

METROPOLITAN AIRPORTS COMMISSION
ANOKA COUNTY-BLAINE AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, 17 June 2009, 4:00pm
Stack Room – Blaine City Hall

Commissioners S. McChesney; B. Haake; J. Plasch; C. Schiller; M. Lawrence; T. Ryan; C. Arneson; D. Carroll; A. Enerson; D. Rosacker; H. Blommel; K. Swanson

Present

MAC Staff: S. Skramstad, C. Leqve, B. Rief, G. Schmidt, J. Harris

Others: J. Ericson – City of Mounds View

1. Approval of the 15 April 2009 Meeting Minutes

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER ROSACKER AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CARROLL TO APPROVE THE 15 APRIL 2009 MEETING MINUTES.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

2. Introductions/Membership Update

It was noted that several new members have joined the Anoka County-Blaine Airport Advisory Commission since the last meeting. All attendees at today's meeting introduced themselves.

3. Review of Commission Bylaws/Election of Chairs

Scott Skramstad, MAC, reminded Commission members that attendance at Commission meetings had dropped off significantly in the past, due in large part to the lack of contentious issues requiring the Commission's attention. However, in October 2007, community representatives on the Commission indicated their respective communities felt continuing the Commission was of value. **Skramstad** noted that at its 16 April 2008 meeting, the Commission decided to continue to meet on a semi-annual basis, with future meetings being conducted on an informal basis and with facilitation by MAC staff. At that same meeting members agreed that, if topics addressed by the Commission warranted, the issue of electing co-chairs to the Commission would be re-visited. **Skramstad** pointed out that attendance at the Commission's last three meetings has increased and interest has been generated by the Anoka County-Blaine Airport (ANE) Long-term Comprehensive Plan (LTCP) and associated development requests. **Skramstad** reminded Commission members that he suggested, at its 15 April 2009 meeting, the Commission begin conducting its meetings on a formal basis, facilitated by co-chairs. He noted that a copy of the Commission's bylaws was sent to each member in May 2009. He pointed out that Article V of the Bylaws calls for the Commission to have two co-chairs, one from the community constituency and one from the airport user constituency. **Skramstad** stated that the powers of the Chairpersons are:

- To preside at all meetings of the Commission.
- To call special meetings of the Commission as he/she deems necessary or upon written request of any one (1) USER and one (1) Public Representative as delivered to both Chairpersons.

- To sign as Chairpersons of this Commission, with the approval of the membership, certifications and other papers and instruments in writing that may require such signature.
- To perform such other duties and tasks as these Bylaws or as the membership shall from time to time prescribe.

Skramstad asked if there were any nominations or volunteers for co-chairs, beginning with the community constituency. **Commissioner Plasch, Lexington**, nominated Commissioner Haake. **Commissioner Arneson, City of Blaine**, nominated Commissioner Ryan. **Commissioner Schiller, Flight Line Enterprise**, seconded the nomination of Ryan. **Skramstad** asked for nominations or volunteers for the airport user constituency. **Commissioner Carroll, Airport User**, nominated Commissioner Schiller. **Chad Leque, MAC**, asked if each constituency would elect its own chair. **Skramstad** pointed out that the Bylaws do not stipulate that each group elect its own chair, and he clarified that each chair position would be elected by consensus of the entire group. **Commissioner Lawrence, Key Air**, volunteered to act as co-chair from the airport user constituency. **Commissioner Haake, Mounds View**, nominated Commissioner Rosacker. **Schiller** seconded the nomination of Rosacker.

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER PLASCH AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ENERSON TO APPROVE THE ELECTION OF COMMISSIONER RYAN AND COMMISSIONER ROSACKER AS CO-CHAIRS TO THE ANOKA COUNTY-BLAINE AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

4. Lino Lakes/Anoka County Membership Request

Scott Skramstad, MAC, reminded the Commission that, at its last meeting, it was suggested that Lino Lakes and Anoka County have representation on the Commission. He noted that the MAC sent a letter to Lino Lakes and Anoka County on 5 May 2009, requesting that they advise the MAC of their interest in participating on the Commission. **Skramstad** reminded the group that additions to the Commission must be balanced – i.e., if a community representative is added, an airport user representative must be added as well. **Skramstad** stated that, to date, he has not received any communication from either Lino Lakes or Anoka County expressing a desire to participate on the Commission. He pointed out that not being a member of the Commission does not prevent Lino Lakes or Anoka County from attending the Commission's meetings, which are public, or from expressing interest, concerns or opinions regarding Anoka County-Blaine Airport and its operations. **Skramstad** suggested tabling the issue of Lino Lakes' and Anoka County's membership unless or until either of those entities expresses an interest in being on the Commission. **Commissioner Schiller, Flight Line Enterprises**, asked who was contacted at Lino Lakes and Anoka County. **Skramstad** said the city administrator for Lino Lakes was contacted as well as John Olson at Anoka County. **Schiller** thought that someone from the Lino Lakes airpark would be interested in participating.

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER RYAN AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HAAKE TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP BY LINO LAKES AND/OR ANOKA COUNTY UNLESS OR UNTIL EITHER OF THOSE ENTITIES EXPRESSES A DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE ON THE COMMISSION.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

5. Long-term Comprehensive Plan (LTCP) Update

Bridget Rief, MAC Airport Development, noted that Commissioners should have received notice of next week's public information meeting regarding the Long-term Comprehensive Plan (LTCP) for Anoka County-Blaine Airport (ANE). She stated the meeting will be held on Wednesday, 24 June 2009, from 5:30-7:30pm at Blaine City Hall. **Rief** also noted that Commissioners should have received notification of Key Air's withdrawal of its request for the MAC to consider a runway expansion as part of the LTCP. She pointed out that Key Air's request for withdrawal had been made verbally to the MAC and not in writing but that permission had been given to the MAC to issue a press release regarding the withdrawal. **Rief** stated that the runway expansion request will not be considered as an alternative in the LTCP, although the request will be noted in the LTCP as well as the steps that would need to be taken if such a request were made again. She stated that the LTCP will not state that such a request will not be considered in the future.

Rief stated that the LTCP will recommend continuing the pavement maintenance program at ANE, continuing to work with the communities through the Commission and continuing to look at non-aeronautical development opportunities. In addition, the LTCP will look at security improvements needed at ANE. She said the LTCP will continue to show parallel runways and two additional hangar areas as potential future options for ANE.

Rief noted that the MAC's Finance, Development & Environment Committee will meet on 8 July 2009, at which time LTCP recommendations will be presented for approval before being presented to the MAC Board of Commissioners later in July. After the Board approves the recommendations, a draft LTCP document will be put together and made available for formal, 30-day public comment period, likely in late August or early September. **Rief** stated that the ANE Commission will be notified when that document is made available and a copy of it will be posted on the MAC's website. **Chair Ryan** asked when the LTCP will be conducted again. **Rief** said LTCPs should be conducted every five years but that if something came up sooner than five years the MAC has the ability to amend the LTCP. **Ryan** asked if requests for changes at ANE can be made independent of the LTCP; **Rief** said anyone can make a request but that does not mean the MAC must act on such requests. **Commissioner Schiller, Flight Line Enterprises**, asked when the last LTCP was conducted. **Rief** said the last LTCP was conducted in 2000. **Schiller** asked if many requests for changes at ANE were received between 2000 and 2009. **Rief** said no, and pointed out that most of what was included in the 2000 ANE LTCP has been implemented over the past nine years.

6. ANE Nighttime Noise Complaint Investigation

Scott Skramstad, MAC, reminded the Commission that, at its last meeting, the group had discussed the fact that, over the previous three or four months, a number of nighttime operations had generated nighttime noise complaints. **Skramstad** had suggested MAC staff attempt to identify the operator(s) of the nighttime operations in order to communicate with the operator(s) regarding the nature of the operations and to review the noise abatement plan in place at Anoka County-Blaine Airport (ANE). **Skramstad** informed the Commission today that the operator had been identified and a letter regarding the nighttime operations had been sent to the operator. He stated he also had a phone conversation with the operator's chief pilot. The chief pilot sent a letter explaining the operations and indicated **Skramstad** could share the letter with the Commission. **Skramstad** noted that the letter indicated the operations consistently taking place at approximately 3:15am are flights carrying radioactive isotopes for cancer patients located throughout the Midwest, and that the operations are, by nature, time critical. The operator indicated his pilots use Runway 36, the preferred runway for departures according to the

ANE Noise Abatement Plan, when possible. **Skramstad** pointed out that the operator agreed to distribute the ANE Noise Abatement Plan with its pilots and to review the plan with them. **Commissioner Schiller, Flight Line Enterprises**, asked if the operations take place on a regular basis. **Skramstad** said they do, and he noted that medical flights occur often at ANE as well as at Flying Cloud Airport and at Airlake Airport. **Schiller** asked if there has been a reduction in complaints about nighttime operations since the operator was contacted. **Skramstad** said the nighttime complaints have declined slightly, but he pointed out that complaints in general remain high since November 2008.

7. ANE Noise Abatement Plan

Scott Skramstad, MAC, reminded Commission members that the Anoka County-Blaine Airport (ANE) Noise Abatement Plan is available online and that printed information about the plan was made available at today's meeting. He asked that airport user representatives review the plan, with an eye toward having feedback about the plan be an agenda item at a future meeting. **Commissioner Schiller, Flight Line Enterprises**, asked if the plan could be sent to tenants at ANE. **Skramstad** said it could, and added that a brochure summarizing the plan could be developed and formatted to fit in pilots' Jeppesen charts book. He noted that such a brochure was developed for users of the St Paul Downtown Airport and that it was an effective method for distributing information to pilots and tenants. **Schiller** thought having such a brochure available in the FBOs would be effective. **Commissioner Carroll, Airport User**, noted that the ANE tower makes an announcement before it closes for the night, and asked if an advisory regarding the noise abatement plan could be made at the same time. **Skramstad** stated that the same request has been made at the St Paul Downtown Airport and Flying Cloud Airport but that the Federal Aviation Administration is adamantly opposed to doing so.

8. Other Items Not on the Agenda

Chair Ryan asked where the notifications about the Long-term Comprehensive Plan public meeting were published. **Bridget Rief, MAC Airport Development**, said that notifications were published in the Pioneer Press and Anoka Union newspapers. **Jim Ericson, City of Mounds View**, added that notification also appeared in the Star Tribune and the Mounds View/New Brighton Focus newspapers. **Commissioner Haake, Mounds View**, said she forwarded information about the meeting to the Star Tribune and was told they had not received notification from the MAC about the meeting.

Scott Skramstad, MAC, reminded Commission members that discussion about holding a town hall meeting was held in October 2008 and that the MAC indicated support for the idea. He noted the issue of a proposed runway extension at Anoka County-Blaine Airport (ANE) soon took precedence, however, and further action on a town hall meeting was delayed. He noted the MAC has had discussions with some cities around the airport and determined to move forward on the issue. He noted the MAC will likely hold two town hall meetings during the last week in July 2009, one in Blaine and one in a city to the east of ANE such as Circle Pines or Lexington. It was noted that locations have not yet been determined for the meetings, but that Centennial High School and the Schwan Center may be options. **Skramstad** said the purpose of the meetings would be to give formal presentations regarding ANE operations, ongoing efforts to address operational impacts at ANE, ongoing efforts of the Commission, encourage city and citizen involvement and to provide a question-and-answer opportunity for residents. **Ryan** noted that a lot of the discussion regarding Key Air and ANE was generated by angry residents and that a town hall meeting would be an opportunity for residents to find out more about the airport and how it and its tenants work. **Haake** commented that she believes the residents who were involved in the Key Air issue were not angry but were concerned about their communities. She noted that Mounds View is located to the south of the airport and should not be

slighted as a location for a town hall meeting. **Chad Leqve, MAC**, noted that the MAC has attempted to find locations that are large enough to hold large audiences and that are central to as many residents as possible, while recognizing that it will not be able to hold a town hall meeting in each and every community. He stated that selecting the Schwan Center was not intended to slight Mounds View. **Haake** noted that Mounds View has a community center that can hold 200-300 people. **Leqve** said the MAC's approach is to use the largest space possible and that the MAC is working with city staff members so that the town hall meetings can be announced as soon as possible.

Skramstad noted that a three-month summary of ANE noise complaints and a complaint map will be sent with the next meeting mailing.

Skramstad noted that meeting materials will now be sent via electronic distribution as a means of reducing consumption and waste. He asked Commission members to provide an e-mail address, if they have one, at which they'd like to receive materials.

Skramstad proposed the Commission's next meeting be held on either 19 August or 21 October 2009. **Haake** said she would like to have the meeting in August in order to see the draft ANE Long-term Comprehensive Plan (LTCP) before it is made available for public comment in late August or early September. **Bridget Rief, MAC Airport Development**, noted she would not be able to attend an August meeting of the Commission but that someone from Airport Development familiar with the LTCP would attend.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was set for 4:00pm on Wednesday, 19 August 2009. The meeting will be held at Blaine City Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 4:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christene Sirois Kron, Recording Secretary
612.725.6455
christene.siroiskron@mspmac.org