

DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board (AAB) Minutes

The DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board met on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 5:30 PM via Zoom Video Conference call.

Members Present: Christopher Richard (AAB Chair), Mike Reeves, Reuben Jones, Doug Miller, Kevin Fowler, Larry Scheinpflug (AAB Vice Chair), Dan Zanger

Members Absent: Eugene Henry

Others Present: Airport Director Mario Evans and Noise and Environmental Analyst Korey Barnes

The meeting was called to order at 5:40p.m. by AAB Vice Chair, Christopher Richard.

- I. Approval of Minutes: **Motion to approve the March 9, 2020 minutes was made by Board Member Doug Miller and seconded by Board Member Reuben Jones. Motion passed. April meeting did not take place due to the world health pandemic.**
- II. Information/Old Business
 - A. **Airport Director's Report:** Airport Director Mario Evans reported the following:
 1. Due to the Covid-19 Shelter in Place order by the county, operations have been reduced to 50%. Revenue decreased 20% from February to March. Airport is open but at reduced staff with rotating shifts. Airport CEO asked: How do we find our way forward? Goal for plan on how to open operations up is set to be established by May 23rd. Noise & Environmental Analyst, Korey Barnes conducted a presentation on airport operations statistics for March and April due to COVID 19.
 2. Master Plan Update: Evans deferred to Michael Baker International representative, Jim Duguay.
 - Meeting with FAA last week to discuss instrument procedures at airport. Topics covered: Improve weather minimums into PDK, Explore whether or not additional approaches could be added. Determination: 21L – where most approaches are, a dozen trees need to be taken down. Minimums could get lowered to ¾ of a mile when trees are removed. Another request from pilot community was to add LPB in order to use GPS exclusively on approach: FAA says ok. Also approaches to 64 runway and south: FAA determined that this cannot be done. Runway 16 from North: it is possible to install a GPS approach but possible weather issues, and too close to runway. Leaning toward not doing 16 approach. VOR alpha approach: FAA looking to eliminate VOR approaches.
 - Vice Chair Larry S. asked about lowering minimums on altitude? Jim answered: that can be lowered depending on tree removal. Larry S. asked: are most trees in RPZ? Jim answered: yes.
 - Operations in the forecast: Jim stated that since operations have declined at PDK, it is difficult to address Master Plan forecasting. Airport will adjust. Majority of projects are infrastructure, so they don't depend on take-offs and landings. Jim predicts that General Aviation rebound will be quicker than commercial, however it remains to be seen how recession plays out.
 - Committee meetings: these were going to be held in May. Now looking at June, using virtual set up. Open House in Summer? Still TBD.
 3. RIM PHASE II Construction:
 - Hunter Hines gave presentation – Phase I completed. On April 27th, proposal went out to bid for Phase II. Chair, Christopher Richard asked: Would this allow smaller GA aircraft to utilize 3L? Hunter answered: smaller GA aircraft would not have to wait behind large jets trying to take off on 3R – Mario E. said this was an “ask” by the control tower.

Noise and Environmental Analyst Report: - N&E Analyst, Korey Barnes delivered the following report: **The March 2020 Noise Report** will be posted on the website in its entirety: **Total operations were 11,039** which is a decrease of -24% as compared to March of 2019. There were 275 voluntary curfew operations. Total 2020 year-to-date operations are **35,399** as compared to the total 2019 operations as of March 2019 of 34,612. In March, 70% of operations were on a southerly flow, 26% were to the north, and 4% were on the NW/SE runway. **Noise complaints: 1.8** households made 40 complaints. The majority of the complaints were made between 6:00p.m. and 11:59p.m. (38%). The Complaint Percentages by Zip Code chart shows that 35% of the complaints originated from the 30341 zip code. A total of 99 advisory letters were sent to aircraft operators who flew during the Voluntary Curfew Period who were not identified as MedEvac and/or other emergency flights. Regarding High Noise Events, 38 advisory letters were sent to the operators whose aircraft exceeded the high noise event threshold(s).

Motion to accept the March 2020 Noise Report was made by Larry Scheinpflug and seconded by Doug Miller. Motion passed.

The April 2020 Noise Report will be posted on the website in its entirety: **Total operations were 5,852** which is a decrease of -56.54% as compared to April of 2019. There were 198 voluntary curfew operations. Total 2020 year-to-date operations are **41,251** as compared to the total 2019 operations as of April 2019 of 48,012. In April, 34% of operations were on a southerly flow, 56% were to the north, and 10% were on the NW/SE runway. **Noise complaints: 5.5** households made 50 complaints. The majority of the complaints were made between 0:00a.m. and 05:59a.m. (44%). The Complaint Percentages by Zip Code chart shows that 82% of the complaints originated from the 30341 zip code. A total of 56 advisory letters were sent to aircraft operators who flew during the Voluntary Curfew Period who were not identified as MedEvac and/or other emergency flights. Regarding High Noise Events, 18 advisory letters were sent to the operators whose aircraft exceeded the high noise event threshold(s).

Motion to accept the April 2020 Noise Report was made by Larry Scheinpflug and seconded by Dan Zanger. Motion passed.

B. **Other:**
None

III. **New Business:**
None

IV. **Public Comments:**

Member of Public, Jordan Fox: would like the AAB to consider a recommendation to the BOC to make Post 9 an official Chamblee seat. Board Member Dan Z. responded that he agrees to let the Chamblee City Council Mayor make the appointment with council approval. Mario E. stated that the AAB would make a recommendation to the BOC to change the bylaws. Larry S. asked if there were any questions/objections from the rest of the Board: there were none.

Motion to adjourn was made by Larry Scheinpflug and seconded by Christopher Richard. Motion passed at 6:34 p.m.

Submitted by:

Lori Bell

Lori Bell (Secretary)

Approved as Submitted:

Christopher Richard (AAB Chair)