway displacement and extension, the airfield lighting and NAVAIDS and the taxiway lights, beacon and PAPIs grants. An extension until 2/22/2013 was issued for the airfield lighting and NAVAIDS grant and the possibility is explored to combine this grant with the taxiway lights, beacon and PAPI grant.

The ALP update DVRPC is preparing has been on hold for various reasons. One was a NJDOT rendered 'stop work order' last year from April to June and another was Mr. Pelzer's expanded responsibilities after his Manager's retirement in June of

2011. Currently DVRPC is waiting on a no cost contract time extension from NJDOT since the original grant expired in December of 2011. Once the extension is in place DVRPC will continue finalizing the ALP study and close out the project shortly thereafter.

Flying W

NJDOT reported that the airport has no open projects with the State currently. No airport representative attended the meeting.

Red Lion

NJDOT reported that the airport has no open projects with the State currently. No airport representative attended the meeting.

South Jersey Regional

Mr. Leipfinger, NJDOT announced that a vendor for the Runway End Indicator Lights (REIL) has been selected. A notice to proceed will be send out as soon as a final funding approval is received. AECOM is in the process of preparing an electronic Airport Layout Plan, believed to be the first in the State if not in the Nation. A Jet A fuel farm is currently under design and a RFP for its installation is being prepared by the airport consultant. The RFP is expected to be released within the next month or two.

Spitfire Aerodrome

Mr. Leipfinger reported an ownership change occurred at the airport after some financial trouble causing the old owner to sign the airport over to a new private sponsor. Project time modifications that were approved under the old ownership for a new security gate and fencing as well as a fuel farm installation have to be newly executed with the new owner.

Salem County may be interested in the acquisition of the airport. However, no talks or negotiation have occurred at this point.

Trenton-Mercer

The airfield marking project completed mid June of this year. The EMAS project for runway ends 16 and 34 will be constructed simultaneously and are expected to complete within 120 days. The grant for such construction at the runway ends 6 and 24 has not been approved at this point and may not be completed until next year.

Trenton-Robbinsville

The agreement for runway crack repair including sealcoat and marking expired. The sponsor has not responded to a request from NJDOT to send in a grant time modification. A vendor for the installation of security cameras was selected; however, the sponsor has not yet signed the contract to start the project. A grant time modification for the Detention Basin Cleanout and Drainage project has been executed, but the sponsor has not made any progress in continuing with this project. Two FAA funded projects, the Stormwater Management Plan Study and the Environmental Assessment Study are complete. The NJDOT awaits receipt of the

final invoices for each study to closeout both projects.

Maryland State Airport:

Cecil County

The airport presented information to the County Association of Mayors (8 Towns) regarding the formation and recognition of an Autonomous Airport Authority. Clarification is being pursued concerning the potential liability of the Towns.

The Airport is still under consideration to become a helicopter base for a medevac unit. The Civil Air Patrol is in the final stages of contracting with the airport to base an aircraft at the airport. Fuel sales are reported to be slightly up as well as the latest aircraft operations.

Pennsylvania State Airports:

Brandywine

Repairs at the east end of the Taxiway have been completed including improvements of the RSA and TSA Phase II Construction. Permanent pavement markings are expected to be applied within the next two weeks. A new TUG was acquired and is operational. The project is complete and the airport is awaiting Bureau of Aviation (BOA) reimbursement.

Grants to improve the main terminal apron south and the design for the rehabilitation and relocation of the airfield lighting have been applied for. Press releases were issued and the airport is awaiting the tentative allocation letters from the BOA.

Chester County

The ominous south apron project started again. A previously designed helicopter path between the Sikorski helicopter facility and the airport has been revised. More details can be found on the airports website.

Doylestown

In anticipation to remove obstructions from the runway 5 approach, the airport is in the process of acquiring numerous property easements to accomplish this task. The following grants are anticipated to receive tentative allocation letters from BOA in the near future: Obstruction removal runway 5/23 approaches and transitional surfaces, Phase I: preliminary design, and the construction of bypass taxiways at the runway 5 and 23 ends.

Heritage Field

No representatives attended the meeting or submitted a project update to DVRPC.

New Garden

Parallel Taxiway A extension is complete. A final inspection was held with the BOA on November 30, 2011 and the resulting punch list items have been completed since. Project grant closeout is expected to occur during the month of July 2012.

A ground lease has been executed with Hangar Corporation to develop hangars at the east end of the airport. Design is about to start and construction is expected to begin later this summer. An easement acquisition along the Runway 6 end is being finalized. A grant is anticipated for the design of reconstructing and widening Runway 6/24. A press release was issued and the airport is awaiting a tentative allocation letter from the BOA.

Announcements: The Future Aviator's Summer Camp is expanding to two separate weeks in 2012. First offering is July 9-13; the second week is scheduled for August 13-17. Two separate weeks will include new activities, games and aviation adventures for children ages 8-15.

The airport will host the Festival of Flight Air and Car Show during the weekend of August 25 and 26.

Northeast Philadelphia

Notice to proceed with the crack seal project was received May 7, 2012.

Pennridge

No representatives attended the meeting or submitted a project update to DVRPC.

Perkiomen Valley

Skippack Township has not made the changes to the Airport Hazard Zoning Ordinance offered by DVRPC and Kimball as of yet. The BOA is pursuing this matter with the township.

Philadelphia International

Runway 9/27R rehab project is underway. Taxiway K extension was bit May 31. Design is 90 percent complete and design drawings are currently under review. The Project Management Team for the Capacity Enhancement project has been selected. CH2MHill won the bit.

Philadelphia Seaplane Base

No representatives attended the meeting or submitted a project update to DVRPC.

Pottstown Municipal

No representatives attended the meeting or submitted a project update to DVRPC.

Quakertown

The airport sponsor is pursuing easement acquisitions for seven (7) parcels under the runway 11 approach. The old underground fuel farm will be relocated and replace with a 10,000 gallon above ground AVGAS tank. Permits have been applied for. The Airport Authority has acquired two parcels under the runway 9 approach. On February 23rd the Governor released Capital Budget funding to acquire land to remove runway obstructions.

Vansant

New FBO, 'Bird of Paradise' is operating the airport. The Airport Authority continues to address airport obstructions.

Wings Field

A bid package has been prepared for the demolition of hangars 3 and 4 as well as the construction of new hangars. The new hangars are expected to be in service by January 1, 2013. Limited work items remain, including the application of a seal coat and the final pavement markings on the itinerant airport apron. Advanced Aircraft is the new FBO at Wings. They are successfully operating over the past six months. The FBO is expected to be a Cirrus authorized center providing training, maintenance and sales.

Heliports:

Penn's Landing Heliport

No representatives attended the meeting or submitted a project update to DVRPC.

Total RF Heliport

No representatives attended the meeting or submitted a project update to DVRPC.

Valley Forge Bicentennial Heliport

No representatives attended the meeting or submitted a project update to DVRPC.

Horsham Airways Heliport

No representatives attended the meeting or submitted a project update to DVRPC.

4. Special Presentations

E-ALP – Elliott Lindgren, AECOM

Mr. Lindgren presented AECOM's current efforts conducting several pilot e-ALP studies for the FAA including major commercial airports throughout the nation as well as smaller regional reliever airports such as South Jersey Regional Airport located within the DVRPC region. The presentation touched on a facet of topics from new FAA guidelines for e-ALP developments, the scoping of an e-ALP project, development of control plans, aerial and ground surveys to the cost of an initial e-ALP for a small airport like South Jersey Regional. If you are interested in learning more about e-ALP projects, please contact Elliott Lindgren at 215-207-1374 or Elliott.lindgren@aecom.com.

State of GA – Selena Shilad, Alliance for Aviation Across America

Ms. Shilad's presentation can be viewed at:

<http://www.dvRPC.org/ASP/committee/Presentations/RAC/2012-06.pdf>

5. Continuing Planning Activities

a. DVRPC /PA Aircraft Operations Counting Programs

David Metzler of DVRPC reported that he completed four out of eight counts for the Aircraft Operations Counting Program including four PA airports outside the DVRPC region. Parallel he is counting eight (8) airports within the DVRPC region and has three (2) out of eight (8) counts completed. Early indicators suggest another downturn in operations.

b. DVRPC/NJDOT AWOS Project Status

The AWOS program is proposed to be expanded to include installation of ceilometers (cloud ceiling height measurement instrument) at ten of the fifteen airports that received the AWOS II-AV system to date. The ten airports receiving ceilometers are: Blairstown, Central Jersey Regional, Greenwood Lake, Lakewood, Lincoln Park, Old Bridge, Princeton, Sky Manor, Solberg and Trenton-Robbinsville Airports.

c. DVRPC CASP 30 - Grant Application Status

Staff submitted final grant proposals to the FAA for two projects to be started during federal fiscal year 2013. (October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013). Proposals include the update of the 2035 Regional Aviation System Plan to year 2040 and the continuation of the DVRPC Aircraft Operations Counting Program at 6 airports in and outside of the DVRPC region. BOA requested a special count at Pocono Mountain Airport and the FAA requested counts at two NJ airports, Hammonton and Linden. These airports are scheduled to have their Airport Master or Layout Plan updated in the near future. The remaining three airports proposed to be counted are located within the DVRPC region and include Quakertown, Pennridge and Trenton-Robbinsville Airports.

6. Capital Programming Status

a. FAA Funding Program - Harrisburg ADO Status and Activities

Lori Ledebohm reported that the Harrisburg ADO has begun to issue high priority project grants mainly for primary entitlements. Discretionary grants have not yet trickled down. A new e-invoicing system is starting in August. Presentations introducing this new system will start next week for airport sponsors and their designated consultants.

b. PA Funding Program; Status and Activities

Tom Tomczyk reported that the Bureau will not issue grants until the state budget is passed. In addition the block grant from the FAA has not been

received as of yet further delaying the grant process.

c. New Jersey Funding Program Status and Activities

Half of the projects recommended for funding this year are approved the other half are still being evaluated.

d. Delaware Funding Program Status and Activities

The State submitted a scope for a planning grant to the FAA and is awaiting a response soon.

e. Maryland Funding Program Status and Activities

No representatives attended the meeting or submitted a program update to DVRPC.

7. Old Business

a. FAA NPIAS ASSET Study Status update

This study was highly anticipated in the GA community. It provides a fresh new look and lists many of the different roles General Aviation Airports play in the National Air Transportation System such as unscheduled passenger transportation, sport aviation, firefighting missions, critical organ donor deliveries and more.

The study categorizes air service facilities in four new groups:

National (84 Airports) - Supports the national and state system by providing communities with access to national and international markets in multiple states and throughout the United States.

DVRPC Airports included (4): New Castle County Airport, DE; Trenton-Mercer Airport, NJ; Chester County GO Carlson Airport, PA; Northeast Philadelphia Airport, PA.

Regional (467 Airports) – Supports regional economies by connecting communities to statewide and interstate markets.

DVRPC Airports included (4): Doylestown Airport, PA; Wings Field, PA; Heritage Field (former Pottstown-Limerick Airport), PA; Brandywine Airport, PA.

Local (1236 Airports) – Supplements local communities by providing access to intrastate and some interstate markets.

DVRPC Airports included (4): South Jersey Regional Airport, NJ; Pottstown-Municipal Airport, PA; Quakertown Airport, PA; New Garden Airport, PA.

Basic (668 Airports) – Supports general aviation activities such as emergency services, charter or critical passenger service, cargo operations, flight training, and personal flying.

DVRPC Airports included (0)

Not categorized (497) - These airports have different types of activity and characteristics and cannot be described as a clear group or category and require further study.

DVRPC Airports included (2): Summit Airport, DE; Trenton-Robbinsville, NJ.

These new categories are expected to provide a more consistent framework within which to evaluate proposed projects. For more information and to download or view the report please visit:
http://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/ga_study/.

b. Trenton-Mercer Airport's Strategic Land Development Study – Update

Staff updated the Board on the background of the study in previous meetings. DVRPC Aviation staff was invited to join a stakeholders group for this study. The group will meet for the first time on June 26, 2012. Mr. Pelzer will report orally on any significant developments that may have come out of this meeting during the June 28, 2012 DVRPC Board Meeting, if time allows.

8. New Business

a. Pennsylvania Aviation & Aerospace Advocacy Day, June 13, 2012
Legislative Updates: PA HB 1100 Fixed Wing Tax Exemption

Mr. Moog, representing the Aviation Council of Pennsylvania, reported on the current status of PA House Bill 1100 including the sales and service tax exemptions for fixed wing aircraft as well as its complimentary Senate Bill 1552 introduced by Senator David Argall.

PA HB 1100 Fixed Wing Tax Exemption

The House version of the bill to exempt fixed wing aircraft from sales tax in Pennsylvania passed by a vote of 167 to 19 on June 20th. The aviation community in Pennsylvania strongly supports the passage of the bill in hope to recapture businesses lost and newly attract aviation manufacturing and maintenance operation to the Commonwealth. Other states surrounding the Commonwealth have passed similar bills in years past and held an edge over PA attracting aviation businesses. The Pennsylvania aviation community is hopeful that a complementary bill will pass the Senate floor soon (see Senate Bill 1552 below) to make their State more competitive in attracting aviation businesses.

Senate Bill 1552 Fixed Wing Tax Exemption (complementary Bill to PA HB 1100) This bill was introduced by PA State Senator Argall to the PA State Senate. It passed the finance committee review and is now moved on to the appropriations committee for approval. Next step is to go up for vote to the senate floor.

b. Public Comment Period

No comments.