

**Minutes of the Redlands Airport Advisory Board**  
**February 5, 2014, 5:00 P.M.**  
**City Council Chambers, 35 Cajon Street, Suite 2**  
**Redlands, California**

**Members Present:**

Ingrid Biglow, Chairperson  
John Caton, Vice Chair  
Miles Miller  
John Loy  
Nicholas Costa

**Members Absent:**

Ron Klinkebeil  
James Caley

**City Representatives:**

Patricia Gilbreath, Councilwoman  
Christopher Boatman, Quality of Life

**Guests:**

Cathy Grinnan, Hangar 24 Charities Event Planner  
Steve Hertel, Eyepax USA  
Robert Pearce, Former AAB Member  
Steve Willer  
Dennis Bell  
Wayne Reid, Air show Committee Member  
Jim Ott, Redlands Aviation

**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE**

Ms. Biglow called the meeting to order at 5:10 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. She welcomed the guests and asked for public comment.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Mr. Robert Pearce reported that he has researched the **630 page report of the water project being constructed east of Redlands Airport**. He expressed continued concern that this project is in violation of FAA directives and is concerned with the safety of flight at the airport. Mr. Pearce stated that he found comments in the report from various local municipalities, such as Highland, Yucaipa, Calimesa, and others , but none from the city of Redlands that were documented in the report. The only reference of comments by a Redlands organization were from the Redlands Conservancy.

Mr. Pearce talked to Mr. Copeland of the FAA, whose correspondence was attached to the **environmental impact report**. Mr. Copeland did not recall any input or discussion of the project by the City of Redlands regarding the project. Mr. Pearce wondered whether or not the company handling the environmental study ever contacted the City, which he said would have been in the 2007-2008 time frame.

Mr. Pearce expressed concern that the project is within 1200 feet of the end of the runway while FAA advises that such a project should be no closer than 5000 feet (10,000 feet for jet aircraft). He urges the AAB to request that city staff apply for an AIP (airport improvement plan) and request a new environmental impact study. He said such a request should include the numerous errors that are in the present plan. Mr. Pearce has enumerated these errors in previous correspondence. He stated that in his view, though the project is there and continuing toward completion, corrections are still possible.

- On a different subject, Mr. Pearce stated that in his opinion, **Hangar 24 Charities, sponsor of the upcoming May 2014 air show, should supplement or compensate the City for the use and closure of the airport** during the two-day event.
- Ms. Biglow thanked Mr. Pearce and advised that both the water project and the air show would be further discussed later during the meeting.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the December 4, 2013 were not available at this time, and will be presented for review and approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

### 4. NEW BUSINESS:

#### A. Update from Hangar 24 Charities on 2014 air show planning.

- Mr. Boatman introduced the **Hangar 24 Charities, event planner, Ms. Cathy Grinnan**. Mr. Boatman advised members of the AAB that he and representatives of fire and police departments, as well as other staff members, had met several times with Hangar 24 Charities representatives to discuss basic requirements of the air show. (However, this was the **first** briefing to the Airport Advisory Board of plans for the 2014 air show.)
- Ms Grinnan gave the AAB a brief summary of her background of 15 years experience in event planning for national organizations. She was hired by Hangar 24 Charities to enhance the continued support of citrus heritage in the area. **The signature event in raising funds for Hangar 24 Charities will be the 2014 air fest at the Redlands Airport**. She assured the board that the event benefits only the charities, not the brewery.
- Ms. Grinnan advised the AAB that **she has requested permission from the city to submit an application for military air support for the air show**. This she said meant they were asking the military to provide performers for the air show, such as the Navy's Blue Angels, the Army's Blackhawk Helicopter Demonstration Team, the Canadian Snowbirds, or some equivalent military performers. The AAB was advised by Mr. Boatman, that the City Council has already given permission for Hangar 24 to submit such an application. (Note: This is the first time the AAB, whose purpose it is to advise the City Council on such matters, was made aware of such a request.)
- Ms. Grinnan said that planning is not complete and will continue under the direction of the Hangar 24 Charities Board of Directors. She enumerated some of the plans:
  - Application for military support submitted.
  - Air show has been elevated to higher level than last year to benefit the city.

- The two-day event would have an enhanced family area with more activities for children.
  - Requested Kitty Hawk Society from Colorado to participate with aircraft simulators.
  - Vintage aircraft from the Air One organization.
  - San Bernardino County Air Medics on display.
  - Request that the airport be closed except for the flying activities of the show.
  - Dates were originally set for May 17 and 18 (Sat & Sun) but requesting a change to May 16 and 17 (Fri & Sat)
- **AAB member Miles Miller expressed his surprise and concern for the request for military teams** to be invited to participate in the Redlands event. Mr. Miller has had personal experience with military air demonstration teams as a military officer on active duty. He emphasized that preparations for such performances take up to a year of planning for securing proper facilities, ground support, logistics, funding, and security, even when such shows are held at military facilities. He also expressed concern that the massive crowd that a first rate military air team would attract might overwhelm the airport and its facilities.
  - Ms. Grinnan then introduced **Mr. Steve Hertel, of Eyepax USA, who has been engaged by Hangar 24 Charities to address the logistics, parking and IT support requirements of the event.** Mr. Hertel gave a brief resume of his experience in handling large events. These events include: the Rose Parade; the L.A., Salt Lake City, Atlanta, and Vancouver Olympics; Long Beach Grand Prix, Reno Air Races; and numerous military flyovers. He said that a thorough study by him of the local setting, including street sizes, direction, parking, airport facilities would be conducted to determine the best plan for operating the event. He said the crowd size for such an event could be controlled by limiting the number of tickets sold to a number determined as optimum. He predicts that the tickets would pre-sell and would sell out before the event even took place.
  - Mr. Hertel and Ms. Grinnan addressed many of the **preliminary plans.** Mr. Chris Davis will be the "Air Boss" as he was for last year's event. They met with Redlands City Staff, Redlands Police and Redlands Fire, in December 2013/January 2014 and stated that private security would supplement Redlands PD involvement. They emphasized that they were only in the preliminary stages of determining final requirements. Some of the planned 2014 performers participated in the very successful 2013 Hangar 24 Air Fest. They also indicated that they already had a commitment from the Canada's Military F-18 Flight Demonstration Team to send an F-18 to perform at the air show. The F-18 would have to stage from an airfield elsewhere, as Redlands Airport is unable to accommodate such aircraft. All fixed wing jet aircraft would have to stage from a facility such as March ARB or San Bernardino International Airport. The planners said that they have made preliminary contact with March ARB regarding this possibility. When asked what size crowd they expected, they said that 30,000 or higher was possible. Mr. Wayne Reid, a veteran airshow committee member, also contributed to this presentation.
  - Discussion among planners and AAB members ensued. Crowd control and size and manpower to handle such an event were concerns of board members. Mr. Robert Pearce, who works as the Aero Club Director at March ARB, was asked about sizes of air shows that he has observed when elite military air demonstration teams are involved. His response was 150,000 at March ARB for the Thunderbirds and up to 250,000 at North Island NAS to see the Blue Angels. He said that in his opinion the Redlands Airport cannot sustain such a large audience.

- AAB Member John Caton commended Hangar 24's 2013 Airfest as the best one at Redlands Airport in years. He urged that the planners "walk before they run" in establishing a slower pace in the growth of this event. AAB member Nick Costa concurred with this approach. Mr. Miller commented that he is opposed to a military flying team as part of the air show.
- Other comments by AAB members related to what has been identified, by public safety officials, as the **biggest safety issue of last year's airshow**. That problem dealt with hangar tenants of the airport not obeying the restrictions set in place to ensure safety of the audience. These violations include disobeying the instructions of safety officials, ignoring officially blocked rights of way and driving vehicles on taxiways in the proximity of performing aircraft.
- The board members agreed that this first presentation is far from the complete plan needed to make a recommendation to City Council. Ms. Biglow proposed a special meeting of the AAB to continue input by Hangar 24 planners of this event. The meeting to be held in the Redlands Airport Lobby is set for Wednesday, March 5, 2014, at 6:00P.M. The only agenda item will be the air show. The board concurred.

#### **B. Update of the status of the airport surveillance camera system.**

Mr. Boatman advised the board that opportunity to upgrade the the police department operated surveillance system will exist only when a potential of grant money surfaces. This would not mean a new system, but enhancing the current system. He will keep the board updated on this subject.

### **5. OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Update of the 399 acre-feet storage reservoir ("Citrus Reservoir") relative to the State Department of Water Resources East Branch Water Pipeline Extension Project** located on the northeast corner of Opal Avenue and San Bernardino Avenue within an unincorporated area of San Bernardino County.

- This item of business was brought up during the public comments of Mr. Robert Pearce earlier in the meeting. AAB member Mr. John Caton said that he had also read the 600+ page report on this State Water Project. He said that except for a cursory paragraph regarding the effect of dust and pollen, mainly concerning Yucaipa and other nearby areas of San Bernardino County, there was no reference to the City of Redlands, nor to any effect of the project on flight operations at the airport. Some of the AAB's concerns are the waterfowl that the reservoir will attract, and the danger of bird strikes by local aircraft.
- Mr. Boatman briefed board members that this project is an approved project which the State has an obligation to carry out. He said the State indicated that documents were circulated for comments on the project, and that none were received. He continued that the State stands by its plan for the project, and that if waterfowl become a problem, the State is required to implement mitigation procedures. They must then change the plan to correct the problem. Once an issue is identified, the plan must be amended and go through the approval process.

- Ms. Biglow requested that Mr. Boatman and staff continue to monitor the project and inform the AAB at once of any issues that are identified as problems. A final public comment from Mr. Pearce was that the whole premise of approval of this project is based on falsehood.

### **B. Update on development projects within the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Influence area.**

Mr. Boatman reported that several housing projects are in progress in the local area. The Brush Creek project has submitted its final maps of grading plans to the City for approval. Regarding all of the projects that have been built or are planned for the vicinity of the airport, the AAB is concerned that developers must adhere closely to the plans that were submitted.

Mr. Caton addressed the subject of **required green belt areas** that are to be included. His understanding is that these areas are to be **free of trees and other large landscaping, including structures**. This is to allow aircraft, which have engine trouble on takeoff from the Redlands Airport, to safely maneuver for an emergency landing without loss of life to city residents and those on the aircraft. Mr. Caton said that, based on his observation of projects that currently have been built, he does not believe that those directives were followed. With trees growing on greenbelts there is nowhere to land. (Note: The AAB had previously recommended to City Council that such projects, as the formerly named Walton Project, not be approved for safety and noise abatement reasons. However, the City Council approved the project.)

Mr. Boatman advised the board that he would have staff review the plans for the green belt areas and report back to the AAB at a future meeting.

### **C. Report by staff on the status of routine airport maintenance items.**

Mr. Boatman discussed the addition of and placement of **yellow reflectors along the taxiways and on the adjacent brims**. Ms. Biglow has some ideas on where to place additional reflectors and will discuss them with Mr. Boatman. Ms. Biglow also mentioned the **eyesores** of trash, a broken garage door on the fire truck garage, and debris in the area of Hangar #33. She requested that these discrepancies be brought to the attention of City code enforcement.

### **D. State water quality regulations concerning onsite aircraft washing**

NPDES staff has requested additional time to prepare this presentation. Staff recommends that this item 5D be continued to the meeting of April 2, 2014, to allow additional time for staff to prepare the requested information.

### **E. Fiscal year 2012-2013 budget update.**

Regarding the \$54,000 deficit between revenue and expenditure in the 2013 budget, Mr. Boatman advised that the FAA grant money for the completed taxiway paving and striping was received after the expenditures for the project were paid. This occurred after the start of the new fiscal year. Other minor discrepancies were due to one-day market adjustments. **Accounts are now balanced.**

## **6. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:**

- Continued updates on Hangar 24 Charities air show
- State water quality regulations concerning onsite aircraft washing
- Master Plan update
- Status of routine airport maintenance

- Updates on development projects within the airport influence area
- Other- as necessary

## **7. Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 P.M.
- Next regular AAB meeting: Wednesday, April, 2 2014 in Council Chambers at 5:00 P.M.
- Special meeting with Air Show as only agenda item: Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at the Redlands Airport Lobby at 6:00 P.M.

Submitted by AAB member,  
Nicholas Costa