

COUNTY OF PLUMAS
AIRPORT LAND USE COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

DATE: May 24, 2018

LOCATION: Plumas County Planning and
Building Services Conference
Room
555 Main Street, Quincy

TIME: 1:00 p.m.



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I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

- **George Terhune**, Chair *(Board of Supervisors Appointee)*
- **Herb Bishop**, Commissioner *(Airport Managers' Appointee)*
- **Alan Holloway**, Commissioner *(Airport Managers' Appointee)*
- **Bill Mainland**, Commissioner *(Board of Supervisors Appointee)*
- **Vacant** *(ALUC Members' Appointee)*

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Terhune, Bishop, Holloway, Mainland
Commissioners Absent: None

Also in attendance (Supervisors and staff)
Tim Evans, Assistant Planner
Rebecca Herrin, Assistant Planning Director
Randy Wilson, Planning Director
Sherrie Thrall, District 3 Supervisor

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA
No changes are made to the agenda.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES
There are no minutes available for review.

IV. INTRODUCTIONS
Introduction of the Commissioners, staff members, Supervisor Thrall and public in audience Charlie Plopper and Carlos Espana of the Almanor Recreation and Park District Trail Committee.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

At this time the public has the opportunity to address the Commission concerning any item of interest not listed on this agenda. The Commission may not discuss or take any action on any item presented during the public comment period that is not on the agenda. The Commission may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by members of the public. Upon recognition by the Chairman, please state your name, address, and subject matter. Discussion of any non-agenda items will be limited to three (3) minutes or such reasonable time as is granted by the majority of the Commission.

There are no comments from the public.

VI. BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S CORNER

Supervisor Thrall notes the structure of the Airport Land Use Commission and suggests that Kevin Correira, Facilities Director who is in charge of the County airports, be appointed to the Commission. Chair George Terhune adds that he will be resigning and another member will need to be appointed to replace him.

Randy Wilson commends George Terhune for all his work and his great intelligence. The Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans were basically written by Terhune. Wilson thanks him for his public service and for chairing the Commission meeting one more time.

VII. ALUC REVIEW AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

A. Commission Commenting Opportunity-Draft Telecommunications Ordinance

Randy Wilson explains the Commission's role in reviewing the proposed draft ordinance. The ordinance should be reviewed for potential impacts to airports and conflicts with the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. This is a formality in order to move the ordinance forward through the adoption process.

Discussion ensues about the airport beacon located on the peak north of the Quincy-Gansner Field airport. Chair Terhune relates that while he no longer flies, he has acquaintances that do use the airport and it is useful to have the beacon. He goes on to state that having a communications facility on the tower would be a hazard, but the peak itself is a hazard and that is why it was lighted by the beacon in the past. Terhune feels that the peak should be well-marked and lighted.

Wilson responds that the light was turned off while crews were working on the runway. Now county Facilities Services staff is trying to change the bulb in the beacon, but there are access issues. The beacon occupies a small easement on private property and, while there is an access easement going up the peak to the beacon, it is inaccessible by vehicle. Facilities Services is working with County Counsel and the property owner to try and resolve the issue to possibly gain access to the top of the peak by another better route. The property owner is resistant at this point.

Chair Terhune asks for any further comments from the Commission or the audience.

Wilson suggests a motion indicating that the Commission has reviewed the draft telecommunications ordinance and recommending that the ordinance move towards adoption. The Chair calls for a motion.

M/S/C: Mainland/Bishop/4-0 to approve the draft telecommunications ordinance and recommend that it be forwarded for adoption.

Wilson indicates that he will inform the Planning Commission.

B. Commission Commenting Opportunity-Draft Conceptual Design Plan, Chester Trail Segment of the Almanor Basin Trail System (*Almanor Recreation and Park District Trail Committee*)

Chair Terhune opens the discussion on a proposal for a recreational trail that will cross the proposed runway extension located at the Chester-Rogers Field airport in Chester. He expresses concern with location of a public right-of-way under the approach path for the runway.

Carlos Espana, member of the Almanor Recreation and Park District Trail committee makes a presentation to the Commission. The District was created without funding from the County and holds various fundraisers in order to maintain its facilities. There is interest in developing recreational trails around Lake Almanor for biking and walking. Development of a plan will enable application for grant funding sources.

There is an existing recreational trail on the southwest side of Lake Almanor. This proposed segment along First Avenue along the lake and connecting to SR 89 would supplement that trail. Espana discusses the possibility of a segment across the causeway and along the Almanor Railroad right-of-way which is no longer in use as a railroad line by Collins Pine.

CALTRANs right-of-way is 200 feet wide at the point where the trail would connect with SR 89. CALTRANs has agreed to allow the trail to be constructed in the right-of-way and will assist with the environmental review and request for state funding.

Property owners along the alignment include the County, Plumas National Forest, Pacific Gas and Electric, Plumas County Flood Control. Espana has reviewed the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan and expresses his interest in obtaining a compatibility decision from the Commission for the trail segment.

Chair Terhune would like to see an elevation cross section of the proposed trail and how it would impact the potential extension area of the runway as shown in the ALUCP. There may be an issue with adequate vertical clearance and conflict between road traffic and air traffic. Terhune explains the “see and be seen” concept for avoidance for aircraft safety. He reiterates that the proposal should be analyzed for vertical clearance. Discussion ensues about method for measuring the surface area around the runway for vertical clearance.

Wilson explains that there is a similar situation in Quincy at the end of the Gansner runway where there is a walking/biking trail located along SR 70 approximately 530 feet off the end of the runway. Espana responds that the Chester trail is proposed approximately 800 feet off the end of the Rogers Field runway.

Wilson adds that compliance with ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) would be required for trail surfacing, width and slope. Espana responds that he would like to

construct a raised pathway as the area is below the 4500 foot elevation contour and technically in Lake Almanor. Rebecca Herrin explains that there could be issues with the Federal Emergency Management Agency which is the federal agency that administers construction in flood plains and that an elevated trail might be viewed as a levee.

Charlie Plopper explains that there is no lake recreation area for Chester and no access to the lake. The Plumas National Forest is in support of this use and with construction of amenities such as restrooms and picnic areas at the end of First Avenue and perhaps a bird watching platform. It is unclear where the county has right-of-way along First Avenue according to discussions with Pacific Gas and Electric. Espana adds that the committee would like to see two trails; one for motorized use and one for non-motorized use.

Herrin questions if the Plumas National Forest will be requiring a special use permit for the facilities located on forest property and if the roadway that was previously closed and blocked by USFS is identified on maps for use by the public. Commissioner Mainland questions that if the runway is extended as proposed would the USFS road be forced to close. Wilson responds that it would be.

Wilson suggests that the Commission could give a recommendation as to the separation distance to the proposed trail segment from the end of the runway such as 600 feet to 800 feet. The Commission views aerials and overlays on a screen for comparison and discussion.

Terhune recommends that the diagrams presented with the initial proposal be enlarged and detailed with elevations. The potential usage that may occur should be addressed and an analysis of the impact on the extension of the trail versus the road that crosses the runway should be included. He feel generally that more detailed analysis is required before final design approval.

VIII. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENT PERIOD

A. Chairman's Report

None.

B. Commissioners' Comments

None

IX. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Commissioner Bishop makes the motion to adjourn.