

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Aviation Advisory Committee

2019 Annual Report

Advisory Board Meeting Time/Location: 10:00am on the 2nd Thursday of every one (1) month at either Buchanan Field or Byron Airport.

Advisory Body Chair: Maurice Gunderson

Airport Staff: Keith Freitas/Beth Lee/Russell Milburn

Activities

- Monthly review of noise statistics, operations report, airport development projects, airfield updates
- Discussions of airport projects and programs to disseminate information and solicit input from members and public
- Discussions of issues facing the airports and airport community
- Input to the Airports Director, Airport Committee, and Board of Supervisors on issues affecting the Contra Costa County Airports and surrounding communities
- Participation in community outreach efforts
- Quarterly review of the Airports' year to date and end of year forecast financial reports
- Annual review of input on the Part 150 Noise Mitigation recommendations

Accomplishments

Discussed and advised on the following:

- Airport administration activities to enhance airport economic development including:
 - Progress on updating the Byron General Plan Amendment to bring conformity between the adopted Airport Master Plan and County General Plan relative to allowable uses at both Airports
 - Expansion of Skyview Aviation at Byron Airport. Skyview has operated an FBO and flight school at Tracy Airport for many years and has recently leased a hangar at Byron to establish an aircraft repair and service operation. If business continues, Skyview plans to expand the Byron operation to become a full-service FBO. A full-service FBO will be a considerable enhancement to the services offered at Byron.
 - Creation of the Bay Area Aviation Technology Test Site (BAATTS) initiative. This initiative was started by airport management to attract new aviation technology

startups to both airports. The proximity of these airports to Silicon Valley and San Francisco has created a significant opportunity to serve as preferred engineering, development, and test sites, with the ultimate goal of growing to production and operation bases, with corresponding potential for new jobs on both the Buchanan and Byron communities. Several potential new BAATTS tenants are now in discussion. Preliminary plans are being made to develop additional facilities at Byron. The AAC strongly and enthusiastically supports the BAATTS initiative.

- Commercial Development of Non-Aviation Sites at Buchanan Field. Increasing development is an important continuing item that is significant to the Airport Enterprise Fund. Several undeveloped parcels, which are designated for non-aviation use, are part of the Buchanan Field and Byron Airport properties. These include sites at the corners of Marsh Drive and Solano Way, and Marsh Drive and Sally Ride Drive, as well as other sites not needed for aviation use. Airport staff has requested releases from the FAA to allow for non-aviation development of these sites and has also solicited proposals for commercial or light industrial development of these sites. The several developers gave presentations at the April AAC meeting, and the AAC expressed strong support for the projects. Each of these projects will contribute to the Enterprise Fund and will provide jobs and other economic benefits to the area surrounding Buchanan Field and Byron Airport.
- Byron Airport Public Viewing Plaza - A potential site was tentatively identified, adjacent to the Byron operations office. The AAC requested that some basic information be gathered before a recommendation would be made. This would include determining interest from local schools and other youth groups, evaluation of the potential site, development of a preliminary design sufficient for estimating costs, and scoping of cash and in-kind donations that might be available. AAC Member Ron Reagan has been spearheading this effort and expects to report at an AAC meeting in the near future.
- Airport noise impact on communities including:
 - Addressing various Buchanan Field & Byron noise complaints through phone and in-person meetings between residents and airport staff and/or AAC members.
 - Reminding pilots training after appropriate hours of the airports' noise stipulations, even if those pilots are coming from other airports.
- Resolution (No. 2018/524) – Establishing new rates and charges for Buchanan Field and Byron Airports effective January 1, 2019 reduced some of the hanger/tie-down fees to increase the attraction of Contra Costa County's airports for pilot use and compete with other surrounding airports that have lower fees.
- Buchanan Field and Byron Airport projects including:
 - Security enhancements to both Airports which include:
New signage and speaking engagements on gate etiquette to prevent piggy-backing of cars into restricted airport areas without proper authorization.

- Encouraged AAC members and Board of Supervisors, as well as the general public to be more involved with Contra Costa County Airports and aviation communities.
- Updated the Contra Costa County Airports website and launched a Facebook page to help increase connection between the community and both airports events, operations, and information.

Attendance/Representation

- AAC is composed of members representing each of the supervisorial districts, the cities of Concord and Pleasant Hill, the Airport Business Association, community of Pacheco, surrounding communities of Byron Airport (Brentwood, Byron, Knightsen, Discovery Bay), and three at large positions for a total of 13 members
- Quorums have been achieved with good participation from members for 2019
- The AAC is a diverse group of aviation professionals, retired executives, members of the public, consultants, and educators. There is a balanced mix of pilots and non-pilots.
- Several committee members are also involved in other county and city advisory bodies, committees, and commissions

Current AAC member roster is as follows:

<u>AAC Members</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>2019 Appointment Status</u>	<u>Term Expiration Date</u>
Dale Roberts	District I	Recruiting	2/29/2020
Cody Moore	Airport Business Association		2/28/2022
Eric Meinbress	Member at large	Recruiting	2/29/2020
Ronald Reagan	District III	Reappointed	2/28/2021
Derek Mims	City of Pleasant Hill	Reappointed	2/28/2021
Russell Roe	District V	Recruiting	2/29/2020
Keith McMahon	City of Concord		2/28/2022
Roger Bass	District II	Reappointed	2/28/2021
Maurice Gunderson	Member at large	Reappointed	2/28/2021
Tom Weber	District IV	Recruiting	2/29/2020
Emily Barnett	Member at large	Reappointed	2/28/2022
Donna Dietrich	Pacheco Neighbor		2/28/2021
Steven Starratt	Byron Neighbor		2/28/2021

Current AAC Officers:

<u>AAC Member</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Election Status</u>
Maurice Gunderson	Chair	Elected
Tom Weber	Vice-Chair	Elected
Emily Barnett	Secretary	Elected

Training/Certification

- It is mandatory for all Committee members to complete County training regarding the Ralph M. Brown Act and the County's Better Government Ordinance, and complete the County's Ethics Orientation within 90 days of the appointment. All members have completed training.

Proposed Objectives for 2020

- Continue to work with the County in working with the contractor assigned to the Byron Airport General Plan Amendment to adhere to project milestones with deadlines to enforce expedited completion of the commissioned study and other efforts to improve growth, infrastructure and road access at Byron Airport
- Continue to advise and review the EDIP program including promoting progress on EDIP and strategic priority projects
- Continue to advise, monitor, and review the Buchanan Field and Byron Airports' construction and maintenance projects
- Continue to advise, monitor, and review activities and incidents impacting airport security
- Continue to grow and develop community and tenant outreach efforts for both airports
- Continue to advise, monitor, and review the Airports' budget, noise statistics, and overall operations
- Continue to work with the surrounding communities regarding noise concerns and other aviation-related issues
- Continue regular discussions with Airport Staff on various airport developments (current and future), projects and issues, as well as disseminate information and offer recommendations
- Continue to advise Airport Staff on the design of the new Buchanan Airport Terminal
- Continue to provide the general public an open forum for discussions on aviation-related matters

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c: Keith Freitas, Director of Airports
Beth Lee, Assistant Director of Airports-Administration
Russell Milburn, Assistant Director of Airports-Operations
Maurice Gunderson, AAC Chair
Tom Weber, AAC Vice-Chair
Emily Barnett, AAC Secretary