



MINUTES (draft)

June 18, 2015

1. Call to Order

Chair Michael McCartney opened the June 18, 2015 DVRPC Regional Aviation Committee meeting at 11:11 am.

2. Introductions

Mr. McCartney asked all in attendance to introduce themselves by name and affiliation. Ted Dahlburg of DVRPC thanked Wings Field and Hank Stoebenau for hosting the quarterly meeting.

3. Mr. McCartney introduced Hank Stoebenau of Wings Field Preservation Association. Mr. Stoebenau explained that the land for Wings Airfield was purchased from farmers in 1929 and became Wings Airfield in 1930. The Philadelphia Aviation Country Club at Wings was started in 1932 and the Aviation Association started there.

Regis de Ramel, CEO of FlyAdvanced, FBO at Wings Field, explained that FlyAdvanced took over the management contract in 2011. Once they took over operations, they decided to tear down the old hangars and put up new ones. They started charter service in 2013 and have been going ever since. Recently they bought the FBO out of Wilmington, Delaware because they wanted to be able to service everyone; including new and experienced pilots. FlyAdvanced is going through some reorganization and is trying to get the community involved so they can see everything that's taking place. Stratus Aviation Foundation was started at Wings in an effort to educate kids and get them interested in aviation and hopefully develop more pilots. The Airfield has plans to expand and put in a restaurant and other amenities. The two new hangars are sold out and rehabbing is taking place on a few older hangars. Some current tenants are Angel Flight, Stratus Aviation Foundation, and Penn Star.

4. Minutes of the March 19, 2015 RAC Meeting were approved as distributed.
5. Status of Regional Airports (2 Minute Reports):
 - A. Pennsylvania:
 - a. **Brandywine:**
 1. Obstruction Removal. The Airport is progressing with the removal of tree obstruction to its runway approaches as identified in the Bureau of Aviation's Airport licensing and 5010 inspection. With the Township sending out letters to affected property owners as part of its enacted Airport Hazard Zoning Ordinance, the Airport is obtaining property owner cooperation.
 2. The Airport has trimmed or cut down approximately 85 trees to date, mostly west of the Airport. The Airport will continue to work with property owners to complete tree trimming west of the Airport.
 3. Approximately 2200 ft. west of the Runway 9, the Airport has trees that will be removed when a new intersection, road widening project is completed. This project is in conjunction with the sale of property for a new home subdivision. If the sale is not completed within the next few months, the Airport will continue with its efforts to have trees trimmed.
 4. Trees on the southeast corner of the Airport in the transitional surface have been trimmed. Trees east and northeast of Runway 27 will be trimmed this spring.
 5. The airport is conducting an LPV Approach Feasibility Study. This project is for the completion of a Study Report evaluating the requirements and the potential for Runway 9-27 to facilitate a vertically guided approach maintaining the 30:1 GQS standard. Field work was delayed over the winter due to weather. Now that field monument data has been obtained, there have been some delays in getting the project approved in AGIS. After discussion with NGS, it was determined that the project would need to be re-set up in AGIS; therefore, a new project has been setup Brandywine is waiting for re-approval of the Statement of Work by the FAA to proceed with re-uploading the Survey Quality Control Plan for approval by NGS. The American Helicopter Museum & Education Center is hosting Fatherfest this weekend with helicopter rides, classic car and Motorcycle shows, remote control helicopter shows, and a paper airplane contest. The anticipated grant for the airport is for Mitigating Approach Obstructions RW 9-27, Phase I: Develop Mitigation Plan - \$166,666.
 - b. **Chester County:** The Airport sent a letter to the FAA because of concerns about decommissioning the airport. Minor repairs are taking place on taxiway A. They are in the first phase of getting a control tower. They will be meeting to discuss historical traffic data and issues.

c. Doylestown

1. The authority is working to acquire the final easements for the first phase of obstruction removal and will be removing tree obstructions in the Runway 5 in fall 2015. The authority is working on acquiring easements for the remainder of the obstruction removal and, if it works out, may bid all of the work at one time. The Authority has taken ownership of the Swayze property, an adjacent property within the Airport's runway protection to remove approach obstructions using Capital Budget money. The Authority is working on getting an obstruction removal project out to bid. That would be around \$100,000 and one more easement is needed.
2. Anticipated grants for the airport are: Construct Bypass Taxiways on R/W 5 and 23 Ends - \$388,888; Mitigate Obstructions, Phase II: Removal - \$52,778.

d. New Garden Flying Field

1. Runway widening and reconstruction work is ongoing and is in Phase 2. The NPDES and Erosion & Sedimentation Control Permit was received on March 9, 2015. The Project has been broken up into Base Bid and Seven (7) Add-Alternates for maximum funding flexibility. Bids for the project were opened on May 22, 2015 and the apparent lower bidder was Daisy Construction Company with a Base Bid amount of \$1,255,563.25 and a total Bid of \$6,731,039.00 which was 2.6% under, the engineers' estimate. All necessary paperwork has been submitted to the BOA and onto the FAA for their review and determination on discretionary funding on this vital project for the airport. The Airport is also looking forward to moving ahead on this project for many reasons including the recent news of the planned decommissioning of Modena VOR. This poses many operational impacts on the Airport because it only has a VOR approach however with the planned widening the Airport would have the ability to go after a LPV Approach.
2. The Airport applied to the Multimodal Transportation Fund for Hangar Development. On October 28th, Governor Corbett announced that the Airport was awarded \$979,431 (70% State funding) for site preparation including drainage, taxiway/apron paving, stormwater management, and the construction of seven individual t-hangars and two box hangars.

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Hangar development bid process is moving forward. Bids have been open for both hangar procurement and site construction. The airport is looking forward to moving forward on construction soon.

3. Hangar painting continues this summer. The Airport is gearing up to start painting another row of its t- hangars and making repairs and upgrades to hangar doors.
4. Grants are anticipated for: Reconstruction and Widening of Runway 6-24, Phase III: Construction - \$7,546,842.00; Multimodal Transportation Fund - Hangar Development - \$979,431
5. New Garden will be hosting the Chester County Balloon Festival this weekend, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. This weekend's event will include 89 vendors, helicopter rides, airplane rides, Future Aviators Kid Zone, live bands, wine and beer garden, Saturday night Fireworks and of course lots of hot air balloons. They are planning for and anticipating 10,000 plus people in attendance.
6. July 6th-10th will be the first week of the Future Aviators Summer Camp. There are over 80 campers registered just for July. This year there are kids coming from Virginia, California, Kentucky, and of course Pennsylvania. August camp enrollment is also looking very good for this year which is a great sign that aviation interest is alive in the youth of today.

The Festival of Flight Air and Car Show is scheduled for August 22 and 23. This year they will have on site the Lockheed Electra used in the filming of Amelia, several warbirds, antique and classic aircraft, aerobatic displays, vendors and more.

September 11-13 will be the Eastern PA Giant Scale R/C Air meet at New Garden Flying Field.

e. **Northeast Philadelphia:**

1. The airport is working on substation upgrades and has plans for emergency repairs on the runways.

f. **Pennridge:** The airport was owned by a family and was private but not well-marketed. They are now trying to improve the airport and are looking at the surrounding area for development.

g. **Perkiomen Valley:** There are five airplanes that are flyable and one of the T hangars needs a roof. The airport is open but needs improvement and has not been sold yet.

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- h. **Philadelphia International:** The runway extension project is moving forward and they are currently receiving bids. Phase 2 of the restroom improvements is underway in the D, E, and F concourses. The security bollards are in process as well as decorative sleeves.
- i. **Pottstown Municipal:** The airport is working on runway rehabilitation and expects to wrap that up in the summer.
- j. **Quakertown**
 - 1. An obstruction removal and lighting project is underway. Work is continuing on the Runway 11 Obstruction Removal. The Contractor is approximately 60 days into the 90-day contract. The Authority is working on the next two phases of obstruction removal. The Authority is hoping to bid the next phase of the Runway obstruction removal in the fall and another one next spring. The one in the fall will be around \$50k and the one in the Spring 2016 will be around \$200k.

Anticipated grants are:

Mitigate RW 29 Approach Obstructions, Ph IIa: Acquire Easements and Removal - \$166,666

Mitigate RW 29 Approach Obstructions, Phase IIb: Removal - \$277,778

Rehabilitate and Expand Terminal Apron, Ph I: Design - \$166,666

k. **Vansant: No Report.**

- l. **Wings Field:** Obstruction Removal. WFPA is progressing with obstruction removal; cutting down several trees at both ends and installing obstruction lighting, all in an effort to regain instrument night minimums.

Rehabilitate GA Terminal Apron) Phase I : Final Design and Bidding. A Grant Amendment for inclusion of these services in the original Preliminary Design Grant was approved by the BOA on January 9, 2015. The Final Plans and Specifications were submitted to the BOA for approval on February 25, 2015 and review comments were received from the BOA on March 6, 2015 for incorporation into the As-Bid Documents. The Construction Safety Phasing Plan (CSPP) was submitted to the BOA for review and filing of the 7460 on March 4, 2015. The Land Development Waiver request was approved by Whitpain Township on March 11, 2015 and the NPDES Amendment Request and Erosion & Sedimentation Control Permit Packages were submitted to the Montgomery County Conservation District on March 6, 2015 for review and approval. Bids were received on 06/02/15 and the apparent low bidder was Tony DePaul & Son with a Base Bid amount of \$444,242.30 and a total Bid of

\$1,419,665.80 for Base Bid + Add Alternates 1 and 2. The total Bid amount was 16.35% below the Engineer Estimate.

Anticipated grants are:

Rehabilitate GA Terminal Apron, Phases II & III: Construction - \$1,619,665.80

m. **Penn's Landing Heliport:** The heliport is repairing and redesigning the seawall.

B. New Jersey:

- a. **Camden County:** No new projects were reported.
- b. **Cross Keys:** Three grants were approved for runway extension, taxiway installation, and more.
- c. **Flying W:** No new projects were reported.
- d. **Red Lion:** No new projects were reported.
- e. **South Jersey Regional:** Received grants for their Master plan update, obstruction removal and main tie down apron.
- f. **Spitfire Aerodrome:** No new projects were reported.
- g. **Trenton-Mercer:** Taxiway rehabilitation is done and security fence improvements are underway.
- h. **Trenton-Robbinsville:** Efforts are being made to sell the airport.

C. Delaware:

- a. **New Castle/Wilmington:** The airport is building a new taxiway and remapping their commercial airline source for a commercial fuel farm. Frontier airlines may start running service again in the fall of this year. The airport held its first Delaware Business Association Meeting last night and it was very successful.
- b. **Summit:** No new projects were reported.

D. Maryland:

- a. **Cecil County:** An airport representative was not present.

6. DVRPC Planning Activities

A. Dave Metzler discussed the ongoing aircraft Flight Operations Counting program. Final reports from the 2013/4 program have been published for the following airports: Pennridge, Quakertown, and Trenton-Robbinsville; and Hammonton Municipal, Linden, and Pocono Mountains Municipal.

The data acquisition phase of the 2014 grant has been completed for: Flying W and South Jersey Regional airports in New Jersey; New Garden, Chester County and Brandywine airports in Pennsylvania; and Summit Airpark in Delaware. The next project phase is to compile the final report.

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During the past winter season, DVRPC also started the 2015 counting program with the counting of: Cross Keys airport in NJ and Doylestown, Wings Field, Pottstown Municipal and Heritage Field in Pennsylvania.

Paul Carafides discussed the DVRPC/NJDOT AWOS Program. All AWOS and ceilometer installations are complete.

7. Capital Funding Program Status

- A. FAA discretionary funding has become available and July 2 is the deadline for applications. Pennsylvania block grant applications are due in to the FAA soon.
- B. Pennsylvania. The Multimodal Fund is open for applications until July 31.
- C. New Jersey. The FAA issued a grant for a pavement study and economic impact study and it is 90% completed. FY15 grant applications were received and approved
- D. Delaware. No Delaware DOT representative present.
- E. Maryland. No MDOT representative present.

8. Old Business

- A. Nothing to report.

9. New Business

- A. DVRPC Deputy Executive Director John Ward noted that DVRPC would be holding a 50th Anniversary event on June 30 and invited RAC members to attend.
- B. Wings of Freedom is still operational. September 11 there will be a golf outing at Blue Bell Country Club and August 19 is National Aviation Day at the Airport. The first Saturday in October will be the First Flying Day with antique cars and vendors.

10. Special guest, Leslie Richards, Secretary of Transportation, PennDOT, provided remarks about transportation in Pennsylvania and the importance of aviation.

Dimitri Vassiliou, Wings Air Field's Student Mentoring Program, presented information and remarks about the program and provided a demonstration of the drones about which the students are learning.

11. Announcements/ Adjournment

Ted Dahlburg, DVRPC, announced that the next RAC meeting will take place on September 17 in DVRPC's Main Conference Room.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m.

Attendance

Name	Affiliation
Abbas, Ali	Stratus Aviation
Abbas, Noah	Stratus Aviation
Binder, Michael	Sikorsky-Coatesville
Brink, Robert	Pennridge Airport
Carafides, Paul	DVRPC
Casavores-Mack, Naid	Stratus Aviation
Cavanaugh, David	Land Concepts
Checchio, Robert	Mid-Atlantic Aviation Coalition
Collier, Richard	Land Concepts
Crenny, Kiera	Stratus Aviation
Curry, Jean	Pennridge Airport
Dahlburg, Ted	DVRPC
De Ramel, Regis	Fly Advanced
Desmond, Josh	Heritage Field
Elkis, Patty	DVRPC
Farashian, Elaine	Aero Club of PA
Ferullo, Jonathan	DVRPC
Gerhart, Brian	FAA HAR ADO
Harbist, Ron	NJ DOT Aeronautics
Hudson, Gary	Chester County Airport
Hurwitz, Mark	DVHAA
Johnson, Anthony	Partnership TIMA
Jordan, Chris	KPTW
Kassab, John	KOQN
Kopple, Jan	Kopple AIA
Looloian, Jim	Brandywine
Luczak, Gary	TranSystems
McCartney, Michael	Philadelphia International Airport
Metzler, David	DVRPC
Mininger, John	Bucks County Airport Authority
Narke, Joe	UIF
Neil, Charles D.	Summit Aviation
Nelson, David	Brandywine
Richards, Leslie	PennDOT Secretary
Schultz, Mike	Stratus Aviation
Sklar, Sam	DVRPC
Stoddard, Deanna	McFarland Johnson
Stoebenau, Hank	Wings Field
Strouse, Fran	L.R. Kimball

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Tomczyk, Bradley
Tomczyk, Tom
Vassiliou, Dimitri
Ward, John
Williams, Rob

Student
PennDOT, BOA
Stratus Aviation
DVRPC
Boeing-Ridley Park