

MEADOW LAKE AIRPORT (00V)

13625 Judge Orr Road, Meadow Lake Airport (00V), Peyton, Colorado 80831-6051

www.MeadowLakeAirport.com

Newsletter - November 2009

Attachments: (1) Bylaws of the Meadow Lake Airport Association (Rev'd May 2009)

President's Remarks (Dave Elliott):

It's been awhile since we've provided an update of our projects. I was hoping to have progress to report on the "Thru-the-Fence" issues that were discussed at the membership meetings last February and May, but it appears that the national controversy has only grown and it may be some time before there is any resolution.

Special Membership Meeting - Nov 9th: We had a good turnout Monday night, and I'd like to thank all of you who attended to discuss and vote on an offer for the MLAA to purchase the old Penkhus property from Johnston Enterprises. The spirited discussion involved FAA grants for the principal and MLAA funds for interest, and focused on potential impact of the property on future airport construction and concern about continued FAA support for Meadow Lake. With proxies in hand, 97% of the voting interest of the Assn was represented at the meeting. 20,805 votes were cast for the offer (42.6%), and 21,150 votes were cast against (43.3%). The remainder of the ballots (approximately 4,000) were proxies assigned to the Board of Directors. At the regular monthly Board of Directors meeting on November 10th, I decided that a split Board voting on the remainder of the votes would only complicate an issue that was clearly too close to obligate the Assn at this time. Therefore, we have passed on the offer at this time and will pursue other variations or alternatives.

CDOA Remarks: Of significance to the MLAA were the remarks after the voting by Travis Vallin, Director, Colorado Division of Aeronautics. Travis expressed his continued support for Meadow Lake and, speaking for the FAA, addressed recent concerns and challenges for MLAA. Three specifics were covered:

- "Thru-the-Fence": The national FAA concern over "Through-the-Fence" operations and agreements is a growing issue and Travis requested that we put development of our document on hold pending national guidance and implementation. He did express his position that the 41 residential lots currently having airport access should be "grandfathered", but that MLAA should not allow any additional lots to be granted access.

- "Self-Sustainability": A significant concern to the FAA and CDOA is the ability of each airport in the system to sustain its own operations and maintenance and "economic parity" for on-airport and "thru-the-fence" users. Part of that issue is the amount that an Airport Authority charges for access to the airport (runway complex) that state and federal grants have supported. This has been a recurring item in our discussions with CDOA and the ADO, and Travis suggested that MLAA (working with his staff) survey appropriate comparable airports to ensure that our "access fees" are in line.

- Control Airport Access. The FAA has a growing concern for security and uncontrolled access to airfields (i.e.: restrict the ability of local teenagers to use the runway at midnight to drag race). Your Board has also had concerns about unintended uses and liabilities of our growing property and we have already begun to address some of these issues.

He also discussed the probability of continued funding for Meadow Lake and the importance of establishing the actual "tail count" (N-number) population of the airport.

ASSOCIATION UPDATE

The following resolutions have been developed since our last newsletter:

2009-01 Resolved to pass the Johnston property purchase offer to the Association membership for discussion and vote. For: Elliott, Shook, Moore, Varnedoe; Abstain: Johnston; Absent: Martin, Lee.

FINANCES

Annual Assessments (Dues): Four members remain delinquent in their 2009 dues. These names will be published with the Jan/Feb newsletter that accompanies the 2010 dues notice.

CDoT Aviation Fuel Tax Refund: The MLAA receives 10 cents for every gallon of aviation fuel sold on the airport ... 6 cents from the retail vendor, and 4 cents (of the 6 cent state fuel tax) in a refund from the Colorado Dept of Revenue (the other 2 cents goes to the State Infrastructure Bank for low interest loans to airports for capital improvements). Last spring, a State audit at the Division of Aeronautics (CDOA) identified a discrepancy in that "private" airports (such as Meadow Lake) were not eligible to receive the refund under the original legislation. CDOA quickly sponsored revised legislation to restore this program to all airports retailing fuel, and this revenue source was resumed to MLAA in August.

Grants. We did resolve a payment plan this summer with CDoT for the interest accrued from the State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) loan. Identification of miscellaneous expenses from the land purchases resulted in an additional 2009 grant from CDOA for \$112,000 and an upcoming 2010 grant from the FAA for \$90,928. This will leave approximately \$80,000 for the MLAA to submit over the next 5 years. Other CDOA grants for the airport beacon and the fire fighting water storage have been completed and the Strategic Business Plan grant is 95% complete. For 2010, we have submitted a request for \$112,000 to upgrade the run-up area for Runway 15 and construct a loop on the west side from B1 – Bravo – B2. The AWOS contract (FAA AIP 2009 GA Entitlement Grant) has been signed and construction should begin soon. Conflicts with overlap of the "Obstruction Free Area" onto the Johnston property resulted in relocating the proposed site to the east side, south of the "Elephant Pit". Our 2010 request is to complete reimbursement for land purchase expenses and contract for development of a Security and Access Control Plan (see below).

BY LAWS

It has been a while since we last published a complete copy of our revised Bylaws ... an updated copy is enclosed. Revisions include the amendments passed at the General Membership Meeting last May:

- **Article I - Use of the Airport** ... confirms our relationship with the FAA as the "Airport Authority" and as a general aviation reliever airport and recipient of AIP grants. This paragraph was already approved for inclusion in the Articles of Incorporation and was requested for inclusion in the Bylaws. It was reformatted to make it easier to read. ... Votes For: 40,306 (82.58%) ... Against: 3,216 (6.59%)
- **Article IV, Section 2 - Directors term of office** ... amends the term of office of the Directors to 2 years (beginning with the elections in 2010). It was considered significant to the FAA and CDoT/Aero/Aero to ensure continuity of planning, coordination and capital improvements of the airport. The revision details that vacancies may be filled by appointments by the Board until the next General Membership Meeting, when election by the membership would be required for the remainder of the term or continuation into the new term. ... Votes For: 40,306 (82.58%) ... Against: 3,216 (6.59%)
- **Article XII - Dissolution of the Association** ... recognizes the position of the FAA as Grantor with respect to the purchase and development of the airport. The revision details that a 2/3 vote (66.67%) vote of the membership must be obtained to dissolve the Association. ... Votes For: 42,988 (88.08%) ... Against: 0

AIRPORT UPDATE

Land Acquisition. (MLAA Project #XX-01 [**multiple FAA AIP and CDOT grants**] ... Coordinator: Dave Elliott) This multi-year project began with the acquisition of the Hangar/Restaurant property in 2001 and continues with payback of the \$3.5 Million Colorado Aeronautics Board SIB loan. Final reimbursement from the FAA should be received this year and a payback plan for interest on the SIB loan has been developed.

Fire Water Storage. (MLAA Project #08-02 [**CDAG Grant 09-00V-01a**] ... Coordinators: Verlin Schauer & Richard Martin) Construction across from the MLAA mail box units was completed last summer with the tanks that were donated by the Falcon and Black Forest Fire Districts. Water was been procured this past month, but apparently a leak in the system has developed and is being investigated ... total cost \$19,179.

Strategic Business Plan. (MLAA Project #08-03 [**CDAG Grant 08-00V-02a**] ... Coordinator: Dave Elliott) ADG presented a final draft of the Plan to the Board on Nov 9th and it is under review ... project 95% complete.

AWOS. (MLAA Project #08-06 [**FAA AIP-17 / CDAG 09-00V-01c match**] ... Coordinator: Mark Shook) A contract has been signed and construction should commence as soon as final approval of the new location on the east side of the runway is obtained ... project in progress.

Pavement Maintenance. (MLAA Project #08-07 [**CDAG 09-00V-01b**] ... Coordinator: Ron Lee) Crack filling was completed last February. A contract has been signed with Kolbe Striping, Inc. (KSI) to restripe the runway and taxiways as soon as weather permits ... estimated cost \$9,500 ... project in progress.

Pavement Expansion. (MLAA Project #08-08 [**CDAG requested for 2010**] ... Coordinator: Ron Lee) Project to expand the run-up area of Runway 15, and construct a new intersection "B2" with improved Taxiway Bravo to B1, and, as funds permit, increase turning radii of taxiways along "Alpha" ... project deferred to 2010.

Thru-the-Fence Agreement. (MLAA Project #09-02 ... Coordinator: Mark Shook/Dave Elliott) We have drafted a "Thru-the-Fence" Agreement for our membership that we believe will serve to solidify your access to and use of your airport, and satisfy the FAA concerns that MLAA maintain control as an operating authority over access and operations of the airport. The draft has been submitted to CDOA for review and comment ... submission to the FAA is pending guidance from Washington.

MLAA Finance/Grant Audit. (MLAA Project #09-03 ... Coordinators: Jeff Moore/Dave Elliott). Following completion of the FAA AIP-19 grant (final reimbursement on land purchase expenses), a GAO A-130 "Program Audit" will be conducted of MLAA previous year finances and grants ... project deferred to 2010.

Re-enumeration. (MLAA Project #09-04 ... Coordinator: Greg Johnson) ... project deferred to 2010.

Cessna Drive Access Connector to "Delta" Taxiway. (MLAA Project #09-06 ... Coordinator: Verlin Schauer) drainage across this connector was undercutting Cessna Drive ... proposal was to install a concrete swale (on MLAA property) to protect Cessna Drive from further erosion and align drainage with the desire channel ... cost \$2,850 ... project complete.

Storage Building Garage Door. (MLAA Project #09-07 ... Coordinator: Ron Lee) The overhead door on the storage building fell apart this summer due to age and use and was replaced with a new door from Overhead Door Company ... cost \$1,785 ... project complete.

Runway-Taxiway Lighting. (MLAA Project #09-08 ... Coordinator: Ron Lee) The electric regulator for the runway lights burned up during the summer. Repairing this old regulator would have approached the cost of a new one, so the regulator from the taxiway was used to power the runway lights to keep the airport operational. A replacement regulator has been delivered and should be installed by the end of November ... cost approx \$7,710 plus labor ... project in progress.

Taxiway Alpha Signage. (MLAA Project #09-09 ... Coordinator: Ron Lee) When the Cessna Drive business signs were purchase last year, yellow reflective signs were also purchased to identify the taxiways off Alpha accessing the hangar areas. Ron and Richard are designing a mounting system to install these signs at the appropriate intersections ... project under design.

Airport Perimeter Fencing. (MLAA Project #09-10 ... Coordinator: Richard Martin) Several "holes" and gaps were identified in our perimeter fencing on the southwest side of the airport last summer. Richard, Ron and Wyman repaired the holes and Crystal Rose Construction completed the installation around the Pfst "storage yard" ... cost \$2,865 ... project complete.

MLA Security and Access Control Plan. (MLAA Project #09-11 ... Coordinator: Wyman Varnedoe) A request has been made to use the remainder of the FAA AIP 2010 GA Entitlement Grant to advertise and contract for development of a plan to allow construction and implement of a phased security and access controls for Meadow Lake Airport (construction over time as funds and resources are available) ... Grant request for approximately \$60,000 ... project approval pending.

MEADOW LAKE COMMUNICATIONS

How to Get Information:

Airport Website: MeadowLakeAirport.com

- Check the website ... it is updated several times a week. While the association plans only 4 mailed newsletters per year, we publish board meeting reports, voting results, events, and news and information on the airports website at: www.MeadowLakeAirport.com (shortcut = 2MLA.com)
- If you are a member of the MLAA, or a based pilot, it is vital that you send us your e-mail contact info. We send out information on Airport taxiway and runway closures and TFRs notices by e-mail.
- Sign up for important news alerts at: info@meadowlakeairport.com

MLAA Scheduled Board Meetings: Second Tuesday of every month at 1500

13560 Piper Lane, Meadow Lake Airport. (MLAA Hangar) **All members welcome**

Officers and Directors:

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