

**Meeting Minutes
CFASPP STATEWIDE STEERING
COMMITTEE MEETING
August 20, 2020
Virtual Meeting via GoToMeeting**

1. **Call to Order/Introductions** – Chair Roy Sieger called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. and asked everyone to stand at their location and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. He then asked the committee members in attendance and on the phone to introduce themselves. He noted that in addition to the committee members, more than 105 airport representatives and other Florida aviation stakeholders were participating in the meeting via the web/phone.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Roy Sieger	Statewide Chair	Flagler Executive Airport
Kerry Keith*	Statewide Vice-chair	Naples Airport Authority
Nate Coyle	Northeast Chair	Fernandina Beach Municipal Airport
Adam Hied	Treasure Coast Chair	Okeechobee County Airport
John Helms	Central Chair	Bartow Executive Airport
Rich Lesniak	West Central Chair	St. Pete-Clearwater Intl. Airport
Allan Penksa, AAE*	North Central Chair	Gainesville Regional Airport
Nina MacPherson*	Southeast Chair	BCAD-North Perry Airport
Richard McConnell*	Northwest Chair	Northwest Florida Beaches Intl. Airport

In addition, the following technical advisors were in attendance to support the committee:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Andy Keith*	FDOT Aviation Development Administrator
Mike McClure*	FDOT Aviation System Manager
Dan Afghani	CFASPP Administrator

*Via Teleconference

2. **Approve Last Minutes** – Chair Sieger asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Mr. John Helms made a motion to approve that was seconded by Mr. Nate Coyle and passed by a unanimous vote of the committee members present.
3. **Regional Chairperson’s Roundtable**
 - **Regional Reports/Issues related to Covid-19** – Each of the committee members in attendance reported on the impacts to aviation in their respective regions as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. The general tenor from the committee chairpersons was that GA traffic has rebounded well with many areas back to normal or even exceeding year over year numbers. Flight training continues to be strong. Airline traffic continues to be down, particularly in more business focused markets. Commercial service airports with a strong leisure/vacation market share (panhandle) have rebounded quicker as the demand for domestic vacations is up this summer, likely due to international travel restrictions.
 - **Chapter 332.007(6)(c) F.S.- Project Funding Ratios for Commercial Service Airports** – The committee discussed ongoing efforts to change this statute to establish alternative passenger traffic milestones (number of enplanements) at which an airport would be designated as a commercial service airport (and drop from 80% to 50% funding) in the FDOT aviation grant program. Mr. Allan Penksa highlighted the need for this change noting that hosting a low level of commercial service is an expensive proposition for small airports. The drop to 50% project funding eligibility (from 80%) is not offset in any meaningful way by profits from

commercial airline service. He encouraged Florida Airports Council (FAC) and the FDOT to continue to work on a solution. Ms. Waters Lisa Waters of the FAC indicated that her organization continues to work on this issue. FDOT Aviation Development Administrator, Mr. Andy Keith advised the committee that FDOT supports a change to the statute and was working internally on the matter.

- **FAA Metroplex Development** – The Administrator advised the committee that discussions at the West Central and Southeast Metro Area indicated that final changes to the airspace in these regions may actually involve new approach procedures resulting in low flying aircraft over areas that had not previously had air traffic overhead. Previous reports on the Metroplex development in both regions had indicated that the majority of changes would be at higher altitudes resulting in little or no noticeable changes to residents or others concerned with airport noise.

4. **FDOT Aviation**

- **Aviation Office (AO) Update**

- **Covid-19 Impacts – FDOT Project Funding** - Mr. Mike McClure reviewed recommendations made by the FDOT Aviation Office regarding potential options for increasing the allowable FDOT funding percentage on certain aviation projects. One of the options presented would allow up to 100% funding for eligible aviation grant projects at both general aviation and commercial service airports for a specified period of time. Another option presented was a potential waiver of qualification requirements for Strategic Airport Investment Projects funded under F.S. 332.007(9). Mr. McClure noted that there would not be an increase in the amount of available FDOT funding if these recommendations are approved. Cost reductions, funding from other sources (FAA), deferrals or cancellations of other programmed projects would need to take place to cover the excess costs. The Aviation Office recommendations have been forwarded to FDOT management for consideration but as of this date, no decisions have been made.
- **Promoting Awareness and Use of the FAA Airport Data and Information Portal (ADIP)** – Mr. McClure briefed the group on the FAA ADIP portal noting that it is a valuable resource from which the FDOT Aviation Office collects and utilizes airport data. He walked the group through the ADIP website highlighting the procedure for establishing a login/password. Mr. McClure then covered the procedure for editing the Airport Master Record (FAA Form 5010-1) and submitting the changes via the ADIP.
- **FDOT Aviation Grant Funding Methodology** – Mr. McClure reviewed excerpts from his regional meeting brief noting that the program is governed by F.S. 332.007, Administration and Financing of Aviation and Airport Programs and Projects. He explained that there are two (2) program categories, Airport Development Projects and Airport Discretionary Capacity Improvement Projects. Mr. McClure mentioned that the district allocations are calculated for each program and released 5 years in advance. The allocation is known as “the new 5th year” of the FDOT Work Program and upon receipt, the district aviation coordinators work to select and program projects in the Work Program for each eligible airport in their district. The criteria for determining the allocation is based on a number of factors including the total based aircraft in the district (base year and 20 year forecast), total passenger enplanements in the district (base year and 20 year forecast) and forecasted population growth over a 20 year period. Mr. McClure then reviewed the

funding sources that feed the aviation grant program and reviewed the currently approved allocations from the adopted FDOT Work Program.

- **Summary of Responses to CFASPP Round 2020-1 Question for the Group: What Data Indicates Activity Levels at Your Airport?** – Mr. McClure reviewed the responses to his “Question for the Group” from the last round of regional meetings. The top three (3) answers were fuel sales, T-hangar occupancy and traffic counts. Mr. Nate Coyle and other committee members discussed the pros and cons of using T-hangar occupancy data as a measure. The committee noted that T-hangar data can be unreliable for a number of reasons and should be studied carefully prior to insertion in the formula. Mr. Coyle suggested that consideration of T-hangar demand for an area might be a useful measure to add to the mix.
 - **Statewide Airfield Pavement Management Program** – Mr. McClure reported Phase 1 of the program is underway and includes the inspection and reporting for 49 Florida airports. The inspections are expected to be completed in March 2021 and final reports should be available for release in June 2021.
 - **Statewide Airport Marking Contract** – Mr. McClure advised that this contract is coming up for renewal noting that the current version expires on December 31, 2020. He mentioned that the FDOT Aviation Office is currently working with a consultant to develop the new contract scope. Now is the time for airports that are interested in this contract to provide input on the scope. At the earliest opportunity, please send any comments on the project/scope to Mr. McClure at Mike.McClure@dot.state.fl.us.
 - **2020 Airfield Pavement Training Courses** – Mr. McClure advised that the pavement training and distress repair courses have been shortened to 3 days and are now (previously October/November 2020) scheduled to be held in Orlando in early 2021. The first session is set for January 25-27 and the second session is February 22-24, 2021.
 - **Guidebook for Airport Master Planning Update** – Mr. McClure advised the group that the guidebook update for 2020-2021 is underway with completion expected in October.
 - **Aviation Project Handbook Update 2020-2021** – The guidebook provides essential information on the aviation grant program and additional funding sources for aviation projects. The guidebook update for 2020-2021 is expected to be complete in September.
 - **Florida Aviation Professionals Academy (FAPA)** – Mr. McClure advised that the next FAPA training is scheduled for Nov 17-18 in Tallahassee. Dates for the spring course offering have yet to be determined. Registration information for the November course will be sent out in the near future.
 - **2020 FDOT Annual Aviation Awards** – Mr. McClure advised the awards presentation for this year would be a narrative PowerPoint. The presentation will be available online. An email with instructions on how to access the presentation will be released by the FDOT Aviation Office soon.
- **FDOT District Announcements** – There were no comments for the group from the FDOT district representatives.
5. **FAA Comments / Announcements** – Mr. Bart Vernace, (Manager, FAA Orlando ADO) briefed the committee on activities at the FAA. He noted that they have established a lead program manager position that has been filled by Mr. Pedro Blanco. In addition to his other

duties, Mr. Blanco will serve as the liaison between the ADO and FDOT. Mr. Vernace reported that they have issued more than 100 CARES Act grants and they are approaching the end of the regular grant cycle. He advised the airport sponsors to prepare for adjustments to the grant application cycle noting that the pre-application date may move up to the October timeframe. Mr. Vernace asked that airport sponsors use OEAAA for the evaluation of Part 77 impacts to instrument procedures. Requests to raise minimums or otherwise modify existing approaches, will only be considered by the FAA once the OEAAA results are available for evaluation.

6. **Old Business**

- **Options to Explore an Increase to Aviation Fuel Tax** – Mr. Penksa and Ms. Lisa Waters of the Florida Airports Council (FAC) briefed the committee on this topic which originated at the last meeting. Mr. Penksa noted that given the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, it was probably not the time to pursue this type of legislation. The committee agreed and no further discussion took place on the issue.

7. **New Business**

- **Transition to new CFASPP Statewide Chairperson** – The Administrator advised the committee that the changeover to a new Chairperson would normally take place at this meeting. Citing the remote format and the inability for the incoming Chairperson to attend in person, the committee opted to defer the changeover until the next meeting in November.
- **Legislative Items of Interest** – Chair Sieger recognized Ms. Waters to brief the group on the current status of a number of legislative issues of interest. She noted that the CEI exemption for airports did not pass but FAC continues to pursue this as a high priority. The bill to formalize the handling of Diesel Emissions Fluid (DEF) at airports did not pass but is likely to come up again this year. She mentioned that airlines are likely to continue their efforts to eliminate the aviation fuel tax.

8. **Open Forum**

- **FAC Education Foundation – Virtual Fun Run** – Chair Sieger asked everyone to visit FloridaAirports.org for information on donation options for the Virtual Fun Run benefiting the FAC Education Foundation.

9. **Time & Place of Next Meeting** – The Administrator advised the committee that the next meeting of the CFASPP Statewide Steering Committee is scheduled for November 19, 2020. The committee determined that the meeting would take place in the Carl T. Langford Board Room (subject to capacity restrictions) at Orlando International Airport on that date beginning at 1 p.m.

10. **Adjournment** – Hearing no further business for the committee to consider, Chair Sieger adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:24 p.m.