



PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

AIRPORTS DIVISION

<https://edcgov.us/Government/CAO/airports/Pages/airports.aspx>

ADMINISTRATION

2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5355 * (530) 642-0508 FAX

AIRPORTS

3501 Airport Road, Ste. 1, Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 622-0459 * (530) 387-2277 FAX
Email: airportoperations@edcgov.us

COUNTY AIRPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes from the January 19, 2022 Meeting

Location: Remote meeting, via Zoom

- I. CALL TO ORDER: 6:05 p.m. by Jason Brand, Chair
Participating members: Sue Bell, Jason Brand, Steven Krohn, Marc Regelbrugge, Gary Vorderbruggen
Absent members: Chris Nelson
Participating staff: Karen Garner, Chris Perry, Sherrie Busby, Julianne Melchor, Jeremy Gutenberger
Guests: Mark Moss, Juan Del Azar, Queasy Feathers, Wanda Nagel, Dave Lugert.
- II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Sue Bell made a motion to adopt the agenda without changes; Marc Regelbrugge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- III. DISPOSITION OF MINUTES: Marc Regelbrugge made a motion to adopt the minutes of the November 17, 2021 meeting. Sue Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- IV. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:
 - a) Action Item: Discussion and Approval of the meeting format (virtual) for the January 19, 2021 meeting of the Airports Advisory Committee. The committee recommends, as a result of ongoing concerns related to COVID-19, to approve the following teleconference finding pursuant to Government Code subsection 54953(e)(3) in order to allow for the continued use of virtual committee meetings as authorized under Assembly Bill 361. Pursuant to Government Code subsections 54953(e)(3)(A) and (e)(3)(B)(ii), the committee has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency resulting from COVID-19 and the El Dorado County Public Health Officer continues to recommend measures to promote social distancing, as documented in the September 30, 2021 "Public Health Officer's Recommendations for Safe Board and Commission Meetings During COVID-19 Pandemic." Sue Bell moved the motion; Marc Regelbrugge seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.
 - b) Safety Message – Gary Vorderbruggen: no message.
 - c) Break-ins and auto-theft at Placerville Airport: Staff will notify users via email the next time a break-in occurs. Two break-ins were observed on security cameras the night of January 5th, and footage was shared with law enforcement. The courtesy car was stolen. Two hangars were broken into; some tools were removed from one hangar, and mail was stolen from another. County vehicles were ransacked and were reported to the Sheriff's Office by Jeremy Gutenberger. Jason Brand and Jeremy requested that airport users report directly to the Sheriff when incidents happen, even if there was no damage or theft. Owners must

report problems; the Sheriff's Office doesn't accept reports from staff for property belonging to others. All incidents should be reported even if nothing is stolen and/or damage doesn't occur.

- d) United States Forest Service compensation to the County for Placerville Airport use during the Caldor fire fight: this item has not gone before the Board yet because the Forest Service wants all costs included and staff are still having problems getting quotes for replacement lights. The recommendation that will move forward is the same that was discussed at the last meeting, but alternatives for the charges to the Forest Service suggested by the committee will be included.
- e) Compensating Placerville Airport tenants during Placerville Airport closure to general aviation for the Caldor fire fight: this item will be included as an alternative in the Legistar item that will go before the Board for the Forest Service compensation.
- f) NBS evaluation of ground lease rates: the fee study being conducted by the department is moving forward. The contractor, NBS, is evaluating all fees, including an emergency use fee for reimbursement when other agencies take over the airport. Chris Perry expects to have a report by April.
- g) Follow-up on fee study inputs: see item f.
- h) Snow plowing budget and policy: Sherrie Busby reported that past practice, per the recommendation and consensus of the advisory committee, has been to let snow melt; this has been acceptable previously because snow usually melts within a couple of days at PVF and DOT usually plows at Georgetown. Although the budget for FY 22/23 has already been submitted, Sherrie is trying to get funds added for snow removal, looking at several options such as purchasing a plow blade for the pick-up, and piggy-backing on snow-removal contracts let by other departments. No additional funds were allotted to the airport as a result of the emergency disaster declaration made after the storm. Chris Perry will check with the emergency operations center staff and relay the committee's concerns about plowing snow to them.

V. STAFF REPORTS:

- a) Update on CARES, CRRSAA, and ARPA grants and how funds will be used, and budget update: Jason Brand requested an explanation of the plan for using these funds. Sherrie Busby and Chris Perry explained that the funds will be used for airport operations, and that the funds will reduce the general fund designation that the airports will receive. Chris requested a few days to formulate a plan for gathering budget questions from users.
- b) Update on ACIP and grants: see item a under Staff Reports.
- c) PG&E operations at Georgetown Airport: The County received a request from PG&E to utilize space at the Georgetown Airport to stage equipment, vehicles, materials and supplies needed for or as a result of repairs to the electrical grid after the December snowstorm. The County is working on an agreement to govern the use, but the agreement will not go to the Board until all costs are accounted for, and staff won't receive invoices

for all costs that will be reimbursed until the end of March. Jeremy Gutenberger inspected the area used by PG&E, and didn't see any damage. Committee members expressed support for the use of the Commercial Undeveloped Land Use fee as a basis for the charges. Because PG&E is not an aviation-related company, there was no nexus for using other fees, as there was with the Forest Service agreement.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dave Lugert: Word of mouth is not sufficient for notice regarding issues; County should use the full list of airport users. County needs to be proactive on preventative measures for security issues. Snow removal equipment was included in past budgets, but ongoing drought encouraged the elimination of that budget item. Six months is not a tight timeline for a fee study and there must be an opportunity for input from the users; a recommendation from the consultant does not mean a fee is correct, accurate or fully vetted. The economic impact study done in 1990 showed the enormous value of the airports to the West Slope; a study should have been done subsequent to 1990.

Wanda Nagel: The County doesn't appreciate the value of the airports to the County. Other counties do and their fees are structured to reflect this. El Dorado County treats airports as a cash cow instead of investing to make them even more valuable.

Mark Moss: What is the status of the Airport Advisory Committee vacancy? Answer: Staff are waiting to hear back from the next committee member on the list of applicants.

VII. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

- a) Gary Vorderbruggen: First, the viewing screen at the Placerville fueling pump is a safety of flight issue. Not being able to read how much fuel is being pumped into tanks means pilots can't do proper weight and balance calculations, which is a significant liability. When replaced, the screen should be shielded or be reoriented to face north to prevent problems due to exposure to the sun. Second, the damaged gate at Georgetown needs to be replaced soon and the cost shouldn't be prohibitive to getting it replaced before it becomes an ADA issue.
- b) Marc Regelbrugge: The pace, efficiency and brevity of this meeting is greatly appreciated. The discussion of paving types and applications from the last meeting needs to be codified in a written recommendation for maintenance and replacement of pavements going forward. Jason indicated he could get the details from Tim Sullivan and put something together for the next agenda. Marc recommended that committee members be familiar with the posted budget to aid the discussion of the budget at the next committee meeting.
- c) Steven Krohn: Jason Brand welcomed Steven to the committee; Steven indicated he is happy to be a member.
- d) Sue Bell: The County needs to recognize the significant amount of money that is being brought into the Enterprise fund due to grants to the airports related to COVID. Hopefully the income from these grants will be considered when looking at setting lease rates and will help to avoid the need for additional fee increases. Sherrie Busby clarified that the

grants will go into airport operations, not the general fund; the grant funds will replace or reduce the general fund contribution that would be made to the airport otherwise.

e) Jason Brand: Jason thanked everyone for their attendance, attention and patience.

VIII. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

a) Privately-owned security cameras focused on the gates.

b) Budget explanation (including the snowplow).

c) Pavement standards.

d) Placerville fuel pump screen.

e) Gate policy during a power outage.

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

Sue Bell made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Gary Vorderbruggen seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Jason will poll the committee members to determine the best date for the next meeting; the location and meeting type (in-person, teleconference, or hybrid) will be determined in nearer to the meeting date.