March 16, 2005
Milton, Florida

The Aviation Advisory Committee met on the above date with the following members present: Chairman Jimmie Beavers, Vice-Chairman James Hopmeier, and members Bryon Woram, Marty Martin, Garieth Pelham, and Randel Compton. Also present were the County Engineer (Roger Blaylock) and Administrative Services Manager (Tammy Simmons). Chairman Beavers called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Beavers introduced and welcomed Randel Compton representing District Five as Commissioner Broxson's appointee. Randel Compton gave a brief summary of his career and said he is glad to be representing District Five.

Martin moved approval of the minutes of the November 17, 2004 meeting; Pelham seconded, and the vote carried unanimously (6-0).

Martin moved approval of the minutes of the January 19, 2005 meeting; Compton seconded, and the vote carried unanimously (6-0).

Election of Chair/Vice-Chair for 2005

Martin nominated Jimmie Beavers as the Chairman for 2005; Woram seconded, and the vote carried unanimously (6-0).

Hopmeier volunteered as Vice-Chairman for 2005; Clay McCutchan seconded, and the vote carried unanimously (6-0).

Chairman Issues

None

FBO Issues

Davis Glass said he has made several phone calls with regard to replacing the current GCO (Ground Communication Outlet) unit with an updated unit. He said each time he calls he gets an answering machine, so he has left messages. Glass said the current unit is operational. He said initially there was a problem when approach control was called. Glass said if the microphone is clicked three times after submitting clearance, the phone will hang up. He said the replacement GCO unit will have all software upgrades.

Glass said a representative from the Transportation Security Agency will be at Peter Prince Airport tomorrow at 11:00 a.m. to tour the facility. Glass said the electronic gate and keyboard were installed this week. He said the personnel gate located near the FBO (Fixed Base Operator) porch is not secured. Glass said he felt the representative will have questions with regard to how this gate will be operated. Blaylock said currently the gate is controlled by the FBO. He said the fence contractor is investigating a key punch pad with a push bar. McCutchan asked how a transient will get out of the airport if they land after hours and everything is secured. Blaylock said there will be a push bar at the FBO gate to exit the airport, but they will not be able to get back in. Beavers asked how the gate is being secured until the push bar is installed. Glass said currently the personnel gate is being left open all night.

Glass said the airport is heavy involved in military flight training. He said a new class of Navy navigators started Monday. Glass said there are a number of pilot trainees. He identified additional aircraft at the airport being used in training.

McCutchan asked how the new radio frequency is working out. Glass said the new Unicom it is working very well. McCutchan asked if there have been complaints from pilots concerning having to purchase new radios. Glass said no. He said the new frequency is in the current FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) publication. Glass said the new AOPA (Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association) directory had already been published before he got the new frequency information to them. He said the new frequency information will be added as an amendment or corrected when the new directory is published.

McCutchan asked if the FBO is conducting a training course for the Sport Pilot Certificate. Glass said the FBO has not had any inquires for this training, but they are capable of doing the Sport Pilot course. There was discussion on the type of plane used for this training.

McCutchan asked the status of the CAP (Civil Air Patrol) building. Glass said the building is not being used at the present time. He said a CAP aircraft is permanently based at the airport, and the airport conference room is used for CAP briefings. He said CAP is conducting fire watches in the Eglin area.

Pensacola Flight Watch

Dale Holbert said Brewton now has a license for their Unicom and the license for frequency 122.725. He said their license became effective March 1, 2005, and the license will last for ten years. Holbert said this will decrease the safety problems in their area.

He said the correct traffic pattern note for runway 18 at Peter Prince Airport was added to the AFD (U.S. Airport Facility Directory). Holbert said we may need to seek help from Birmingham to correct the incorrect PAPI (Precision Approach Path Indicator) light information. He said the Class "C" Caution also needs to be added to the AFD.

Holbert said he has been communicating with the editor of the AOPA directory; the airport diagram and the common traffic frequencies are correct in the online airport directory. He said the corrections will be in next year's published directory. Holbert said the Class "C" Caution was added to the AOPA directory, but he has been unable to convince the editor that Peter Prince has an ASR (Airport Surveillance Radar) approach.

Holbert discussed numerous errors in the Florida Airport Facility Directory. He said Blaylock's office sent in the corrections, and some of the corrections have already been made. Holbert said three fairly major errors are:

1. An erroneous note indicating VFR (Visual Flight Rules) operations only.

2. The PAPI lights indicate four lights instead of two.
3. An incorrect name for the FBO.

He said presently none of the directories have the correct information or any information on runway light activation. Holbert said he will send this information to all of the directories when it appears to be stable.

He said Flight Watch can use some help with their effort to maintain the NDB (Non Directional Beacon) instrument approach to runway 35 at Pensacola Regional Airport. Holbert said this approach is on the cancellation list. He said Flight Watch opposes cancellation of this approach. Holbert said if anyone wishes to support Flight Watch with this effort go to the website www.pafw.com www.pafw.com.

Holbert said Flight Watch has a very good video concerning "Why Children Should Use Seat Belts." He said it is a magnificent demonstration of the importance of seat belts, and asked anyone interested to contact Flight Watch.

Beavers encouraged everyone to become a member of Pensacola Flight Watch. Holbert said Pensacola Flight Watch does its best to support general aviation in this area. He said new members can always be used.

Administrator/Engineer Report

Blaylock said the County Administrator (Hunter Walker) is attending a FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) meeting this evening. He welcomed Randel Compton and thanked McCutchan for his time and service. Blaylock identified the ongoing airport projects and said they are on schedule. He said he will make available the current project list to Compton. Blaylock said the airport consultant (Post, Buckley, Schuh, and Jernigan Inc.) completed the Master Plan last year, and the county is moving forward with the first phase of projects identified. He said the county is receiving $150,000.00 a year from FAA. Blaylock said FAA says the county is going to have to do the runway area safety improvement. He said the north end is going to require some grading and design work. Blaylock said the other projects include:

1, Runway end identifier lights
2. Realign taxiway A
3. Construct the taxiways for the T-Hangars

He said FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation) has approved funding for 12 T-Hangars for this year and an additional 12 T-Hangars next year. Blaylock said hopefully the county will be able to bid all 24 hangars in June or July. He said the other projects will be ready for bid in April for construction in late spring or early summer.

Blaylock said the GCO issue will continue to be monitored. He said Ingram Electric has relocated the automated gate controller. Blaylock said as soon as the chain is hooked up and the programming is worked out, the tenants will be notified. He said currently a manual lock is being used.

McCutchan asked if the FEMA village has had any impact on the airport. Blaylock said no impact has been reported. He said the county has been very pleased with all the FEMA sites. Blaylock said there has been no problem with vandalism.

McCutchan asked if there has been any discussion on the sprayers. Blaylock said there has been discussion, but there is not a policy in place to address the sprayers. He said the county's desire is that they operate on the south end away from the parking area.

Pelham asked if the fence is repaired. Blaylock said yes, the fence repairs are complete. Beavers asked for an update on reconstruction of the T-Hangars damaged by Hurricane Ivan. Blaylock said the contractor initially repaired the roofs. He said the contractor is going building by building replacing doors, hinges, and those sorts of repairs. Blaylock said the contractor is doing the repairs from south to north. Hopmeier said all the doors have been replaced except on the last building. Holbert said a lot of progress has been made. He said the workers are very professional and helpful.

Beavers asked if there are any problems with the aircraft being in the way. Blaylock said none have been reported. Holbert said the tenants are being very cooperative moving aircraft when needed. Hopmeier said screws are everywhere on the ground, and he recommended a good clean up after the repairs are complete. Blaylock said the Road and Bridge Department can sweep the taxiways, and the contractor will clean the areas where they are repairing hangars. Martin said street sweepers do not work well and recommended using a vacuum truck. Blaylock said the clean up can be handled by the County Administrator and myself.

Tammy Simmons discussed the hanger survey. She said about 30% of the surveys have been returned. Simmons asked the committee members to review the information and let her know if more information is needed or if there is too much information.

Glass said the deer herd is still at the airport. Blaylock said the county is monitoring the deer tracks and activity. Glass said President Bush is coming to Pensacola on Friday, and the airspace within a 30 mile radius of Pensacola Junior College will be closed. He said there will be no flying in this area from 7:50 a.m. until 12.00 noon.

McCutchan welcomed Compton and thanked county staff and the committee members for all the good things this committee accomplishes.

The next Aviation Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 20, 2005 at 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Aviation Advisory Board at this time, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.