

Governor's Aviation Advisory Board

March 16, 2004

Summary Minutes

Board Members Present

**Dan Klaes
Paul Landis
Ken Lythgoe
Felix Maguire
Mike Salazar
Richard Wien**

Board Members Excused

**Jim Dodson
Bill Fowler
Bob Jacobson
Wilbur O'Brien**

Attendees

**Tom George, AOPA
Joe Griffith, AEDC
Betty Habza, DoT
Andrew Niemiec, DoT
Mort Plumb, ANC
Frank Richards, DoT
Deb Roth, FAA Airports Division
Carl Siebe, DoT
Jesse VanderZanden, FAI
Nona Wilson, DoT (by phone)
Rich Wilson, ANC**

Chair – Opened the meeting at noon in the large conference room at Central Region Headquarters in Anchorage. Minutes from 2-4-04 were adopted with amendments by Tom George and Ken Lythgoe.

Maguire – ANC wetlands permit has been revoked, and any reinstatement should not include the one-for-one stipulation on GA parking.

Chair – Working group has reviewed bill draft for authority, and Steiner will provide an overview of the draft.

Steiner – Highlights include: most of existing Title 2 is contained in the draft's addition of Chapter 45; intends to amend Section 64 of the draft to specifically reference the operating agreement; both Title 2 and the leasing regulations can be abandoned by authority in current draft; due to constitutional issues, the Commissioner may have to be more than ex-officio member; and, it should be noted that the state bond resolution has a prohibition against disposal, and that currently is not a prohibition in this draft.

Chair – Interested to know how much control the advisory board will have over the administration's handling of the bill. Board should direct bill writing, and wants support from DoT and AG to that end.

Steiner – AG will want to review all language, even that proposed by "friendly legislators."

N. Wilson – Governor's legislative liaison feels that the most to be expected during the remainder of the session would be a few hearings.

Maguire – Wanted clarification that Lake Hood complex was part of the property included in the authority's purview.

Steiner – Confirmed that it was part of the authority.

Landis – Urged that the sponsor statement for the authority bill clearly outline why the bill is being forwarded.

Klaes – Still advocates for a member of the authority board that represents the rest of the state that relies on the two international airports.

Chair – Advisory board has tried to keep the authority board membership clean, other than the distribution between ANC and FAI communities.

Steiner – For example, the previously discussed labor representative might be ruled to have a conflict while sitting on the authority board.

Lythgoe – Should maintain focus on qualifications of members, not representation.

Lanids – Noted that if the Commissioner is not ex-officio, the board should be reduced to nine members.

Steiner - Continued overview of "how the bill handles" various issues. He will draft language to include local governments in the state's risk management plan. Pilot's use of alcohol is not within the state's or authority's jurisdiction. Further review of the "fines" section will be conducted by DoT staff. One percent for art provisions will be removed from future drafts. Administrative Procedures Act section will also be reviewed. The "competing airport" language on page 23 should be removed.

Niemiec and Richards – Addressed rural airport M&O structure and State Equipment Fleet organization.

Chair – What are next steps for rural airport system?

Salazar – Governor's goal is to reduce general fund spending, and have communities run airports.

Klaes – Advisory Board should be made permanent.

Wien – What was mandate of territorial board?

Maguire – Supports concept of permanent advisory board. Current Alaska Aviation Coordination Council is somewhat toothless.

Landis – make sure that board does not duplicate efforts of the industry and trade associations.

Chair – The permanent advisory board should emphasize “aviation” over “airport”, and should be consulted by the Commissioner prior to hiring managers. Directs staff to draft a sample bill.

Maguire – Board should focus on state standards for construction.

Landis – Board might want to evaluate the new bypass mail regulations.

Roth – Advisory Board could possibly head off earmarks that divert resources from minimum standards.

Klaes – Would like to hear from M&O managers at next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.