

DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board (AAB) Minutes

The DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board met on Monday, October 11th, 2021 at 5:30 PM via Zoom Video Conference call.

Members Present: Larry Scheinpflug (AAB Chair), Christopher Richard (AAB Vice Chair), Kevin Fowler, Reuben Jones, Dan Zanger, Mike Reeves, Doug Miller and Eugene Henry

Members Absent: NONE

Others Present: Airport Director Mario Evans, Deputy Airport Director Hunter Hines, and Noise and Environmental Analyst Korey Barnes

The meeting was called to order at 5:35p.m. by AAB Chair, Larry Scheinpflug.

- I. Approval of Minutes: **Motion to approve the September 2021 minutes was made by Doug Miller and seconded by Board Member Chris Richard. Motion passed.**
- II. Information/Old Business
 - A. **Airport Director's Report:**
 1. Airport Director Mario Evans read the Joint Statement by the DeKalb County Government and DeKalb Peachtree Airport regarding the October 8th crash at Peachtree-DeKalb airport.
 2. Evans briefed on the Airport Master Plan in the absence of Jim Duguay of Baker International: Briefs sent to the Operations committee of the Airport Board last Tuesday. Depending on the Operations committee feedback, approval of the Master Plan is made by the Board of the Commissioners. Once approval is given by the BOC, the Master Plan is submitted to the FAA and GDOT.
 - Notebooks were delivered to all county commissioners, links were provided on the Airport Master Plan website for anyone who cares to read the report. There is also a notebook at the Chamblee library for public use.

Noise and Environmental Analyst Report: - N&E Analyst, Korey Barnes delivered the following report: **The September 2021 Noise Report** will be posted on the website in its entirety: **Total operations were 14,558** which is an increase of 9.67% as compared to September of 2020. There were 413 voluntary curfew operations. Total 2021 year-to-date operations are **116,155** as compared to the total 2020 operations as of September 2020 of 102,384. In September 37% of operations were on a southerly flow, 61% were to the north, and 2% were on the NW/SE runway. **Noise complaints:** 14.8 households made 490 complaints. The majority of the complaints were made between 12:00 PM and 05.59 PM. (42%). The Complaint Percentages by Zip Code chart shows that 38% of the complaints originated from the **30345** zip code. A total of 172 advisory letters were sent to aircraft operators who flew during the Voluntary Curfew Period who were not identified as MedEvac and/or other emergency flights. Regarding High Noise Events, 33 advisory letters were sent to the operators whose aircraft exceeded the high noise event threshold(s).

- Public members Jordan Fox and Jaime Dutro asked about the slide regarding minusing the top two households on complaint report. Barnes and Evans collectively answered that the top two are minused out for statistical purposes if they are extremely high. Evans then went on to explain the current and historical process of determining what is noise, and how the airport goes about monitoring and reporting on it. He shared that PDK is the only airport in the state of Georgia with a noise office. PDK takes noise seriously, and in working with community regarding noise abatement. Scheinpflug talked about Congress passing the 1990 Noise Control Act.
- Member of Public asked: on approach end to runway 21L, the blue and green lines cross each other? Barnes answered that this is when PDK is in a heavy one direction flight path, it will appear as a swing contour.
- Member of Public asked: does compliance correlate with the noise monitor? Evans answered: Yes.
- Board Member Reuben Jones asked if there is a reasonable way to reduce noise complaints during curfew hours, beyond MedEvac? Evans said he will consider and address at a later time.
- Scheinpflug discussed a misprint in a recent newspaper misquoting that PDK had over 200K operations. Evans answered that this is incorrect. PDK has not had over 200K operations in over 10 years.
- Board Member Doug Miller stated that he hasn't noticed an increase in noise, but that he noticed a dramatic decrease in noise due to COVID, so maybe going back to normal seems like more noise. Miller also stated that there seems to be more noise reports in the day time now, and that this may be due to more people working

from home. Evans also answered that there is a lot more transient traffic, i.e., flight schools coming into PDK and flights schools at PDK going out to other airports. Scheinpflug also discussed how the point of corporate aviation on Mondays and Fridays is to make it out to appointments and return from them. This is considered aviation business 'rush hour.'

- Member of public Jaime Dutro wanted to confirm that legitimate complaints are not discounted. Evans explained that ALL complaints are considered and posted in the report.

Motion to accept the September 2021 Noise Report was made by Doug Miller and seconded by Chris Richard. Motion passed.

B. **Other:**
NONE

III. **New Business:**
NONE

IV. **Public Comments:**

- Member of Public Jordan Fox asked about an article discussing the history of crashes at PDK. Scheinpflug answered that there has only been a handful of crashes at PDK, most were off airport property. Evans confirmed this.

- Atlanta Gas Light Regulator station: Scheinpflug addressed that the existence of this a few miles from PDK property is not any extra threat or liability. Board Member Mike Reeves added: there is much acceptable risk in all industries which is all getting better through technology, which includes aviation.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mike Reeves and seconded by Chris Richard. Motion passed at 6:35 p.m.

Submitted by:

Lori Bell

Lori Bell (Secretary)

Approved as Submitted:

Larry Scheinpflug

Larry Scheinpflug (AAB Chair)