

DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board (AAB) Minutes

The DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board met on Monday, June 13th, 2022 at 5:30 PM via Zoom Video Conference call.

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

Members Absent: Eugene Henry

Others Present: Airport Director Mario Evans, Deputy Airport Director Hunter Hines, and Noise and Environmental Analyst Korey Barnes

The meeting was called to order at 5:33p.m. by AAB Chair, Doug Miller.

- I. Approval of Minutes: **Motion to approve the May 2022 minutes was made by Larry Scheinpflug and seconded by Kevin Fowler.**

- II. Information/Old Business
 - A. **Airport Director's Report (Mario Evans):**
 1. Airport Master Plan: Evans stated that Master Plan is still with Board of Commissioners for approval.
 2. Good Neighbor Day Airshow: Airshow on May 14th. It was a great turnout and show. Airport received numerous well wishes about how well it was carried out. Estimate there were 8 to 10,000 attendees.
 3. Atlanta Gas Light Regulator Station south of the airport – Tabletop exercise was carried out due to concerned citizens on emergency response plan. Jodi Hart from AGL deferred to Mark Harris from AGL. Harris stated that they had a very successful meeting. They conducted a simulation of a plane crashing into their regulator station. Gave EMS an overview of their response in an Emergency event. Went out to site for a tour to see the infrastructure. Cordell Carter, Director of Regional Operations for AGL echoed Mark's comments. Valuable to all get together to know who to contact if there is an incident.
 - Member of public Larry Fostered asked a series of questions:
 - What happens if there is a direct hit on the station by an aircraft? Mark Harris answered: AGL has the ability to remotely operation certain sections of their system. They have simulated this potential crisis. They can remotely shut down gas and halt leak.
 - Can First Responders get to site easily? Evans answered: Yes.
 - Foster expressed concern about a fire happening from a crash into the AGL site. Evans went through the planning for this tabletop exercise in more detail. Foster asked when exercise took place? Evans answered: April 12th. Foster asked why the public was not notified? Evans answered that this exercise is for emergency personnel, not the public. AGL representative Mark Harris shared that AGL exercises their safety drills on a regular basis through the Public Service Commission and they don't notify the public. Evans confirmed that there is no issue with getting emergency vehicles to the site.
 - Board Member Larry Scheinpflug pointed out that this AGL site is not on the airport property.
 4. Update on Rubber removal project last weekend on 3R/21L by Hunter Hines – Completed successfully last week.
 - Board Member Reuben Jones asked: How much does rubber removal cost? Evans answered via Joseph Snyder. 15 cents per square foot. Evans confirmed that the work is done only at the affected sections of the runway.
 5. Update on Runway 16/34 Full Rehab project by Hunter Hines –Runway is in some serious need of rehab as well as some improvement on safety issues, including Taxiway Bravo. Pre-bid meeting is tomorrow. By the end of the month bid packages should be back and contractor selected.
 - Board Vice Chair Larry Scheinpflug asked: Are they going to install concrete for the runway? Hines answered: Mill overlay. Scheinpflug also asked if hump in runway will be repaired. Hines answered: they will work on hump issue.

Noise and Environmental Analyst Report: - N&E Analyst, Korey Barnes delivered the following report:

The May 2022 Noise Report will be posted on the website in its entirety: **Total operations were 15,870** which is an increase of 30.94% as compared to May of 2021. There were 419 voluntary curfew operations. Total 2022 year-to-date operations are **75,795** as compared to the total 2021 operations as of May 2021 of 56,655. In May 67% of operations were on a southerly flow, 30% were to the north, and 3% were on the NW/SE runway. **Noise complaints:** 25.1 households made 877 complaints. The majority of the complaints were made between 06:00 AM and 11.59 AM. (39%). The Complaint Percentages by Zip Code chart shows that 60% of the complaints originated from the **30360** zip code. A total of 195 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, 35 advisory letters were sent to the operators whose aircraft exceeded the high noise event threshold(s).

- Member of public asked: Why are there so many complaints to the north side of the airport? Evans answered: it is due to one resident who is working from home.

- Jaime Dutro asked: Is there data to show if jet aircraft make more noise landing than taking off? Board Chair Doug Miller answered: Jets are usually at idle when landing, so louder when they take off. Joseph Snyder provided data for degree of loudness on arrival and departure.

Motion to accept the May 2022 Noise Reports were made by Larry Scheinpflug and seconded by Chris Richards. Motion passed.

B. **Other:**

- Reuben Jones stated that by the military display at the airshow there was a lack of diverse youth, and asked was this the case throughout the show? Board Member Chris Richard mentioned observing the same issue. Reuben asked what can be done in later years to expand youth diversity? Board Member Mike Reeves shared that Lori Bell and Mike talked to the CEO of the airport, Michael Thurmond, who challenged them to coordinate a program to bring kids at risk to awareness of the airport as there is program investment funds that can be used. Lori and Mike will follow up on this. Evans also shared: there are many resources for this. Ace over at Fulton County, Tuskegee Airman, Civil Air Patrol and several other entities that can get involved in this. PDK is the place to train the next pilot of tomorrow. Doug Miller shared some insights as well.

III. **New Business:**

NONE

IV. **Public Comments:**

NONE

Motion to adjourn was made by Larry Scheinpflug and seconded by Reuben Jones. Motion passed at 6:28p.m.

Submitted by:

Lori Bell

Lori Bell (Secretary)

Approved as Submitted:

Doug Miller

Doug Miller (AAB Chair)