



# AIRPORTS COMMITTEE

**March 9, 2015**

**10:30 A.M.**

**550 Sally Ride Drive, Concord**

Supervisor Karen Mitchoff, Chair  
Supervisor Mary N. Piepho, Vice Chair

## Agenda Items:

Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

**Present:** Karen Mitchoff, Chair  
Mary N. Piepho, Vice Chair

**Staff Present:** Krystal Hinojosa, Chief of Staff District 4  
Tomi Riley, Chief of Staff District 3  
Julie Bueren, Director of Public Works  
Steve Kowalewski, Deputy Director of Public Works  
Keith Freitas, Director of Airports  
Beth Lee, Assistant Director of Airports

### 1. Introductions

2.

Review and Approve record of meeting for March 9, 2015.

**AYE:** Chair Karen Mitchoff, Vice Chair Mary N. Piepho

**Passed**

### 3. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).

Tom Weber gave an update on the Sustainable Farm project, which is sponsored by the Contra Costa Sanitary District. Safety is a top priority for the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC). The commission discussed the need to monitor population density and bird strikes. The Department of Agriculture performed a study on bird counts and will provide a good baseline. There will be restrictions on what crops can be grown and where they can be grown. The ALUC will meet again this month and will likely come to a decision.

4.

**RECEIVE** update from the Aviation Advisory Committee

Mike Bruno, Chair of the AAC, gave a brief report of the items being discussed by the AAC:

- The AAC suggested Airports staff to write and send a letter to other airports encouraging their pilots to perform aerobatic flight operations away from the Byron/Brentwood communities.
- Economic development activities include new sign, new website, and new Airport video.
- Other issues discussed by the AAC include Airport security issues, budget, and noise statistics.

5. This is the first video module in a planned, larger series designed to provide a broad based approach to accomplish many long-term goals such as continuing public education/awareness and tenant/business retention and activity. The second video will focus on learning to fly. The focus and mission of the video series is to make the airports a place where people/businesses want to come for work, play and invest.

The final video will be played for the Airport Committee.

- Airport staff played the new video
- Keith Freitas reported that there will be a series of videos to come that will highlight specific areas of interest about aviation and the Airports.
- Videos will be on the Airport Website and YouTube.
- Supervisor Mitchoff recommended outreach to the County economic development staff and the local Chambers of Commerce to make them aware of the video.

AYE: Chair Karen Mitchoff, Vice Chair Mary N. Piepho  
Passed

6. RECEIVE and ACCEPT report on the final fiscal year 2013/14 budget

Keith Freitas reported:

- Airport Enterprise Fund - The Airports met target/revenue goal--final was 101%. Expenditures were below target at 80%, which was primarily due to a shortage in staffing that is being resolved.
- Mariposa Fund - Byron General Plan Amendment & associated environmental review implementation timeline was questioned. There has been a change of Department of Conservation and Development (DCD) staff for this project. Discussion of project timeline will be on the next agenda.

7. REVIEW and DISCUSS Airport Development and Business Interest

Keith Freitas reported:

- There are rumors of potential business consolidations or mergers.
- The question of a Vietnam Helicopter Museum at Buchanan Airport was raised. There are a lot of funding, use, and other issues that would need to be addressed before such a use can be

considered.

## 8. REVIEW and DISCUSS airfield construction projects

Keith Freitas reported that there are two significant projects which are expected to be completed this year:

- Construction projects at Bryon includes pavement reconstruction and new signage. This is a \$1M project that is FAA fundable up to 90%. Airports staff will be submitting a grant application once the construction bid process is completed. The remaining funds will be provided by Caltrans grant, Airport Enterprise Fund, and/or Mariposa Community Benefit Fund.
- Buchanan is scheduled to do repairs on 7 taxilanes between the East Ramp Hangars. This is an estimated \$1.4M project and is FAA eligible, but not an FAA priority. The reconstruction cost will be fully funded by the Airport Enterprise Fund.

## 9. REVIEW and DISCUSS Airport Economic Development and Incentive Program

Beth Lee gave an overview of the Airport's economic development efforts:

- The Airports video
- Monthly meetings with community members and stakeholders to discuss an economic development incentive programs to attract and retain tenants and businesses at both airports.
- Byron priorities are transportation improvements, enhancements to Airport facilities (like Jet A), and extension of runway.
- Buchanan priorities are creating a "heart" for the Airport such as signage improvements, terminal building and aesthetic improvements.
- System-wide improvements include improving communications (like social media) and website.

Steve Kowalewski reviewed the Tri-Link Airport connector project:

- The project development process includes a Feasibility Study, Project Study Report (PSR), Environmental Report, Project Report and Environmental Document. The Feasibility Study has moved into the Project Study Report process. The Project Report and Environmental Document will identify a preferred development alternative and determine how to implement it.
- Supervisor Piepho commented that the Airport connector project will greatly benefit the greater Byron community.

## 10. Continue to review this issue with the members of the Aviation Advisory Committee (AAC) to develop the most appropriate short and long term strategy.

Keith reported that there have been some metal/copper wire thefts and other security concerns in the last 60 days:

- Business owners, Airport staff, and Sheriff's department met to discuss issues and strategize.
- Sheriff has increased patrols and asked staff to write reports along John Glenn Drive when

possible to increase presence.

- Airport staff will provide more night shift presence for the next two months and educate tenants to reduce crimes of opportunity.
- Researching available technology and contract security opportunities.
- Supervisor Piepho suggested Airports staff get in contact with the District Attorney, Mark Peterson, because he is prosecuting parties who supply and/or are part of the market chain for stolen items. She also recommended contacting recycling centers to inquire if they have received any of our stolen materials.
- Supervisor Mitchoff requested update on Airport security at the next meeting and how the measures have impacted security and if there is a need for additional measures.

11. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 8, 2015.

12. Adjourn

---

*The Airports Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend Airports Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 96 hours before the meeting.*

---

*Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Airports Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 550 Sally Ride Drive, Concord, during normal business hours.*

---

*Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.*

---

For Additional Information Contact:

Keith Freitas, Committee Staff  
Phone (925) 681-4200, Fax (925) 646-5731  
keith.freitas@airport.cccounty.us