

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 9TH, 2009

The December 9th, 2009 meeting of the Bucks County Airport Authority was called to order at 7:30 P.M. at Doylestown Airport by Chairman Allen Black. Members attending were McKay, Mininger and Tollini, along with Solicitor Graham.

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of November 11th, 2009 were accepted with a motion made by Mr. Mininger, seconded by Mr. McKay, and passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Black said it's a healthy and good thing for every organization to have new leadership from time to time, and after being Chairman of the Airport Authority for 10 years he will be stepping down from that position.

He said he has enjoyed working his fellow Board member, staff, and consultants. He said he is proud of the excellent safety record at the airports.

Chairman Black said he is proud of the Authority's accomplishment of bringing Van Sant Airport under County ownership and assure its survival as a rewarding success. Right behind that would be the new runway that has just opened at Quakertown Airport, he said; and the substantial land acquisitions around Doylestown Airport that provide open space for our neighbors, enhance our safety of flight, and give us room for badly needed new facilities.

He said he was disappointed that the Board was unable to persuade the Buckingham Supervisors that the open space that could be brought to the community was worth the modest runway extension it required at Doylestown. He further said he continues to think this was and still could be a win-win proposition for all involved.

Chairman Black said that going forward he hopes the Board will continue to keep safety at the top of their priorities, continue to manage the airports in a fiscally responsible manner, find new and better ways to serve both the aviation community and the business community of Bucks County, and work to maintain good communications and relations not only with business and aviation constituencies, but also with our airport neighbors and the general public.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Quakertown Airport FBO

Bob Fowler, of Fowler Aviation, reported that everyone is pleased to have the runway open again. He said there is still mud on the taxiways and dirt on some of the hangars from the trench drain project.

Mr. Mininger said the field lights will be pilot controlled to turn on and adjust the intensity of the runway lights, PAPI's , and REIL's.

Bob introduced his wife, Kathy, and wanted to discuss the proposed café at Quakertown Airport. Bob said they plan to upgrade the west side of the administration building to house dining/meeting with a small kitchen in the back. Bob said the existing office space and restrooms will be rearranged and updated. He said they hope the café will be a part-time venture, only to be open on weekends.

He asked if the Authority would consider doing the restroom and office area improvements of approximately \$10,000. Bob said they would like to go forward with this in 2010 and wanted to ask if the Authority was proceeding with an earlier proposal for a stand-alone restaurant at Quakertown Airport.

Doylestown Airport FBO

Rick Witt, of Leading Edge Aviation, thanked Chairman Black for his leadership on the Board and his continuing work for the airports.

Rick said they have been actively working on the field lighting repairs.

He announced that Santa will be visiting Doylestown Airport by helicopter on the 19th.

Doylestown Pilot Association

Rick Hadden, of the association, said the pilots will be here for Santa and will be providing hot chocolate, coffee, and donuts.

Mr. Tollini said he will be meeting with officers of the association to discuss some items.

Engineer's Report

Bill Patrick, of L. Robert Kimball & Associates, said he will be meeting with Rob Betz tomorrow morning to discuss the status of the Authority's projects.

Bill said he believes the Bureau has all the outstanding items for the Sharpe property acquisition at Quakertown.

Bill said he will be reviewing the checklist for the Quakertown taxiway "A" project tomorrow with Mr. Betz.

Mr. Patrick said Rick Boyd of Kimball sent a letter to the contractor of the hangar trench drain project at Quakertown indicating that the work, at this stage, is unacceptable.

Mr. Tollini asked Mr. Patrick to make sure that FAA has all the information to restore the instrument approaches at Quakertown, including the PAPI's.

Bill said Kimball will be submitting an engineering agreement in January for the RW 11 easements at Quakertown.

Mr. Patrick said Tru-line Contractors will be doing punch-list items on the Stormwater Phase I project at Doylestown in January.

Bill said Kimball will meet with the Bureau to discuss the Doylestown ALP, and Kimball will meet with the Authority to finalize the ALP.

Bill submitted a quote from Schultz Demolition for the installation of a split rail fence on the Hughes/Overholt property. He said grass has germinated on the property. Bill said he picked up and delivered 6 power line markers to use on the lines along Swamp Road. Mr. McKay said he will contact PECO for the installation of the markers.

Bill said Kimball will draft a schedule for the obstruction removal at Van Sant Airport.

Mr. Patrick said he will send a letter to the contractor to revisit the runway in the spring at Van Sant to add topsoil and regrade.

Administrators' Reports

Financial:

Ms. Landis reported that bills paid from the operating account in November was \$70,831.74, while bills paid from the project account in November was \$4,114.72. She said additional bills for this evening total \$852,360.28.

Mr. McKay made the motion to accept the financial report and to pay all bills presented. Mr. Tollini seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Miner asked Ms. Landis to input additional information to the 2010 budget and that the budget be approved at the January meeting.

Administrative:

Mrs. Raterman asked that the tree grant selection be placed on the January meeting agenda.

Mr. Mininger made the motion to request an extension to the Doylestown Stormwater Phase I land development. Mr. Tollini seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Graham reported that he is reviewing the Authority's articles of incorporation and will discuss any necessary action at the January meeting.

Solicitor Graham said he believes public water will be extended along Old Easton Road and include Doylestown Airport.

Solicitor Graham reported the Authority does not have any easements on the other side of Swamp Road, but do have some agreements to trim tree obstructions on some of the properties.

Mr. Mininger asked Solicitor Graham to provide the information on insurance coverage for volunteer organizations.

Quakertown Airport Subcommittee

Mr. Mininger said that in his opinion a stand-alone restaurant at Quakertown Airport is not feasible due to the timing of a new parking lot and location of any above ground fuel tanks.

Mr. Mininger reported that Milford Township is requesting easements along the north side of Mill Road for an updated drainage project. He will forward any information when he receives it, he said.

Doylestown Airport Subcommittee

Mr. McKay made the motion, seconded by Mr. Mininger, authorizing up to \$7000. for the installation of split rail fencing on the Hughes/Overholt property. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tollini said two new GPS approaches are being commissioned for Doylestown Airport, a new one for Runway 5 and a remake of the Runway 23 approach.

Mr. Tollini said tree trimming is scheduled for the several areas of the airport and surrounding properties.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Motion to adjourn at 8:50 P.M. was made by Mr. Mininger, seconded by Mr. McKay, and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen B. Raterman, Administrator

