



ANOKA COUNTY- BLAINE AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
(ACBAAC)

METROPOLITAN AIRPORTS COMMISSION
ANOKA COUNTY – BLAINE AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, November 2, 2022, 4:00 p.m.
Atlantic Aviation ANE
9877 N Airport Rd, NE, Blaine, MN 55449

The meeting started at 4:10 p.m. In attendance were:

Representatives: C. Daml, Northstar Flyers; K. Devries, City of Lexington; S. Erkel, City of East Bethel; M. Lawrence, Anoka County Aviation Association (Remote); B. Orr, Atlantic Aviation; M. Percy, City of Circle Pines (Remote); J. Reinert, Anoka County; T. Ryan, City of Blaine

MAC Staff: J. Lewis, Community Relations Coordinator; M. Ross, Manager, Community Relations; P. Tiedemann, Manager, Anoka County-Blaine Airport, K. Verdeja, Administrative Specialist

Others: C. Mueller, Twin Cities Aviation; J. Krack, Reliever Airports Advisory Council

1. Introductions

Chair Erkel called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm. She asked all attendees to introduce themselves briefly. There were 14 participants.

A quorum of three User Representatives and three Community Representatives was established.

Public Representatives: T. Ryan; K. Devries; S. Erkel; J. Reinert; M. Percy

User Representatives: B. Orr; C. Daml; M. Lawrence

2. Bylaws Modification for Voting Clarity

Jennifer Lewis, Technical Advisor, explained there is a portion of the Bylaws that covers voting rights by members (Article IV, Number 3). This paragraph refers to virtual participation by commission members. There was a recommendation to change the verbiage of the paragraph in hopes to add clarity. Originally, the by-laws read, "The Bylaws may be amended by majority vote of membership provided that notice of such proposed amendments shall have been given ten (10) days prior to the Commission meeting. Voting may be conducted via email, or by members in attendance at a meeting in-person or through use of virtual collaboration tool."

Representative Daml asked for clarification regarding the purpose of the change.

After discussion, Representative Daml moved and Representative Devries seconded to: Keep the By-Laws as they were originally written.

The motion passed by unanimous vote

3. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes: May 11, 2022

Chair Erkel opened the item for discussion approving the minutes from the May 11, 2022 meeting.

Representative Ryan moved and Representative Devries seconded to: Accept the May 11, 2022 meeting minutes as presented.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public. **Chair Erkel** mentioned that her alternate member will be replaced soon.

5. Tenant Highlight

Chair Erkel introduced **Phil Tiedeman, Manager, Anoka-County Blaine Airport**, who gave a background of **Chapter 237 of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)**. He highlighted some of the chapter's programs. In the last few years without the airport's annual "Discover Aviation Days" EAA 237 filled in by hosting fly ins. **Mr. Tiedeman** went on to say the organization offers scholarships, they work on projects of their own and help other tenants, they have a simulator for their members and they provide Young Eagle flights for youth. These flights consist of a briefing on the aircraft, how they work, and then the youth are taken on a free flight so they can experience what it is like to fly. **Mr. Tiedeman** shared that it was opportunities such as these that originally got him into aviation.

Chair Erkel inquired how children are made aware of the program. **Mr. Tiedeman** explained that there are several ways EAA promotes its organization. They can be found at [Chapter 237 \(eaa.org\)](http://Chapter 237 (eaa.org)). He also explained, "Discover Aviation Days" in a little more detail. **Chair Erkel** asked that the surrounding cities be made aware of the event next year so they can encourage their population to attend.

6. Airport User Spotlight:

Philip Tiedeman, Manager – Anoka County – Blaine Airport, highlighted Tom Lymburn, a celebrated aviation enthusiast, historian, writer, photographer and airshow announcer. Mr. Tiedeman explained the groups that Tom actively participates in, which include: the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), Vintage Aircraft Association, Warbirds of America and more. Mr. Lymburn is also a founding Member of the Minnesota Pilots Association and was awarded the 2021 Aviation Achievement Award. He was named Teacher of the Year in 2003 and was awarded Best Aviation Writing by a Minnesotan by the Minnesota Hall of Fame. Mr. Lymburn was also recognized by MAC in 2022 for his service and promotion of the Anoka County-Blaine Airport.

The members extended an invitation to Mr. Lymburn to attend a future meeting of the commission.

7. Airport Manager Update

Philip Tiedeman, Manager – Anoka County – Blaine Airport, gave an overview of the ACBAAC – Airport Update. He shared information on the airport construction, drainage, clean-up and tours with the attendees. It was a limited year at the airport for construction, there were a few minor pavement repair projects and fence line repairs. There was a plan for the demolition of the Anoka Tech Building, but there were some hurdles. **Mr. Tiedeman** explained that next year there is a plan on reconstruction of Taxiway A and adding edge lighting and also replacing reflectors south of RWY 9-27. There is also a plan to start the environmental process for the west perimeter road.

Mr. Tiedeman explained the culverts and drainage ditch maintenance. With the drought conditions staff have been able to clean out the culvert that have been filling with sediment over the years. Riprap was added around the bells to reduce erosion and other drainage issues were identified during this time that will be addressed with other agencies.

There was a clean-up day at the airport several years ago and an attempt to schedule one this year fell short and **Mr. Tiedeman** hopes to get it coordinated for next year.

Earlier in the year a tour of the airport was offered for new and returning city staff and department heads. The tour began at Atlantic Aviation and worked its way around the airport and most of the airport businesses. **Mr. Tiedeman** explained there was a follow-up with the airport businesses which seemed to think the tour was beneficial.

Chair Erkel asked for more information about tours for city employees.

Representative Ryan asked for more information about Fire Fighting on airport property.

John Krack, a member of the public, commented on the lease process that when leases are up for renewal if there are any issues, the tenant is encouraged to make the changes prior to the end of the lease.

Chair Erkel asked for clarification if there is space for new construction. **Mr. Tiedeman** explained the level of interest and the challenges with new construction at the airport.

8. Long-Term Plan Schedule

Philip Tiedeman, Manager – Anoka County – Blaine Airport, gave a definition of the Long-Term Plan. Eric Gilles, Airport Planner, was unable to make it to the meeting this afternoon. **Mr. Tiedeman** gave a brief overview of the plan which is tentatively scheduled to start in 2024. He acknowledged that this group has shown interest in actively participating in the process.

9. Aircraft Operations and Noise Complaints Summary – 3rd Quarter 2022

Jennifer Lewis, Technical Advisor, explained the Metropolitan Airports Commission Noise and Operation System (MACNOMs) updates and how the operations were tracked. **Ms. Lewis** stated there were 372 noise complaints from 12 locations and 97 nighttime complaints from 8 nighttime locations. There were 18,815 operations of which 1,113 were nighttime operations recorded for

Anoka County-Blaine Airport during the quarter. **Ms. Lewis** explained the change in the collection of data. **Ms. Lewis** also explained that more detail about complaints and operations is available at www.macnoise.com/tools-reports/interactive-reports

Ms. Lewis responded to an inquiry about the fewer number of complaints versus the increase in jet activity. She also elaborated on the types of complaints surrounding Blimps at Anoka County-Blaine Airport.

10. **Member Vision Remarks**

Chair Erkel thanked all in attendance for participating and opened the discussion to the representatives reminding them of two topics; What do you seek from the ACBAAC, and What is your vision for the Anoka County-Blaine Airport?

Representative Ryan gave his perspective regarding the airport and the changes he has seen in his years of participation on the Commission. **Mr. Ryan** shared that he is very hopeful that the Long-Term Planning process does include the Commission and the interested members of the public.

Representative Reinert agreed with the positive changes he has seen at the airport. **Mr. Reinert** mentioned his appreciation of being a member of the Commission as he can relay information to those who know he is on the Commission.

John Krack, member of the public (and a member of the Reliever Airport Advisory Committee), was also quite appreciative of the MAC's commitment to communication with stakeholders.

Representative Daml, asked the Commission members to do more to support aviation and encourage participation by the other users of the airport and the community. **Ms. Daml** also suggested there be a restaurant on the airport.

Chair Erkel commented that many of the Commission members were not given updates or invites to the events taking place at the airport. She recommended that the events and other opportunities for public participation be published in the newsletter.

Representative Lawrence also supported the discussion about more communication with the public.

10. **Set next Meeting Date**

Chair Erkel led a discussion regarding the date of the next meeting. It was decided the meeting would be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 4:00 pm at the Atlantic Aviation Terminal.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.