

# DELAWARE COASTAL AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes  
January 23, 2019

## Opening:

The regular meeting of the Delaware Coastal Airport Advisory Committee was called to order at approximately 6:01 p.m. on January 23, 2019, at the Sussex County Emergency Operations Center, by Delaware Coastal Airport Manager, Jim Hickin.

## Advisory Committee Members Present:

Doug Hudson, County Council	Todd Lawson, County Administrator	Rick Garner
Bill Pfaff, Economic Development	Garrett Dernoga	Ray Hopkins
Jeff Reed	Mark Ryan	Scott Thomas
		Larry Kelley

Jim Hickin, Delaware Coastal Airport, non-member

**Advisory Committee Members Absent:** Hans Medlarz, County Engineer      Gus Croll

## 1. Introduction of New Members

Jim Hickin welcomed and introduced two new members to the committee, Doug Hudson, County Council and Scott Thomas, Tourism Industry representative. At this time, each committee member introduced themselves and the role they serve on the committee.

## 2. Approval of Agenda

A Motion was made by Garrett Dernoga, and seconded by Rick Garner, to approve the agenda as distributed. The agenda was unanimously approved by consent.

## 3. Election of Officers

Nominations were taken for the position of Chairman. Jeff Reed nominated Gus Croll. Todd Lawson nominated Garrett Dernoga seconded by Rick Garner. Nominations were closed. A vote was taken and Garrett was elected Chairman. The meeting was turned over to the Chairman, Garrett Dernoga, at this time.

Nominations were taken for the position of Vice-Chairman. Jeff Reed nominated Gus Croll, seconded by Todd Lawson. Nominations were closed. Gus Croll was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

## 4. Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made by Bill Pfaff, seconded by Rick Garner, to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2018 meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved by consent.

## 5. Wildlife Management Update

Jim reported that 29 deer have been removed from the Airport in 2018. There are a couple places along the fence line where deer may be getting in that will be addressed when the weather improves. No other wildlife issues were noted.

## 6. Airport Update

Jim Hickin discussed updates on the following projects:

- 1- Instrument approaches: GPS approach on Runway 22 raised the LPV minimums by 20 ft. Jim is trying to obtain answers on why this was done but isn't he is unable to due to the Federal government furlough at this time.
- 2- Clearance Delivery Radio Frequency: Appears to be working fine now but will be keeping an eye on it for problems, should they arise.
- 3- Taxiway D (parallel to RW 10-28): Groundwork will begin in the Spring 2019. Jim discussed the advantages of the new taxiway. The project is expected to take six months. There is some drainpipe work that needs to occur first. Rick suggested bringing a Taxiway D project drawing to the next meeting so the committee can see what it entails.
- 4- Taxiway A lighting project is expected to begin in the Spring. The lights will be converted to LED lights and will add lighting on both sides of the taxiway. Rick commented that it is expected to begin in April 2019.
- 5- PAPI's will be replaced in the Spring. It will take approximately three weeks to complete the project. Rick commented the equipment has been received. He will work with ALOFT regarding their aircraft schedule to complete the project.

Jeff Reed inquired about the settings on the Runway identifier lights and asked if they can be dimmed. Rick will have the lights checked.

- 6- Business Park: Baltimore Avenue extension project is expected to begin next week. The contractor is Melvin Joseph.
- 7- Garrett asked when the new Route 9/Airport Road intersection work is to begin. Jim replied he believes it will be late summer or in the fall. The work is a DelDOT project and specific details were not readily available at the meeting.
- 8- The committee discussed the various Airport signages in the area, and what can be done to improve directional signs for accuracy when traveling to the business park and the airport. Scott Thomas offered to address the issue as he serves on the DelDOT signage task force committee.

Jim informed the committee that the Business Park (South Entrance) has a new directory sign. The back side of the sign is solid green color and he's looking to put something on the back. He asked the committee to think about some options, including writing or a map that can be viewed upon leaving the park.

- 9- Scott Thomas noted that this is Dover National Speedway's 50<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary and believes the attendance and possibly air traffic could be increased here due to this event, which occurs May 3-5 and Oct 4-6.
- 10- Larry Kelley informed the committee that this year, in conjunction with Wings & Wheels, that there will be the first time a scholarship will be offered to a young pilot entering the aviation field.
- 11- Rick Garner stated that he's received a few inquiries about private pilot training. The airport has instructors here but no aircraft. Garrett suggested possibly putting an RFP out for a flight school. After some discussion, it was suggested to put the topic on the next airport agenda.

## **7. Public Comments**

John Rieley, Sussex County Council, commented about how important the airport is to Sussex County.

Margot Kia commented about a positive experience she had with a sign being relocated through DelDOT.

Gerald Wingate welcomed Doug Hudson to the committee and stated he was glad to see some new faces around the table as well as new ideas.

## **8. Next Meeting Date -** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 6 p.m. at the Emergency Operations Center, Georgetown, Delaware.

A motion to adjourn was made by Rick Garner, seconded by Bill Pfaff. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Wise, Clerk IV- Delaware Coastal Airport