



## 1. Introductions

Committee Chairman Mr. Michael McCartney opened the September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 DVRPC Regional Aviation Committee meeting at 10:15AM. He asked all in attendance to introduce themselves by name and affiliation.

## 2. Minutes of the of June 21, 2012 RAC Meeting

The minutes of the June 21, 2012 RAC meeting were passed without comments.

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

### **Delaware Airports:**

#### New Castle County

An airport representative was not present.

#### Summit

An airport representative was not present.

### **New Jersey Airports:**

#### Camden County

Camden County reported the MEDIVAC contract is still in progress and not yet finalized.

#### Cross Keys

An airport representative was not present.

#### 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

South Jersey Regional reported that an Airport Plan will be completed in October. Their new jet fuel facility is in design phase and an RFP will be sent out shortly. The airport has been removing brush around the runway and will be finished in October.

Spitfire Aerodrome

Spitfire's new owner has been notified of requirements in submitting time modifications on fuel station, security gate, and fencing.

Trenton-Mercer

Trenton-Mercer reported their design runway will be completed by mid-October. A new grant for runway 6/24 has FAA approval, yet is still seeking NJDOT sanction. Security fencing reconstruction with FAA required 10 ft. will be constructed with approved grant.

Trenton-Robbinsville

A representative met with an installer of security cameras, and the project could begin as early as October.

**Maryland Airport:**

Cecil County

Cecil County reported their terminal building has been demolished and a new terminal has been completed. Tree trimming will be conducted in the fall and winter. They are still in negotiations for the Maryland State MEDIVAC, and they reported that their hangars are full. A discussion on feasibility of GPS over VOR approaches took place and is highlighted in the "Public Comments" section of New Business.

**Pennsylvania Airports:**

Brandywine

Brandywine Airport reported tacking their taxiway as well as their sidewalks. New projects include roadway widening, and storm water drainage.

Chester County

Chester County Airport reported participating with 11 other PA airports in National Aviation Day on August 19<sup>th</sup>, where 15 Boy Scouts earned their Aviation Badge. On September 11<sup>th</sup> the airport will begin taking bids on Phase 5 of their extension project. On October 6<sup>th</sup>, they will host a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House.

Doylestown

Doylestown reported PAPI's for two to three runways are certified, and they plan to rebuild the runway in two to three years. They also announced their new corporate hangar on the premises.

Heritage Field

An airport representative was not present.

New Garden

New Garden Airport held their 4<sup>th</sup> "Future Aviation Summer Camp", as well as their airshow—now in its 41<sup>st</sup> year. The airport performed in the black this past year, selling 3 hangars and completing their runway-crack restoration project. They plan a runway reconstruction project in the future.

Northeast Philadelphia

Northeast Philadelphia reported that their runway-crack repair has been completed for 6/24.

Pennridge

An airport representative was not present.

Perkiomen Valley

Perkiomen Valley Airport is preparing for its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary which will soon be approaching. The airport has joined the Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce, employs a full time mechanic at the airport, and has a skydiving center and drop zone.

Philadelphia International

Philadelphia International Airport reported there will be construction bids for taxiway K5, and that CE projects have started.

Philadelphia Seaplane Base

An airport representative was not present.

Pottstown Municipal

Pottstown Municipal Airport reported it has started a runway safety improvement project with pavement rehabilitation.

Quakertown

Quakertown Airport reported it has begun accepting bids on a new fuel system, and has a new FBO in Mike Campbell.

Vansant

Vansant Airport reported it has a new FBO in Bar Eisenhauer.

Wings Field

An airport representative was not present.

**Heliports:**

Penn's Landing Heliport

No representatives attended the meeting.

Total RF Heliport

No representatives attended the meeting.

Valley Forge Bicentennial Heliport

No representatives attended the meeting.

Horsham Airways Heliport

No representatives attended the meeting.

#### **4. Special Presentation**

Opportunities, Challenges, and Accomplishments – Fran Strouse, L.R. Kimball

Mr. Strouse presented several of L.R. Kimball's recent projects for airports in the DVRPC region with a focus on providing examples of successful projects as well as discussion on methods of accomplishing projects in times of limited funding. The presentation included the following airports: Cross Keys Airport, Camden County Airport, Spitfire Aerodrome, Quakertown Airport, Doylestown Airport, Wings Field, Brandywine Airport, New Garden Flying Field, Perkiomen Valley Airport, and Cecil County Airport.

## **5. Continuing Planning Activities**

a. DVRPC /PA Aircraft Operations Counting Programs

David Metzler of DVRPC reported that he completed counts for the 2011/2012 Aircraft Operations Counting Program. The following year's counts have started and four out of eight counts have been completed. Mr. Metzler is counting in parallel four airports outside the DVRPC region in Northern Pennsylvania, and has six out of eight counts completed. Early indicators suggest another downturn in flight operations.

b. DVRPC/NJDOT AWOS Project Status

DVRPC has received contract modifications and started work order for Spitfire and Solberg installations. Site preparations are currently being scheduled

The installation of 10 ceilometers will provide an AWOS III system, but will not be on national weather system.

Blairstown, Greenwood Lane, Lincoln Park, Cross Keys, Solberg, Trenton-ROB, Sky Manor, Lakewood, Hammonton airports are to follow.

c. DVRPC CASP 30 - Grant Application Status

DVRPC has received the contract offer in June/July with a response deadline September 7th. The Scope of Work is a continuation of the flight operations counting program at six non-towered airports, and for the 2040 RASP (Regional Airports System Plan) update.

The aircraft flight operations counting program will initiate counting at 3 airports outside the DVRPC region: Poconos Pa, Linden NJ, Hammonton NJ (all having master plan or ALP updates on the horizon); and 3 DVRPC airports from our regular cycle of counts: Quakertown UKT and Pennridge CZK in PA, and Trenton-Robbinsville N87 in NJ.

## **6. Capital Programming Status**

a. FAA Funding Program - Harrisburg ADO Status and Activities

The reauthorization, signed February 4, 2012, represents stability and predictability for AIP, and allows for multi-year grants. AIP is cut by \$165 million from \$3.5 to 3.35 billion; other federal government programs suffered deeper cuts; \$155 million was cut to discretionary; \$70 million was cut in CSSN grants (capacity, safety, security, noise); the federal share has dropped from 95/5 to 90/10; while the 95% federal share is retained by EAS airports in economically distressed area.

For environmental changes, recycling planning was made eligible for funds, environmental management now has a part of the system planning master plan, and there is a new program for zero emission vehicles.

b. PA Funding Program; Status and Activities  
Block grant PA TA's have been issued.

- c. New Jersey Funding Program Status and Activities  
In FY11, 12 of 12 grants were recommended, and 4 approved. Only 1 (Trenton Mercer) is in the DVRPC region. The FY12 grants are still in process.
- d. Delaware Funding Program Status and Activities  
Delaware State University mentioned using FHWA to hire 2 interns to do acoustical counting.

## **7. Old Business**

- a. PA Aviation & Aerospace Conference, September 12-14, 2012

The conference had two tracks presented to the attendees to choose to follow: policy and planning, or airports and technical discussions were held on the individual events. The main theme was the elimination of the state sales tax for fixed wing aircraft expenditures. Representative Peter Daley urged everyone to call their senator and gain their support for passage of SB 1552 which is sponsored by State Senator David Argall.

- b. PA Aviation Advisory Council Special Task Force meeting, August 30, 2012

The task force discussed the PENNDOT block grant and application grant process based on the PENNDOT survey to figure out how to make struggling airports comply better. They agreed that the PENNDOT process is actually good, but struggling airports need extra help—and PENNDOT has made efforts, but some airports do not respond. Ways to improve are still being sought for this. Fran Strouse and Rick Holes from Kimball brought up issues of lapsing funding due to the small window between funding allocation (to the letter) and time needed to start construction, They claim in some cases it is just impossible to get to bid. The TA letter needs to be a stronger commitment from PENNDOT as it is today so airports can use it to get match money. The customer service group 7 years ago came up with 17 recommendations, and 16 of 17 were implemented.

- c. PA Aviation Advisory Council meeting, September 19, 2012

Senator Wozniak was in attendance. There are 9 days left in legislative session: he doesn't think much will happen after mentioning HB 1100/SB1552. Representative Peter Daley is pushing HB 1100 onto the Senate floor. Wozniak was very receptive and will check on bills. EDIR PUB 405 Desk reference available online.

Bryan Rodgers commented on PA grant process asking if we are looking at how projects are selected for funding. Bob Shaffer asked to look at processes used on surface transportation.

- d. NJ Trenton-Mercer Airport's Strategic Land Development Stake holder Meeting, June 26, 2012

The mayor, economic development group, CITIREN Free Holder, MPO, airline, and the airport attended. There was a strong consensus that this plan is needed, which was not necessarily the case in any previous attempts to integrate airport growth with the community developer. The second meeting will be next Tuesday at the airport.

## 8. New Business

### a. Class B PHL Airspace Redesign

*Federal regulations were published July 31, 2012; comments are being accepted until October 1; call 202.366.9826, visit online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), or for further information call Paul Gallant FAA 202.267.8783.*

*Expanded cutout northeast of PHL to include P72 and Cooper Hospital; direct route from Pottstown to Philadelphia is possible almost entirely outside Class B, with only a small correction to the east then aircraft will stay out entirely; LOM cutout not granted due to approach route needed for DHL, will cut Class B ceiling from 3000 feet to 2000 feet; 1600 foot Roxborough towers are not a concern since they are 9.5 miles away.*

*As for the N57 New Garden cut out to the east to allow glider operations, it cannot be granted because it will not provide a PHL controller with enough Class B airspace to keep aircraft in. There is a corridor allowing GAVFR to navigate from West or Northwest to South Jersey without going into class B.*

### b. Public Comment Period:

Robert Powell bought up the issue of losing many of our VOR navigation facilities and discussed the alternative use of GPS receivers and to equip the GA fleet as a mandate. This discussion covered both general navigation and airport approved approaches with potential costs. Additionally, with the loss of ADF navigation facilities, through Government decommissioning, this additional loss magnifies the above issues. Bob Powell stated that it is time for our based fleet of aircraft to get equipped to deal with this reality.

Quakertown Airport demonstrated how it used Federal Stimulus money by breaking up a project that at the time was too costly from RFPs into 2 sections, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> section was waiting and "literally shovel-ready" which helped get the stimulus funding.

Kathleen Lambert (previous intern at DVRPC) raised a question about land banking and its uses.

Privately owned reliever airports were discussed in accordance with the AIP program and how to sell to the public, yet still make a profit.

**9. Attendance**

Attendee	Affiliation
Michael McCartney, RAC Chairman	Philadelphia International Airport
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	DeIDOT Planning
Jeff Gilley	NBAA
Gary Hudson	CCAAA
Jan Kopple	TransSystems
Lori Ledebom	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