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**PLUMAS COUNTY  
AIRPORT LAND USE COMMISSION**

Minutes - December 19, 2007

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The Plumas County Airport Land Use Commission convenes in their regular meeting on December 19, 2007, at 2:08 p.m. in the Planning & Building Services Conference Room; Chair Carl Felts presiding. Members appointed are as follows:

1. Carl Felts, Chair;
2. George Terhune, Vice Chair;
3. Herb Bishop, Commissioner;
4. Bill Weaver, Commissioner;
5. B.J. Pearson, Commissioner;
6. Dan English, Commissioner,
7. *Commissioner Vacancy*

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

**Present:** George Terhune, Herb Bishop, William Weaver, B.J. Pearson  
Carl Felts (arrives during Staff report)

**Absent:** Dan English

**II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vice Chair Terhune calls for a motion. Motion is made by Commissioner Bishop to approve the agenda. Commissioner Weaver seconds the motion with a unanimous affirmative voice vote recorded.

**III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice Chair Terhune calls for a motion. Motion is made by Commissioner Weaver to approve the minutes from November 21, 2007. Commissioner Bishop seconds the motion with a unanimous affirmative voice vote recorded.

**IV. INTRODUCTIONS**

Introductions of Commission Members and Attendees are made.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Vice Chair Terhune opens the Public Comment Period. No comments are made.

VI. **BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S CORNER** - Opportunity for County Supervisors to address issues related to the ALUC

No supervisors present.

VII. **STAFF REPORT**

Randy Wilson, Interim Planning Director, mentions that he discussed the following issues with Joanne McDermott, Land Use Planner, Caltrans Office of Aviation: 1. General Plan maps and area of Influence; 2. Findings/Process concerning the Chester Visitor Center; 3. Policy & legal aspects of the ALUC; and 4. Possibility of a plan that could be applicable to all three airports. McDermott was unable to provide any past maps/records for use by the Commission. McDermott also suggested that the Commission consider hiring a consultant to deal with legal liability matters. Wilson adds that McDermott will get back to him in response to some of the items discussed.

James Graham, Interim Assistant Planning Director, states that he and Vice Chair Terhune met and discussed the Chester Visitor Center proposal. Particular concern is identified by Graham and Terhune regarding the Safety Compatibility Zones in relation to this proposal.

Discussion takes place among Commissioners and staff that interweaves the following topics: 1. Legalities associated with the ALUC making decisions in the absence of an approved plan; 2. Board of Supervisors ability to override decisions; and 3. Official maps adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 1985 and recognized again in 1998. Discussion results in acknowledgement by Commissioners and Staff that in order to proceed, there is a need for a good legal foundation, accurate findings, and input from the Caltrans Aeronautic Division.

VIII. **COMMISSION COMMENT PERIOD**

A. Chair Report

Chair Felts states that Jack Ingstad, CAO, and Sherrie Thrall, Commissioner, informed him that at the December 11, 2007, Board of Supervisors meeting, the marina, seaplane base, and cross-runway were eliminated from the proposed Chester Airport plan; however, the proposal to extend the existing runway remains in consideration. Felts adds that he was also told that reference to the Dyer Mountain project as a related topic was removed. Vice Chair Terhune recollects the following points covered in the discussion by Mead and Hunt: 1. The Airport Layout Plan didn't project significant change; 2. Airport class and use will remain the same; 3. "Best available information" will be considered; and 4. Upgrades at Quincy Airport can't go beyond a certain point. Felts relays that ongoing, concurrent review of the County General Plan, the ALUC plan, and the County building codes will take place. Wilson ends the discussion by stressing the importance of knowing "legal basis" as process continues.

## B. Commissioners' Comments

A brief discussion takes place among Commissioners about the role of the ALUC as it may or may not relate to regulatory gridlock.

## C. Subcommittee Reports

### 1. ALUC Plan for Gansner Airport at Quincy

Vice Chair Terhune explains that he hasn't had an opportunity to meet with Chair Felts, but he is able to present his latest draft document for the Quincy (Gansner) Airport. Terhune adds that the wording could also be adapted to the Chester and Beckwourth airport plans. As the Commissioners review the draft, discussion focuses on the following: 1. Where to put the Policies and Procedures; 2. Whether there is a need for a consultant, and 3. How other jurisdictions (i.e., Butte County & Truckee) have proceeded with various aspects of their airport master plans. Wilson asks Terhune about maps and Terhune responds that he does intend to add maps. Wilson suggests that Terhune's draft is sent to McDermott for preliminary feedback. Terhune agrees that he will Email Graham the draft to send to McDermott. Commissioner Weaver asks how much power McDermott has, and Commissioner Bishop relays that Caltrans has the power to close airports.

A discussion related to airport noise levels takes place among Commissioners and Staff. Terhune provides an explanation of decibel levels (per CNEL). Terhune adds that he does not believe noise levels are a problem in Plumas County. Weaver contributes that there could be a problem in the future.

## IX. OTHER BUSINESS

### A. Old Business

#### 1. ALUC Policies, Rules and Procedures

A brief discussion takes place regarding the agenda format, timing for getting material to Recording Secretary Fluke, and adherence to the Brown Act. Fluke states that she needs agenda item requests and material for distribution a least one week prior to a meeting. Fluke adds that she will construct a schedule of due dates, etc., for the Commissioners. Wilson emphasizes how important it is for the ALUC to follow the rules of the Brown Act, particularly where the public is concerned.

Vice Chair Terhune asks if another Commissioner can be listed as a proxy and Chair Felts responds, no.

2. Workshops - Chair Felts points out that this item was intended to be listed under "New Business."

Following discussion, the Commissioners agree that information workshops, particularly with co-agencies, will be beneficial following feedback from the Caltrans Aeronautic Division.

B. New Business

1. Commission / Commissioner Liability

No comments were made regarding the *Memorandum of Coverage* handout due to late distribution of that document.

2. Vacancy Position – Chair Felts points out that this item was intended to be listed under "Old Business."

No applications have been received.

X. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Presentation by Joanne McDermott (Cal Trans) – Handbook overview
- B. Unfinished Business

XI. **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Chair Felts calls for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Weaver moves to adjourn the meeting of December 19, 2007. Commissioner Pearson seconds the motion with a unanimous affirmative voice vote recorded. The meeting adjourns at 3:58 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is set for January 16, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. in the Planning & Building Services Conference Room.



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Carl Felts, Chairman  
Plumas County  
Airport Land Use Commission



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Nancy Fluke, Recording Secretary