



**METROPOLITAN AIRPORTS COMMISSION
LAKE ELMO AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, February 27, 2023, 3:00 p.m.

Baytown Township Hall
4020 McDonald Drive North
Stillwater, MN 55082

The meeting started at 3:10 p.m. In attendance were:

Representatives: D. Chase; At-Large; D. Elder, Washington, County; P. Evenson, EAA Chapter 54; M. Gunderson, EAA Chapter 54; M. Hanson, City of Bayport; J. Holtz; City of Lake Elmo; G. Kreisel, Washington County; M. McComber, City of Oak Park Heights; P. Moosbrugger, West Lakeland Township; L. Peterson, At-Large; R. Weyrauch, Baytown Township; J. Thomas, At-Large; D. Weiler, At-Large

MAC Staff: J. Harris, Director – Reliever Airports; J. Lewis, Community Relations Coordinator; J. Egan, Assistant Manager, Community Relations; P. Tiedeman, Airport Manager, Lake Elmo Airport; K. Verdeja, Administrative Specialist

Other: J. Fieldseth, member of the public; Elden, Lake Elmo Airport User

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

1. Welcome and Introductions - Information

Luke Peterson, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm. There was a total of 20 participants. He gave an overview of the agenda. Chair Peterson invited attendees to introduce themselves.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes for 11-28-2022

Chair Peterson opened the discussion regarding approving the minutes from the commission meeting on November 28, 2022. There was no discussion.

**Representative Thomas moved and Representative McComber seconded to:
Approve the Minutes from the November 28, 2022 Meeting as presented.**

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. LEAAC Commission Purpose

Chair Peterson led a discussion regarding the Goal and Purpose of the Lake Elmo Airport Advisory Commission (LEAAC).

4. Proposed 2023-2024 Work Plan

Chair Peterson reviewed the proposed Work Plan for the Commission for 2023-2024.

**Representative McComber moved and Representative Gunderson seconded to:
Accept the 2023-2024 Work Plan of the Commission as presented.**

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. Community Member Co-Chair Election

Chair Peterson opened the business item to nominations for the role of Chair of the Community Group. Representative McComber was the only nomination for this position.

Representative Hanson moved to:

Elect Representative McComber as the Community Representative Co-Chair

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

With a unanimous vote, Representative McComber was elected as the Chair of the Community Group.

6. User Member Co-Chair Election

Mary McComber, the newly elected **Community Representative Co-Chair**, opened the item to nominations and discussion for the role of Chair of the User Group. Representative Peterson was the only nomination for this position.

Representative Evenson moved and Representative Thomas seconded to:

Elect Representative Peterson as the User Representative Co-Chair

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

With a unanimous vote, Representative Peterson was elected as the Chair of the User Group.

Chair Peterson offered **Co-Chair McComber** the duties of the chair for the remainder of the meeting. Co-Chair McComber declined the offer.

7. Airport Manager Update

Philip Tiedeman, Manager – Lake Elmo Airport reviewed the multiple winter weather events that have taken place so far this season. He also reviewed the construction items over the last few years: 2020 rerouted 30th Street N. to accommodate the airport runway realignment;

2021 focused on grading the new pavement and drainage; 2022 was when impacts to the airport users were really noticed with the paving of new surfaces, adjusting layouts and airport closures. Mr. Tiedeman continued to explain that in 2023 the construction will be wrapping up by finishing Phase 4, which entails converting the old runway to a taxiway and paving the final connector taxiways and some additional service roadwork.

Mr. Tiedeman explained that along with Joe Harris, Director – Reliever Airports and Chair Luke Peterson, they presented an informational update to the Metropolitan Airports Commission on January 21, 2023. The Committee and Commission meetings are open to the public and can also be viewed live on their website. The presentation can be viewed by going to <https://metroairports.org/resources/commission-meetings>.

8. **Airport User and Community Spotlights**

Chair Peterson introduced an airport user, **Elden**, who retired after a career as a biomedical veterinary pathologist. He lives in a nearby city and has used Lake Elmo Airport as the home base for his experimental airplane.

Elden built a Vans Aircraft RV-4 in 1989 (the first RV-4 built in Minnesota) to participate in a combination of his family's farming enterprises, pursue his hobby of classic restorations, and volunteer church mission projects while maintaining a demanding laboratory career. He has supported the local EAA chapter by flying Young Eagles out of the farm strip.

Chair Peterson showed aerial photos of the Lake Elmo airport in 1957 and 1964 then 2020 and 2022. He also highlighted the airports surrounding communities.

9. **Q4 2022 Aircraft Operations and Noise Complaint Trends**

Jennifer Lewis, Technical Advisor, reviewed the process by which complaints are taken at the Metropolitan Airports Commission regarding aircraft. She stated there were 606 noise complaints from three locations and three nighttime complaints from two nighttime locations in 2022. There were 7,272 operations and 36 nighttime operations recorded for Lake Elmo Airport during the quarter.

She reviewed the wind summary during Quarter 4 from 2022 and 2021. She also compared the aircraft operations and noise complaints from the same time frame.

Ms. Lewis explained that more detail about complaints and operations is available at www.metroairports.org/community-connection/aircraft-noise. She also gave information about accessing MAC FlightTracker at www.macnoms.com.

10. **Public Comment**

Chair Peterson introduced the public comment period and reminded attendees of the ground rules for public comment. **Representative Evenson** commented on the new flight approach path.

11. Member Perspectives

Co-Chair Peterson explained the usefulness of this agenda item.

Representative Weyrauch asked if incident reports could be added to future meeting packets.

Representative McComber asked for an updated roster of the membership.

Representative Weiler asked for more information from the flight instructors.

Representative Evenson asked if there were more security plans at the airport, mentioning children playing on a snow pile at the airport. **Chair Peterson** and **Mr. Tiedeman** discussed bringing this topic forward for future discussion.

Representative Moosbrugger asked for copies of the PowerPoint presentation.

12. Review LEAAC Meeting Schedule

Chair Peterson led a discussion regarding the upcoming meetings for the calendar year.

The next LEAAC Meeting will be held on May 22, 2023 at 3:00 pm at a location to be determined.

The other meeting dates are August 28 and November 27, 2023. Meeting materials are published here once they are available: <https://metroairports.org/leaac>

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.