



Anoka County-Blaine Airport ADVISORY COMMISSION

ACBAAC

**METROPOLITAN AIRPORTS COMMISSION
ANOKA COUNTY-BLAINE AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Atlantic Aviation

9877 North Airport Road Northeast, Blaine, MN 55449

The meeting began at 4:03 p.m. with 26 people in attendance: 22 in person, 4 via Teams.

Representatives: C. Daml, Northstar Flyers; K. Devries, City of Lexington; S. Erkel, City of East Bethel; N. Fleischhacker, City of Blaine; C. Ford, City of Blaine; M. Heyle, EAA Chapter 237; S. Klobucher, Atlantic Aviation; G. Krantz (via Teams), North Central Aviation Association; M. Lawrence (via Teams), Anoka County Aviation Association; C. Mueller, Twin Cities Aviation; T. Newland, City of Blaine; D. Ostwald, City of Fridley; M. Percy, City of Circle Pines; D. Quimby, City of Lino Lakes; J. Reinert, Anoka County; K. Sislo, EAA Chapter 237; E. Thorvig, City of Blaine.

MAC Staff: R. Anderson, Manager – Community Relations; E. Gilles, Airport Planner; J. Lewis, Community Relations Coordinator; C. Metcalfe, Assistant Manager – Community Relations; M. Ross (via Teams), Director – Stakeholder Engagement; P. Tiedemann, Manager - Anoka County-Blaine Airport

Others: O. Lewis, ANE; C. Gardner (via Teams), Bolton & Menk, on behalf of Metropolitan Council; Ryan Ziegler, Recording Secretary

A quorum of at least 3 User Representatives and 3 Public Representatives was established.

1. Welcome and Introductions

CO-CHAIR KLOBUCHER called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. and invited those present to introduce themselves.



2. Consent Items

2.1 Approval of Meeting Minutes: November 6, 2024

CO-CHAIR KLOBUCHER opened a discussion regarding approving the minutes from the committee meeting on November 6, 2024. There were no changes.

CO-CHAIR ERKEL motioned and **REPRESENTATIVE DEVRIES** seconded to approve the November 6, 2024, meeting minutes. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

2.2 Aircraft Operations & Noise Complaints Quarterly Report

MS. LEWIS commented that the report was contained in the meeting packet and that she was happy to answer any questions or give more detail.

CO-CHAIR KLOBUCHER opened a discussion and called for questions or comments. There were no questions or comments.

3. Public Comment

CO-CHAIR KLOBUCHER introduced the public comment period. There were no comments made.

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4. Business

4.1 ANE Long-Term Plan Update

MR. GILLES gave an update on the ANE long-term comp plan. The plan will cover a 20-year timeline. Consultant selection is currently being done. He reviewed the plan's timeline and noted that this year's focus is gathering information. It is expected that a comprehensive report will go out at the end of the study in 2027 and/or early 2028.

CO-CHAIR ERKEL asked a question regarding methods of public comment on the plan.

MR. GILLES answered that feedback will be received through members of the Stakeholder Advisory Panel, through the project website, and at Discover Anoka Airport scheduled meetings. A public comment period will also be opened after the report is completed.

REPRESENTATIVE REINERT asked about who has final authority for project decisions.

MR. GILLES clarified that the plan doesn't authorize projects but serves as a roadmap. FAA

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approval will need to be obtained, and an environmental review process will happen. He highlighted the importance of the Stakeholder Advisory Panel and community engagement. He noted that the Capital Improvement Plan will also affect implementation and that all will be looked at systematically across the reliever airport system.

REPRESENTATIVE REINERT inquired about ultimate authority for decisions.

MR. GILLES answered MAC has ultimate authority, but feedback will be taken into account.

CO-CHAIR KLOBUCHER asked whether runway length is governed by federal or state statute.

MR. GILLES answered that state statute governs.

REPRESENTATIVE NEWLAND asked for examples of what may be constructed.

MR. GILLES answered that that depends on the results of the plan.

REPRESENTATIVE PERCY asked a question about who sets the airport classification.

MR. GILLES answered that Met Council sets the airport classification.

REPRESENTATIVE REINERT asked about the expected interval of project updates.

MR. GILLES answered that he would like ACBAAC to be part of the Stakeholder Advisory Panel, which will receive regular updates to that group, and that he would also be happy to come to ACBAAC meetings as well.

4.2 City of Blaine Ball Park Development Area Update

MR. THORVIG gave an update on the planned development of the National Sports Center area. Development is expected to start in 2025. Planned development includes residential areas, a stadium for events and a Minor League baseball team, commercial development, and green space.

REPRESENTATIVE DAML inquired about how increased traffic in the area would be handled.

MR. THORVIG noted that the environmental impact document addressed traffic and that many intersections would need to be changed and upgraded.

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REPRESENTATIVE DAML specifically asked about a roundabout on 105th Avenue Northeast.

MR. THORVIG noted the traffic study recommended another roundabout be added to that area.

REPRESENTATIVE NEWLAND noted the added services may decompress event traffic patterns.

REPRESENTATIVE REINERT asked about the name of the Minor League baseball team.

MR. THORVIG said there will be an announcement of that in the spring.

CO-CHAIR KLOBUCHER inquired about the expected economic impact of the project.

MR. THORVIG said a significant boost to tax base size is expected. He further noted that the project brings some currently tax-exempt land into taxable status and that it will hopefully keep people in Blaine to spend money instead of going elsewhere.

MR. TIEDEMAN inquired regarding FAA involvement in the process.

MR. THORVIG noted that their development partner is very experienced and anticipates working with the FAA as the project moves forward.

REPRESENTATIVE NEWLAND inquired about the total dollar of properties being forecast.

MR. THORVIG approximated that the public-private investment is in the range of \$600,000,000 between all involved entities. He added that **REPRESENTATIVES FORD** and **NEWLAND** are on the council to help keep the Commission updated and that he is also happy to come back to give further updates. He estimated the project will be completed in four to five years.

4.3 Noise Abatement Best Practices Update

MS. LEWIS introduced the Noise Abatement Best Practices initiative, branded as “Fly Neighborly.” She asked for acceptance from members of the Best Practices so that the next phase of creating a guide for pilots can move forward. She reviewed the presentation regarding Sections 1 and 2 and asked for any questions.

CO-CHAIR KLOBUCHER made sure participants on Teams could also ask questions. No questions were asked regarding Sections 1 and 2.

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MS. LEWIS reviewed the presentation regarding Section 3 and asked for any questions. No questions were asked regarding Section 3. She then reviewed the presentation regarding Sections 4 and 5 and asked for any questions.

REPRESENTATIVE PERCY asked for clarification of the timing of nighttime operations.

MS. LEWIS clarified that the section discussed is in regards to night training flights. She then reviewed the presentation regarding Section 6 and asked for any questions. No questions were asked regarding Section 6.

CO-CHAIR ERKEL asked about whether the guide and plan has been run by pilots.

MS. LEWIS explained the role of pilot engagement and noted that the program is voluntary. She further stated that similar programs have been implemented in other airports and that negative comments from pilots have not been received

REPRESENTATIVE NEWLAND inquired regarding metrics to be used to measure program goals.

MS. LEWIS noted that she hopes to track how many pilots are using the guide. She said that while there is no specific direct tie to noise complaint numbers, that could be one measure of how the program is working. She clarified that FAA regulations still govern.

REPRESENTATIVE DAML stated that the recommendations seem similar to her normal flying practices and asked about how common the practices may already be.

MS. LEWIS stated that most pilot questions are regarding altitude and discussed how FAA and MAC work together regarding noise.

CO-CHAIR ERKEL and **REPRESENTATIVES SISLO** and **DAML** discussed post-10:00 p.m. flights and self-regulation among pilots. **REPRESENTATIVE DAML** noted the number of takeoffs and landings needed at night for flight training.

CO-CHAIR KLOBUCHER asked for clarification on the motion being requested.

MS. LEWIS clarified she's asking for a motion to recommend approval of the Noise Abatement Best Practices and recommend that the MAC proceed with the next steps.

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REPRESENTATIVE REINERT so motioned and REPRESENTATIVE PERCY seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. Information

5.1 Tree of Hope Overview

REPRESENTATIVE DAML gave information about the Tree of Hope organization and their 2024 toy drive for children in local hospitals and reviewed their very successful 2024 holiday event.

MR. HEYLE added that he drove toys to hospitals the last two years and they are very grateful.

REPRESENTATIVE DAML expressed her thanks to Atlantic Aviation for providing the venue, as well as thanked the other involved individuals and organizations.

5.2 Airport Manager Update - MAC Properties Overview - 2025 Airport Construction Projects

MR. TIEDEMAN gave an update on winter operations as well as 2025 airport projects, including an equipment storage building, an above-ground fuel tank, the airport layout plan and long-term comp plan, 2025 Runway 18/36 rehabilitation and lighting vault, MnDOT Aeronautics AWOS replacement, and coordination regarding Trunk Highway 65, utilities, and right-of-way easements. He then gave an overview of MAC-owned properties and their current uses.

6. Member Announcements & Airport/Community Events in 2025

REPRESENTATION SISLO discussed EAA Chapter 237 events, including a pancake breakfast which will occur on June 28th, coinciding with Blaine Festival Days. They are seeking help in promoting the event.

CO-CHAIR KLOBUCHER noted that Atlantic Aviation has a busy summer planned. With KSTP closing their main runway, they are expecting an additional 30 jets, so there will be increased investment and usage.

REPRESENTATIVE SISLO thanked **CO-CHAIR KLOBUCHER** for hosting the Young Eagle events that introduce kids to aviation.

CO-CHAIR ERKEL and **REPRESENTATIVE REINERT** asked for more specific information on the event.

REPRESENTATIVES SISLO and **HEYLE** stated that the event starts at 10 a.m. and is for kids ages 8-

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17. There is more information available on EAA Chapter 237's website.

7. Review 2025 Meeting Schedule Dates: June 11, November 12

MS. LEWIS noted that future meetings will be in the same location as the present meeting.

8. Adjourn

CO-CHAIR KLOBUCHER adjourned the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

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