

# DELAWARE COASTAL AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes  
September 21, 2022

## Opening:

The regular meeting of the Delaware Coastal Airport Advisory Committee was called to order at approximately 6:02 p.m. on September 21, 2022, at 21769 Aviation Avenue, Georgetown, Delaware by Chairman, Garrett Dernoga.

<b>Advisory Committee Members Present:</b>	Doug Hudson, County Council	Garrett Dernoga
Mark Parker, Asst. County Engineer	Rick Garner	Jeff Reed
Ezra Rickards	Mark Ryan	Scott Thomas

Bob Bryant, Airport Manager, Delaware Coastal Airport, non-member

<b>Advisory Committee Members Absent:</b>	Todd Lawson, County Administrator,	
Bill Pfaff, Econ. Dev. Director	Ray Hopkins	Larry Kelley

## 1. Approval of Agenda

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

## 2. Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made by Doug Hudson, seconded by Rick Garner, to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2022, meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved by consent.

## 3. Wildlife Management Update

Bob informed the committee that there was a significant bird strike a couple months ago. Approximately 35 seagulls were hit by a corporate jet. Bob has increased the amount of runway inspections targeting birds, as well as increased our wildlife management supplies to attempt to control the problem. The permits are still in place to deal effectively with birds and/or deer.

## 4. Airport Update

Bob Bryant provided airport updates as follows:

- 1- GA Apron Expansion: The project is behind schedule by 2-3 weeks due to contractor suppliers having trouble getting some of the materials. The apron will be seal coated next Thursday (before Wings & Wheels), the following week temporary markings will be applied, also in advance of Wings & Wheels for aircraft parking. However, the tiedowns won't be installed before Wings & Wheels. After the event, the tiedowns will be installed and the project will be completed. Bob is looking into trying to find alternate parking areas for the event.
- 2- Airport Master Plan Update: The project has reached the Facilities Requirements section and is in the process of being sent to FAA for review. The Runway 4-22 extension is a big component of the Master Plan and in the latest response from FAA, we were hit hard in trying to justify the

extension as an eligible AIP project (Airport Improvement Program) due to their requirements. Bob explained the response from FAA/Airport Advisory Circulars in detail regarding critical aircraft reporting, runway length, length of flight from Georgetown. A response from FAA regarding our Safety Areas included the statement “they appear to be within FAA standards”. However, they are now requesting clarification that “the facility either meets or does not meet the standard”. The project is moving forward but approval of the Master Plan by FAA is still about a year away. The committee will be given a chance to review the requirements section of the Master Plan once the County responds to the questions from FAA.

3- Turf Runway Discussion: Bob acknowledged receipt of an email from Brian White and other airport users requesting turf operations to be considered in the Safety Area of Runway 4-22. The process is moving forward and the FAA-ADO has been contacted regarding this process. Bob commented that turf use of the safety area of the runway is not a high priority as we are trying to get the Master Plan completed. In addition, turf operations in the safety area of the runway is a concern for our insurance company and for FAA -ADO (Airports District Office).

5. **Wings & Wheels Update** - Linda Price updated the committee on the event. She noted there are additional challenges this year with spacing due to construction, but they are working through it. Pathways to Aviation program is returning this year. She also noted that the Friday night show event still has tickets available for purchase.

6. **Public Comments** – Brian White commented on Turf Runway Operations.

7. **Next Meeting Date** - The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 14, 2022, at 6 p.m. at 21769 Aviation Avenue (Aircraft Hangar), Georgetown, DE.

A motion to adjourn was made by Doug Hudson, seconded by Jeff Reed. The meeting adjourned at 6:32 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Wise, Clerk IV- Delaware Coastal Airport