

MINUTES
Maine Aeronautical Advisory Board Meeting
April 3, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 9:00.

Minutes of the December 12 meeting were accepted.

3 Board members' terms will expire on July 31, 2014. If you would like to nominate a new member, send your bio to Stacie.Haskell@maine.gov or Joan.Foster@maine.gov

MaineDOT Updates:

- **Airport Priorities/Service Levels**-The intention is to prioritize each airports levels of service individually, not one airport against another. The importance of projects within each airport is what we are looking for in regards to safety, condition and service. It was noted that there is a big difference between airports and highways, as airports are owned by municipalities not by the state. Frequency of use is a factor in prioritization-runway to runway.
- **GARD is cheaper than using acoustical counters.** Augusta uses it every day. John started doing his own separate data analysis, looking at which runway is being used most. He met with FAA and is looking into getting cameras. GARD is great for training and safety. Airports can be reimbursed 100% to purchase a GARD system.
- A question was raised regarding how GARD information is being handled. The answer to that is that you can run reports and print them out and send them to the state. Scott Rollins sent an email out that should cover some of these questions related to the GARD system. Please read the email and then contact Scott if you have more questions.
- **MaineDOT's goal is to implement the GARD system in all federally funded NPIAS airports.** If an airport has already submitted paperwork to be reimbursed 50% for the GARD system, please re-submit to get the 100% reimbursement.
- **Airport Budget Update**-there is a proposal in to change the fuel tax-State aviation fuel tax needs to go directly into aviation-Refer to the handout. 5301 is what used to be called the STAR account and is now called Multimodal Transportation Account. 1417 represents the aviation account. \$1M a year comes from fuel. We are spending \$2.5M a year on aviation. Projects come out of bond money. If there is not enough bond money, the rest is taken from the Multimodal Transportation Account. Scott Rollins chairs the Multimodal Committee. Maintenance levels of all airports are similar-all based on fuel tax. These numbers only reflect jet fuel. Avgas should be separated-***ACTION ITEM: Scott will look into that.***

- **Contracts-Scott sent out an email about new cooperative agreements. We are not going to tie the money up now, so we can be more flexible with moving money around. Stacie explained invoicing procedures. Questions regarding invoices should be directed to Stacie. Independent estimate is the most important thing.**
- **MABA is looking to form different committees, and looking to have aviation-related booth or session at the Transportation Conference, which takes place annually on the first Thursday in December. That discussion is taking place today (April 3).**
- ***Items that were tabled for next meeting: Aviation Pilot Protection Act-Mike Watson and Unmanned Aircraft-Jean Hardy.***

Other Business:

- **A question was asked about experimental aircraft being exempt from excise tax. The new language does not exempt them.**
- **FAA has changed Wildlife Assessment-not a requirement. NEPA thing but not full-blown Wildlife Plan.**

Agenda Items for Next Meeting July 16, 9:00-11:00, Auburn Airport:

- **More complete fuel report**
- **Nominations for next term**
- **Aviation Pilot Protection Act (?)**
- **Unmanned Aircraft (?)**

Meeting adjourned at 10:30.