



## OKALOOSA COUNTY AVIATION BOARD MEETING AGENDA



Date and Time:

Monday, December 13, 2021 1:00 PM

Type:

REGULAR

Location:

DESTIN – FORT WALTON BEACH AIRPORT  
ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM  
1701 STATE ROAD 85 N  
EGLIN AFB, FL 32542

- I. **Prayer**
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Public Comments**
- IV. **Airports Update**  
Mr. Tracy Stage, Airports Director
- V. **OCAB Business Items**
  - 1. Review and approval of the October 11, 2021 OCAB Meeting Minutes
  - 2. USAF / Okaloosa County Joint Use Agreement
- VI. **Board Member Minute**
- VII. **Public Comments**
- VIII. **Adjourn Meeting**

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Meeting Minutes  
Okaloosa County Aviation Board

Monday, December 13, 2021

1:00 PM

Board Members in Attendance:

Seat 2 BG Robert Buhrow

Seat 4 Mr. Chip Cook

Seat 6 Lt Gen Gordon Fornell (Chair)

Seat 8 Commissioner Carolyn Ketchel

Seat 3 Mr. Don Harrington

Seat 5 Lt Gen Mike Wooley

Seat 7 Dr. Richard P. Hallion

Board Members not in Attendance:

Seat 1 Mr. Dick Russell

Visitors in Attendance:

Mr. Eric Pilsk (Zoom)

Mr. Craig Coffey

Mr. Dan Smiley

Chair Cook opened the meeting at 1:00 PM

**Opening Prayer** by Lt Gen Mike Wooley

**Pledge of Allegiance** led by Chair Cook

**Public Comments – None**

**Airports Update – Mr. Tracy Stage**

Tracy shared his presentation. *See Slides*

- Foy Shaw Parkway Ribbon Cutting, November 2, 2021- This project was in the making the better part of a decade. The airport worked in partnership with Okaloosa County Public Works and many sub-contractors to bring everything together. There is a great deal of future potential for growth. Well attended ceremony, flyover and Foy Shaw's son spoke and shared meaningful stories.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Home for the Holidays, November 11, 2021-We wanted to get ahead of the timeline this year providing more travel opportunity for the winner over the holidays. A1C Elisabeth Pursley from Eglin Air Force Base was our 2021 winner.
- F-15 Update. We placed the F-15 in 2009 at VPS, now after some years we want to restore it to its former glory. We are hoping to repaint, new stickers, etc. Working with the 33<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing Maintenance Commander through the corrosion control shop we are on the way to restoring it in the new year.

*Lt. Col Wooley-You mentioned paint. Is it MIL-SPEC paint? Is it the real MIL-SPEC paint or paint using MIL-SPEC colors? There is a special paint for airplanes on a stick that will last longer. Perhaps Dr. Hallion knows more about this type of paint.*

*Dr. Hallion-The paint you are referring to has more of a gloss look, better for weathering.*

*Mr. Stage-We obtained the specification from the Air Force. We will check on the paint.*

*Dr. Hallion-I'm sure if they restore it they will do a first-rate job.*

*(There was a discussion between everyone about the aircraft in the local area and how the paint looks.)*

*Commissioner Ketchel-We need to check with Hurlburt and see if they have the answer about the paint.*

*Mr. Stage-We will do that, we will get it in shape!*

- Joint-Use Agreement between the United States Air Force and Okaloosa County. *See Slides.*

*(Mr. Stage Introduced Dan Smiley with CGH Technology on Zoom.)*

We have a new agreement. Since 2017 the JUA has been a topic of discussion. Over the last 5 years we have penned several letters that have been reviewed and signed by County Commissioners, we have worked with several commanders on Eglin Air Force Base, but with General Cain we have been able to negotiate and finalize a new agreement.

I would like to walk through the JUA agreement and a report from CGH. This report establishes a partnership. Many recommendations on the report were made based on historical data gathered as far back as the 1980s. Airfield facilities, runways, operations per hour and more were all analyzed. I have personally shared this outstanding report with General Cain's office.

--In review of the report many of the recommendations have already been acted on. For example, the procurement and installation of a ground control tower. This tower will be located on our ramp and we will control all of our air traffic. Staff are currently establishing a program to include policies and procedures with the help of many including Eglin's air traffic controllers.

--In review of the agreement there is a copy ready for signatures for the upcoming BCC meeting. We have been paying the Air Force per operation. Now this process will be more of a structured approach looking at maintenance cost. It was determined that we utilized the runway roughly 20% of the time. With this change the cost is going up but the justification we absolutely agree with.

In addition, previously we were allotted 84 operations per day. During this process we have been looking for flexibility versus more operations, however we ended negotiations with more operations. During the week from 8am to 5pm we have 5 operations per hour and from 8pm to 5:00am we have 8 operations per hour. The airport runs on a 19-hour day so this equates to roughly 125 operations per day. On Saturdays and Sundays (weekends) we are allotted 10 operations per hour, every hour.

Negotiations were incredibly tough. We didn't have any leverage. We are developing our scheduled facilitated program for the airlines. We will sit down with each airline. Lastly, we obtained a 40-year deal, we are incredibly happy. I can't say enough about the team we have had to get this done, noting Gen Fornell and Mr. Smiley. Dan and his team are currently working on some software and will lead us in this effort.

*Commissioner Ketchel-I want to thank everyone for this effort, especially Mr. Stage, Gen Fornell and Mr. Smiley. I know it's taken several years. Leverage wise, don't you think the money we bring to the Air Force with this agreement is some leverage?*

*Mr. Stage-Yes, the financial input is our only leverage. But we provide a service. A service for the military. We are a front door to Okaloosa County. It is clear we recognize where we are and our military support.*

Mr. Stage-I don't want to leave out my staff, from 2015 to today, six years later the difference is significant. My staff and this aviation board make a significant difference. Our focus will now be more than ever the passengers and their experience. We want to grow responsibly.

*Mr. Cook-With the fees for the new JUA, are we carrying an accrual account forward for the future?*

*Mr. Stage-We will be prepared to pay our operational share. Everything goes by our utilization.*

Mr. Cook-I would like to make a motion that the efforts of Lt. Gen Fornell as well as our airports team will be memorialized on a plaque at the airport for the amount of work over and above on the JUA.

RESULT:	A plaque memorializing Gen Gordon Fornell and the airports team on their great efforts on the JUA agreement.
MOVER:	Mr. Chip Cook, Seat 4
SECONDER:	Dr. Richard P. Hallion, Seat 7
AYES:	Unanimous

Lt. Gen Fornell-Dan Smiley's team was exceptional.

Mr. Cook-Let's amend the motion to add Mr. Dan Smiley's team to the plaque.

Lt. Gen Fornell-There were some recommendations that the overall team came up with that I want to be sure that we really follow-up on. There are a few nuggets we don't want to get lost. I would like to turn them into action items and formalize them.

Mr. Cook-We will pull that together.

Commissioner Ketchel-Many of you were at the Women Veteran Monument unveiling on Veterans Day but in case you weren't I wanted to share it with you. Gen Fornell has been one of the main advisors behind the scenes on this project. We showcased 5 military women that served our country. We had stacks and stacks of women to choose from, we could easily have more statues.

*(Watched Video showcasing of Women Veteran Monument)*

*(Discussion on placing the video watched within the Airport. Locations suggested.)*

Mr. Stage-We will find a location for the video. The county has a tv in the baggage claim area that is already ready to go.



Mr. Cook-We had Florida Power Light come in and do a presentation a few weeks ago. It was pretty amazing!

Commissioner Ketchel-It was really amazing! Food was delicious and event was beautiful. I got lots of emails thanking us for doing it.

Mr. Cook-I appreciate the airport doing such a stellar job in all the events. I also want to commend our Law Enforcement in all the events across the Okaloosa County as well.

Chair Cook made a motion to approve the minutes from October 11, 2021 meeting.

RESULT:	Meeting Minutes from the 10/11/2021 meeting were approved.
MOVER:	Lt Gen Gordon Fornell
SECONDER:	Dr. Richard P. Hallion
AYES:	Unanimous

Meeting Adjourned

APPROVED:

By: Richard P. Hallion

Name: Mr. Chip Cook

Title: VICE Chairman

Date: 2/14/22

APPROVED:

By: Tracy Stage

Name: Tracy Stage, A.A.E.

Title: Airports Director

Date: 2-15-22

\*These minutes are a summation of the meeting.