

Robert W. Shaffer, Chair
Edwin R. Lozano, Vice Chair
Mark R. Murawski, Secretary



PENNSYLVANIA AVIATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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JUNE 9, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

(PENNDOT MATERIALS TESTING LABS, HARRISBURG PA)

ATTENDEES

Robert Shaffer, Annie Buttkiewicz, Courtney Valencik-Plocinski, Jacob Misal, Carlin Diehl, David Heath, Kimberly Ulishney, Tony McCloskey, Mark Matlock, Chuck Brewer, Steve Keefer, Andrew Allen, Fran Strouse, Ed Lozano, Tes Ali, Paul Caulfield, Kyle Wagonseller, Mark Murawski

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Robert Shaffer called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Chairperson Shaffer noted that this is the first in-person meeting held by the PA Aviation Advisory Committee (AAC) since prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. All other meetings starting with the March, 2020 meeting until now have been conducted virtually so it is good to see everybody back in person and healthy.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

AAC Secretary Mark Murawski performed the roll call of members. A voting quorum was achieved necessary to conduct business.

MARCH 10, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Secretary Murawski informed members that the minutes were unavailable due to a malfunctioning of the recording device used for the virtual meeting.

PENNDOT BUREAU OF AVIATION (BOA) UPDATE

Mr. Tony McCloskey, PennDOT BOA Director updated AAC members on several topics. In terms of 2022 FAA AIP grants, the BOA has received funding approval for NPE, SA and our Airport Pavement Management System update. E-Grants should be deployed in the fourth quarter (October 2022) with a new application process that will remove the TA letter and streamline the funding process. The PA Aviation Economic Impact Study continues to progress with the draft Communication Toolkit Part 2 individual airport reports being sent out to 68 airports with only

38 airports responding either confirming the narrative or providing edits. These are 2 page reports where page 1 identifies Economic Impacts (Total Employment, Payroll, Output); key airport activities and nearby recreational activity and page 2 shows a table summarizing on-airport activity such as commercial / GA visitor spending with an explanation of what these terms represent. Tony indicated that the Technical Report/Executive Summary will be sent to all airports during the third quarter and will eventually be posted on the BOA website.

Tony discussed the online calculator noting the public-facing side of the calculator will be beneficial to PennDOT, the airports and others to allow for interim updates of an airport's economic impact, including demonstrating the positive quantitative benefits of investment facilities and staff to maintain an airport that attracts additional activity and / or other investment. The calculator will allow users to make changes in variables such as aircraft usage, airport employment, passenger enplanements, capital expenditures or fuel sales. The calculator will allow users to see how changes in certain variables would affect the airport's economic impact called a "what if" scenario.

Tony briefed members on the GIS Story Map initiative which is a public-facing tool that provides the opportunity for airports, their communities and other stakeholders to view and understand the economic benefits of aviation in the state in an easy to use, interactive format. The consultant team will develop a GIS geodatabase consisting of the data layers associated with the assessment of economic impacts of airports within Pennsylvania. The geodatabase will include data collected from readily available sources as well as data developed by the consultant team conducting the AEIS. The following attribute fields will be included in the database: Airport FAA ID/Code; Airport Name; Airport Lat/Log location; Airport Physical Address; City the Airport is Located; County the Airport is Located; Legislative District Associated with the Airport/Congressional Districts; Service Classification of the Airport; Airport Ownership; Aviation Activities at the Airport; Summary of Airport Economic Impacts (Total Jobs, Earnings, GDP, Economic Activity or Output).

TAC PA AVIATION STRATEGIC PLAN PRESENTATION

Mark Murawski led this discussion by noting that he is Vice Chair of the PA Transportation Advisory Committee, (TAC). The TAC was created by the PA General Assembly in 1970 for purposes of advising the Governor, PennDOT Secretary and State Transportation Commission, (STC) on transportation issues facing the Commonwealth. The TAC regularly conducts specialized transportation studies to address pressing issues. These studies, once completed are then approved by the TAC and STC. Each year TAC members can submit study candidates for vote by the full TAC. Since TAC resources are limited only one or two major studies are typically conducted annually which represent the highest priorities of TAC members through a voting process. Mark noted that he and Dr. Larry Nulton a fellow TAC member co-sponsored this PA Aviation Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan Update which was ranked by TAC members as the highest priority for 2022 studies as this topic is timely, aviation organizations such as AAC and ACP lack funding to do a study and it represents the first major aviation study ever done by TAC. Mark and Larry drafted the preliminary Scope of Work to guide the study and were appointed by

TAC to Co-Chair the Study Task Force. PennDOT entered into a contract with Michael Baker International, Gannett Fleming and the Deering Group as the consultant team to conduct the study. Mark then introduced Mr. Paul Caulfield, a consultant team member to provide the study update.

Paul began by noting the TAC Aviation Study kick-off began in late March, 2022 and is on an aggressive yet achievable schedule. The 28 member Task Force has been convened twice so far to guide study progress and provide key input of the various study components and deliverables.

Paul highlighted the eight topical issue areas identified for this study:

- Workforce and Economic Impact
- Legislation and Policy
- Airports and Communities
- Industry Collaboration, Partnerships and Communication
- Air Freight
- Commercial Air Service
- Aviation Technology
- Needs Evaluation and Funding

The study task force ranked Needs Evaluation and Funding as the top priority issue. An in depth discussion then took place about these various issues and how they should be addressed in the study from the perspective of AAC members. BOA Director McCloskey suggested that when identifying annual aviation funding gaps in the report perhaps a range of additional funding needed would be more beneficial than stating a set dollar amount since a precise figure to capture the needs is hard to quantify given available data and PennDOT does not own the assets like highways and bridges etc. where accurate data is readily available. Paul Caulfield reviewed the study development schedule and next steps and emphasized that eight listening sessions are about to begin next week at various locations throughout the Commonwealth either virtually or in-person. Once the listening sessions are completed in July and further research and analysis is completed on each of the eight issues the draft report will be compiled in August and September with a review process afforded to key stakeholders along with a leadership forum with TAC/STC approval slated to occur in December. Paul observed that the study is currently on schedule. Mark Murawski added that implementation of TAC study recommendations is important to TAC members so he hopes the report will provide a solid and useful policy document to move aviation forward in PA that also has consensus building support from the aviation community. Since there will be a new administration in Harrisburg starting in 2023 it is important aviation interests get a seat at the table early next year by conducting extensive outreach with the new leadership.

PA AVIATION COUNCIL (ACP) UPDATE

Dave Heath provided the ACP Update by noting the excellent progress the General Assembly has made toward the passage of the Aviation Land Development Zone, (ALDZ) legislation that was strongly supported by ACP and AAC. AAC members complimented Dave Heath for his tenacity to push for legislative passage of this landmark aviation bill. Dave Heath also noted ACP and AAC has been working with Senator Langerholc's office and PennDOT on the \$ 5.8 million COVID relief funding for state aviation and also noted the ACP annual aviation conference will be held at the Arnold Palmer Airport, Latrobe, PA on September 18-20, 2022 and encouraged all to register and attend as many informative speakers and topics are scheduled.

AAC SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

- *Real ID*

No report as Gabe Monzo, Subcommittee Chair was absent. Chairperson Shaffer noted that Gabe Monzo has been active at the Latrobe Airport to introduce "Security Sam " which is an effective prop that informs airport users about the Real ID deadline and that they will not be able to fly without REAL ID or a passport after that date. Other airports that may want to use Security Sam can reach out to Gabe.

- *Legislative Affairs*

Interim Subcommittee Chair Mark Murawski noted that Mr. Heath's report covering ALDZ was the most significant legislative development this quarter since our last meeting and had no further items to offer. Mark noted that newly appointed AAC member Tim Edwards has agreed to serve as the Chair of this Subcommittee.

- *Hangar Development*

Sub-committee Chair Ed Lozano said that the sub-committee work is completed. Mark Murawski added that the important work of the subcommittee is being conveyed to the TAC study consultants to integrate into the draft report in order to help substantiate aviation needs and funding gaps.

- *Finance (Joint AAC/ACP)*

Subcommittee Co Chairs Murawski and Fran Strouse indicated that the subcommittee remains active and is coordinating information and perspective to the TAC study consultants and is actively participating on the TAC Task Force to review key funding resources to be outlined in the TAC report.

- *Urban Air Mobility*

Subcommittee Chair Tes Ali reviewed the substantial progress the subcommittee is making which will be well documented in a white paper that may be available for review by the AAC in September. The subcommittee members are expanding with FAA involvement and new partnerships are being cultivated. White paper information will be shared with TAC consultants as appropriate for the Technology Section of the TAC Aviation Study.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairperson Shaffer said he was pleased to report that all of the AAC member appointments and reappointments were recently approved by Governor Wolf so now we finally have a full compliment of 25 AAC members moving forward.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to report.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Chairperson Shaffer noted that the next scheduled quarterly meeting of the Aviation Advisory Committee will be held on September 8, 2022. Information about the meeting location will be forthcoming.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Shaffer adjourned the meeting at 12:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mark Murawski, Secretary

PA Aviation Advisory Committee