



**San Joaquin County Aviation Advisory Committee (CAAC)
Regular Monthly Meeting (in person)
February 27, 2024, Minutes**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Trezza.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Chairman Bill Trezza, Vice Chair Wolfe, Ricky Gill, Wes Rhea, David Robb, Jaime Medina, David Robb, Spencer Lockwood.

Members Absent: Mark Plovnick, Steve DeBrum, Supervisor Patti, Supervisor Villapudua.

County Staff Present: Richard Sokol – Airport Director, Helene Nussbaumer- Deputy Airport Director, Ani Thomas- Administrative Assistant I, Adam Brucker- Senior Deputy County Administrator

Members of the Public: Pete Sandhu- CEO, Five Rivers Aviation

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of January 23, 2024.

Motion: Lockwood; Second: Robb. Motion carried 8-0.

I. Discussion Items

- A.** Sokol gave an overview of airline recruitment efforts. Discussions with airlines have gone quiet, as they are re- thinking growth plans for now, as a result of issues at Boeing. Conversations will be renewed after a few months.
- B.** Sokol reported that the BIL submittal regarding air traffic control tower did not receive approval. The Airport will make a stronger re-application later this Fall. Gill offered to connect with Congressman John Garamendi to seek a letter of support for the next grant application.
- C.** Sokol informed that the CAO's office provided the opportunity to apply for earmarked grants. The grants can be utilized for passenger ramp and passenger boarding jetway projects.
- D.** Sokol outlined a brief historic overview of the air cargo business. Agricultural flights were attempted 30 years ago, without sustained success. Seasonal variations pose a challenge. It is recommended to speak to industry leaders to make a realistic assessment of the future of agricultural air cargo business opportunities. The committee agreed to discuss this item again, in the next meeting.

II. Action Items

(Discussion & Decision to Recommend)

None

III. Communications

None.

IV. Review of Written Requests for Future Agenda Items

None.

V. Public Comment (Must complete Public Comment Form)

Pete Sandhu introduced himself and expressed his interest to collaborate with the Airport through business opportunities and initiatives, including the potential for introducing hydrogen electric aircraft.

VI. Miscellaneous

- A.** Sokol informed that the Board of Supervisors approved new position for the Airport entitled, 'Marketing and Business Development Administrator'.
- B.** Budget conversations are ongoing with HR to make minor personnel modifications.
- C.** One part- time clerical worker role is under consideration, to help with ID Badges.
- D.** Floor failure in the terminal building is not yet resolved.
- E.** Flight information display is updated on the Airport website.
- F.** Conversations are underway with the CAO's office regarding funding for airfield modification and facility upgrade projects.
- G.** Efforts are taken to upgrade the output of and sync the two WatchFire Ignite12 signs.
- H.** Gill proposed sending calendar invites for the CAAC meetings and was agreed by all.

VII. Topics for Next Agenda

- A.** AOPA presentation
- B.** Agriculture air freight opportunities.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5.55 p.m.

Motion: Gill; Second: Wolfe. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Regular Meeting: April 02, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

This meeting will be in person.