

Airport Advisory Committee Minden-Tahoe Airport Meeting Minutes for November 9, 2011

The November 9, 2011 meeting of the Airport Advisory Committee (AAC) was held at the Board of County Commission Chambers, 1616 Eighth Street, Minden, Nevada. Members present were Fred LaSor, Chairman, Keith Swanson, Mike Wendling and Brad Spires, Ed Hayes, Vice-Chair and Tim Christy. Rick Miller was absent. County employees or representatives in attendance were, Bobbi Thompson, Airport Manager, Chris Johnson, Operations Supervisor and Cathie Kite, Office Manager.

1. **Opening.** The meeting was called to order on at 6:04 PM at the Historic Courthouse in Minden, NV by Vice-Chairman Ed Hayes due to Chairman LaSor's late arrival and Brad Spires led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Public Interest Comments.** There was no public in attendance.
3. **Approval of Previous Minutes.** Vice-Chairman Hayes asked for approval of the Minutes of the July 13 Amended Minutes as well as the September 14, 2011 minutes. Both were approved unanimously.
4. **AAC Update.** The Board had no agendized items.
5. **Staff Update.** Bobbi advised that she is preparing an article for the Record Courier as an update one year after the vote passing the new ordinance. There has only been one overweight aircraft land at the airport since approval. A lot of positive things have happened in the past year. The Board was asked to provide input for the article if they wish.

The fall newsletter is available with many pictures from the air show. The crowd was very surprised at the quality of the show and comments were positive.

Some of the plans for 2012 are in the works. Mike Wendling inquired as to the status of the Reno Air Races for next year and Bobbi advised that its future is yet to be determined. Ed remarked that we have had a lot of feedback on the Aviation Roundup, mostly positive. Bobbi added that we do plan another show in 2012 at the end of June instead of August because of the extreme heat. The other issue was getting the word out with more advertising. Keith indicated that word of mouth is critical and will help for next year. He suggested that using videos of the prior show will help a great deal. Bobbi said that the next show will be more of a 'fly-in', with the goal to draw more airport groups and aviators here. Inviting some aviation clubs to join us would also help attendance.

Again, social clubs and other organizations are a good place to start marketing the airport and advertising the next air show. Bobbi will be making a presentation to the Rotary Club on January 17, 2012 and invited Board members to join her there.

The motor glider fly-in will be in July again next year. They had 22 gliders this year and plan on 30 or more for the next event.

We will be hosting the 2012 National Open-class Glider competition in June.

The airport has \$265,000 approved by the FAA for design work on taxiways Alpha and Delta. The bids came in lower than the estimates and we are using local contractors for the design on the project. Chris and Bobbi will be meeting with the FAA in December regarding potential additional funding.

Fred arrived at 6:20, and Vice-Chairman Hayes continued to run the meeting.

NDOT recently did their annual State inspection and they were quite pleased at the corrections that were made after last inspection. They noted that there were very few other items needing attention.

The airport will be participating in the Parade of Lights. Chris has been able to get "Gold Dust", a formula one aircraft for the event which we will decorate with lights, etc. All Board members are welcome to be a part the entry. Mike suggested a banner with advertising for the air show be included on the entry.

Next Feb. 2 – 4, 2012, the National Soaring Association will have their annual convention in Reno. We will be sharing a booth there along with the Minden Soaring Club. We will be marketing the airport along with soaring. Bobbi will be working to convince the Soaring Association to move their headquarters Minden.

Bobbi presented Certificates of Appreciation to outgoing Board members, Fred LaSor, Ed Hayes and Brad Spires. She thanked them for their service to the airport and asked that they continue to be involved in airport activities.

Ed returned to item four in order for Fred to comment on the activities to be held by the glider community. He included the spaghetti feed at the Taildragger on Nov. 19th, the Soaring Society of America's Convention in Reno Feb. 2, 3 and 4, 2012. They expect from 1,500 to 2,000 attendees. There will be daily presentations and lectures regarding gliding activities. He also wanted to confirm the Open Class Nationals. These are very large gliders competing, with some of them having wings that overhang the runways. He expects to see very long flights and potentially some new world records.

Bobbi announced to the Board that we will be adding 20 more glider tie downs to the north of the current area.

Tim Christy made a short presentation on his fire fighting activities in Texas over the summer. He flew 440 hours during the summer months.

Ed commented briefly on his time on the Airport Advisory Committee, their work to get the ordinance passed, the new Airport Manager and staff. He complimented all on their past efforts and wished them well. Fred thanked Board and Staff as well.

There being no further items, Brad made the motion, Mike seconded and the meeting was adjourned.