

# Minutes

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## OCEAN COUNTY AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*January 27, 2016*

*Ocean County Airport, Terminal Building*

*Berkeley Township, NJ*

**Attendance:** Tony Agliata (Assistant Planning Director), Jim Candeletti, John Hess, Rich Mongaliri (Airport Attendant), Steve Simone (Senior Planner), Marty Smolen

**Opening:** 7:03 PM

### **Welcome & Sign In:**

Mr. Agliata

- Introductions

### **Old Business:**

#### **Snow Plowing**

Mr. Agliata

- A team of five or six drivers plowed the airfield during the blizzard over the previous weekend. Given the severity of the storm, this was a bigger operation than is usually seen at the Airport.
- The snow team made use of Airport and Solid Waste loaders and vehicles, as well as box trucks.
- In most storms, the main goal of the snow team is to clear Runway 6-24 first. In this case, the team needed to do a little work everywhere at once.

Mr. Candeletti

- The County should consider purchasing a snow blower for the areas around the hangars. Pilots could use the snow blower to clear the areas in front of their hangar doors.
- Allaire has had success with snow blowers. Atlantic City and Northeast Philly have also used them.

Mr. Agliata

- Our Solid Waste Management Department is looking into purchasing a snow blower.
- Timing and funding are always issues when it comes to these types of purchases. Both worked to our advantage with the recent purchase of the new batwing.

#### **Operations Manual**

Mr. Simone

- The Planning Department is currently updating the Airport's Operations Manual. It has not been updated in some time, and recent incidents have highlighted the need for clarification of some emergency response practices.
- This is for internal use only.

Mr. Agliata

- Our goal is to see that the correct procedures are followed whenever there is an accident or incident.

Mr. Candeletti

- Of the two incidents that occurred in 2015, one was serious and one was not; the response to both went smoothly overall.

### Hunting Permits

Mr. Agliata

- There are currently twenty-five hunters who are approved to hunt on the airfield under our permits.
- We have decided to cap the list of hunters at its current length. Very few of these individuals ever come out to the Airport to hunt. No deer have been reported taken in the past year.
- The FAA had previously raised concerns over the deer stand on the airfield. We are making an effort to be more stringent with the approval of sub-permittees.

Mr. Smolen

- Coyotes have recently been seen and heard in the early morning hours.
- This may pose a safety hazard to pilots and other patrons of the Airport.

Mr. Hess

- Coyotes have also been observed at night.

Mr. Candeletti

- Loud noise or bright light typically scares away coyotes.
- Grass mowing may be the reason for the presence of coyotes at the Airport. Mowing attracts field mice and rabbits, which are the natural prey of coyotes.

Mr. Mongaliri

- The recent absence of deer may be due to the recent prevalence of coyotes.

### New Business:

#### T-Hangar Lease Agreements

Mr. Agliata

- About two thirds of all tenants have returned their lease agreements for 2016.
- Unlike last year, no tenants have chosen to end their tenancy with the beginning of a new year.

#### Helipad Lighting Project

Mr. Agliata

- Gary Kubiak & Son won the contract for this project.
- Construction has been delayed due to the cold weather. Our new target start date is March 2016.
- Helicopter pilots are continuing to manage with current conditions, even during the recent blizzard.

#### 6-24 Pavement and Lighting Projects

Mr. Agliata

- C&S Engineers has recently begun the design phases of these projects.

Mr. Simone

- Completion of the design phases is expected in 2017.

Mr. Mongaliri

- The FAA needs to be aware of the impacts of extending 6-24 on current runway lighting.

Mr. Agliata

- We will address this matter at next month's meeting at HARADO.
- The County is also pursuing the implementation of LED lights through this pair of projects.

### **Portable Bathroom/Wash Station**

Mr. Agliata

- The County has switched porta-potty vendors. The unit from ARF has been removed, and Johnny on the Spot will be supplying a new handicapped-accessible unit soon.

Mr. Candeletti

- This is a welcome change. The previous vendor did a very poor job servicing their unit.
- The County may want to consider adding a permanent bathroom.

Mr. Hess

- Will the County also consider adding a wash station?

Mr. Agliata

- A wash station may be possible in the future. Currently, DEP regulations pertaining to runoff preclude the immediate implementation of a wash station.

Mr. Candeletti

- Options for a wash facility may be informed by practices at marinas. Many marinas have wash stations which utilize absorbent pads which dry through evaporation.
- This could be a viable alternative to a typical wash station at the Airport, considering that it will not be used very often.

Mr. Agliata

- The County can definitely look into this.

### **T-Hangar Repairs**

Mr. Agliata

- Our Buildings & Grounds Department has recently repaired several t-hangar doors and lighting fixtures in response to calls for maintenance.

Mr. Candeletti

- The roof in t-hangar #31 is still leaking, though not as much as before.
- Foam is still hanging from the ridge line.

Mr. Mongaliri

- We can ask the vendor to take another look at the problem.

Mr. Hess

- The lights in most of the t-hangars are insufficient. Perhaps they could be replaced by LED fixtures?

Mr. Mongaliri

- Buildings & Grounds does not keep LED fixtures in their stock; doing so is not cost effective.

Mr. Agliata

- The County can look into pricing replacement lights for one row of t-hangars at a time. Cost may be an issue with such an undertaking.
- We will have Gary Kubiak assess the situation in the near future.

Mr. Candeletti

- A grant for LED lighting fixtures may be available through the FAA.

## Items from the Floor:

### Equipment

Mr. Mongaliri

- Is the Airport eligible for a grant to cover the cost of new snow removal equipment?

Mr. Agliata

- A block grant has been allocated. However, the FAA's grant does not cover new equipment.

Mr. Mongaliri

- Perhaps we could reach out to the NJDOT for a new tractor.

### New T-Hangar Building

Mr. Candeletti

- What is the status of the new t-hangar building?

Mr. Agliata

- Ocean Aire is currently working on the contract and forming a LLC.
- The County is ready to go.

Mr. Hess

- Is the new building covered by the MOA with the Pinelands Commission?

Mr. Agliata

- Yes. A review of the MOA was conducted during the planning of the new building.

Mr. Candeletti

- What is the timespan of the MOA? Will an extension ever be required?

Mr. Agliata

- We will check the lifespan of the MOA.

### Rotating Beacon

Mr. Smolen

- The visibility of the rotating beacon is still poor.

Mr. Agliata

- Ocean Aire conducted a night flight recently and reported that visibility is satisfactory.

Mr. Smolen

- Visibility from the west can still be improved.

Mr. Agliata

- Trimming the tops of trees in that area may be an option.

Mr. Mongaliri

- Many of the trees which surround the beacon are too high to reach with conventional means.

Mr. Simone

- Replacement of the beacon is planned in the Airport's Capital Improvement Program a few years from now. C&S Engineers will look into options to increase visibility of the beacon—including raising it—at that time.

## Gates

Mr. Candeletti

- The County should consider implementing upward swinging security gates, which would not be affected by snow.

Mr. Mongaliri

- Gate 9A may not be necessary.
- At present, its motor needs to be replaced. In lieu of replacing the motor, we could remove the motor and convert the gate into a manual gate. When necessary, the gate could be pushed closed and padlocked.

Mr. Agliata

- We will consider this.

## T-Hangar Doors

Mr. Mongaliri

- Periodic repairs to t-hangar doors should be written into an annual contract for overhead door maintenance, as had been the practice in previous years.

Mr. Agliata

- We will take a look at the service contract and see if we can incorporate this change next year.

Mr. Candeletti

- Future t-hangar leases should include instruction to tenants to close their hangar doors prior to takeoff.

Mr. Agliata

- That is feasible. In the meantime, we can draft a letter to all tenants.

## **Date and Time of Next Meeting:**

Mr. Agliata

- The next meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on April 27, 2016 at the Terminal Building.
- Members will be notified.

**Closing:** 8:04 PM