

**VERMONT AVIATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
DILL BUILDING
2178 AIRPORT ROAD
BARRE, VT 05641
February 22, 2022**

***Hybrid meeting held in-person and by teleconference**

ATTENDEES: Dan Delabruere, VTrans
Trini Brassard, VTrans
Paul Libby, VTrans
Jason Owen, VTrans
Kyle Wells, VTrans
Rollin Tebbetts, VTrans
Evan Robinson, VTrans
Bruce King, VTrans
Guy Tapper, VTrans
Shaun Corbett, VTrans
Evan Robinson, VTrans
Adam Goodrow, VTrans
Erica Mongeon, VTrans
Doug White, MVL BVT UFA GA
Chris Carrigan, Vermont Chamber
Steve Dolgin, Caledonia Airport
Steve Ireland, McFarland Johnson
Bill Hanf, Green Mountain Avionics
Bob Flint, Springfield
Cliff Coy, Boarder Air Ltd.
Barbara Murphy, legislature
John Wilson, Manchester, NH
Heath Marsden
Richard Landin
Bob Schaefer
Mary Kay Genthner
Stacy Leveille
Jen Ricciardi
Laura Canham
Armand Dufresne
AWS
James Stewart
Kevin Dwyer
Gerry D'Amico
Alexandra Cloyes
Tom Anderson
Dana Hanley
Jean Mongillo

Jake Flood
John Hehir
Calvin Kuang
Cody Miller
Paul Carroccio
Andy Sanbrook
Toby S.
Ben

1. CALL TO ORDER and ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Note: Minutes reflect the order of the published agenda.]

Dan Delabruere called the hybrid meeting to order at 1 PM. Introductions were done. Secretary Flynn reviewed the agenda and noted no action will be taken until a quorum of council members is present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES [Note: Action taken once quorum present.]

October 26, 2021

MOTION by Bill Hanf, SECOND by Cliff Coy, to approve the 10/26/21 minutes.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

3. MASTER PERMITTING UPDATE

Steve Ireland with McFarland Johnson reported on the master permitting project:

- A presentation was given to the Senate Transportation Committee.
- Work continues on permitting at nine airports.
- Four stormwater permits are done. ANR provided comments on two additional permits and after revision these will be reviewed by ANR.
- Three permits are in design.
- One permit is out for public comment on Act 250. One permit has been submitted to ANR and will go to public comment.
- One permit is currently being reviewed by VTrans.
- Two water permits are complete. One permit is being revised per ANR comments and three are in design.
- One wastewater permit is complete, one is in review, and four are in design.
- NEK airport is out for Act 250 comment. Franklin County Airport is waiting for the Act 250 public comment period to start. Middlebury Airport stormwater and water permits are complete, and wastewater is in review. Morrisville/Stowe Airport stormwater permit is complete, and Act 250 is with VTrans for review. W.H. Morse Airport stormwater permit is complete, and wastewater and water permits are in design. Act 250 permit must still be done. Caledonia Airport stormwater permit is in design. Comments from ANR have been received. Rutland Airport, Knapp Airport, and Springfield Airport stormwater, water, and wastewater permits are in the design stages.

The work of Steve Ireland and his team on the master permitting project was recognized.

4. FY23 GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDED AVIATION BUDGET

Dan Delabruere reviewed the work on each airport included in the FY23 Governor's Recommended Budget of \$21,513,994 (total appropriation plus \$11,385,000 FAA and \$765,000 local funds BTV). The work included in the budget covers apron rehab, fuel farms, aviation easements, obstruction removal, master plan updates, environmental assessments, buildings (SRE, terminals), taxiway work, runway rehab/extension, ARFF vehicles, EMAS maintenance, AWOS repairs, vegetation monitoring, pavement and hangar operations and maintenance, equipment, CAP grant.

There was discussion of stormwater facilities at state airports. Dan Delabruere said the state will be monitoring these facilities.

Steve Dolgin asked if operations money can be used to bring up the runway rating at Caledonia. Dan Delabruere said VTrans can check the asphalt condition in the spring to see if something can be done in the summer.

Bob Flint asked if there is a breakdown of operational maintenance at airports, noting the Springfield Airport Commission is advocating for an increase in routine maintenance. Dan Delabruere said there are historical numbers for heating fuel and utilities. In general operations and maintenance costs are up and facilities remain steady.

5. PROJECT UPDATES

Paul Libby gave a brief update on projects including:

- Pavement marking summer 2022 at Rutland, NEK, Bennington (Morse), Middlebury airports.
- Master plan update, environmental assessment, obstruction removal at Knapp Airport.
- Obstruction removal, runway reconstruction (widen and lighting), runway taxiway extension, aviation easements at Franklin County Airport.
- Aviation easements, runway and safety area design at Springfield (Hartness Airport).
- Master plan update and obstruction removal at Middlebury Airport.
- Fuel farm, taxiway extension, apron expansion at Morrisville/Stowe Airport.
- Vegetation maintenance, terminal, NEPA review at NEK Airport.
- SRE building, master plan update, airport layout plan, runway 1-19 rehab at Rutland Airport.

6. MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS UPDATE

Rollin Tebbetts reported the issues with valves and particulates in the piping at the fuel farm at Bennington Airport are being addressed. Dan Delabruere added VTrans is working through the fuel systems every day at the state airports. Rollin Tebbetts said ice on runways has been a challenge this year. On the personnel side, a vacant full-time position will soon be filled. Temporary help will be hired to help with airport maintenance at Franklin, Newport, Springfield, and Morrisville.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

H.610/S.278

Senator Murphy reported the Senate would like to merge the bill with other Act 250 initiatives.

Middlebury Airport

Andy Sanbrook, Middlebury, suggested a citizen advisory committee be formed to review the master plan for Middlebury Airport. Mr. Sanbrook asked if there are site preparation estimates in addition to hangar development in the airport master plan. Dan Delabruere said there are no estimates because there is no design yet. Mr. Sanbrook asked if the airport hangar lease income is in the budget. Joe Flynn said the governor's recommended budget does not factor out income from leases.

State Labor Shortage

Chris Carrigan report Vermont Chamber is lobbying to remove the tax on military pensions for retirees including survivor benefits to make it easier to recruit these retirees back into the work force. Vermont is experiencing a severe labor shortage and has 23,000 job openings presently.

Lease Subcommittee Update

Steve Dolgin offered to have the subcommittee make a presentation on private and commercial lease structure at the May Aviation Council meeting.

8. NEXT MEETING and ADJOURNMENT*Next Meeting*

May 24, 2022, 1 PM, Dill Building, 2178 Airport Road, Barre.

Adjournment

MOTION by Doug White, SECOND by Bill Hanf, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:22 PM.

RScty from tape: MERiordan