

Meeting Minutes

RMMA Community Noise Roundtable

September 7, 2023 - 6:00 PM

Approved at the November 2, 2023 Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

The September 7, 2023 RMMA Community Noise Roundtable Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Deven Shaff at approximately 6:00 P.M. A quorum (at least 5 Members present) was Present, the roll was as follows:

Town of Superior	Jason Serbu, Trustee
City of Arvada	John Marriott, Councilmember
Boulder County	Ashley Stolzmann, County Commissioner
City and County of Broomfield	Deven Shaff, Councilmember
Jefferson County	Tracy Kraft-Tharp, County Commissioner
City of Lafayette	Tonya Briggs, Councilmember
City of Louisville	Maxine Most, Councilmember
City of Westminster	David DeMott, Mayor Pro-Tem

2. Approval of the Agenda

John Marriott moved for approval of the agenda, seconded by Tracy Kraft-Tharp. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes for the July 6, 2023 RMMACNR Regular Meeting

John Marriott moved for approval of the minutes, seconded by Tracy Kraft-Tharp. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comment

Deborah Cave – Boulder County
Colleen Colin – Town of Superior
Charlene Wiley – City of Westminster
Bill Buryan – Town of Superior
Gordon Banks – Boulder County
Lou Ramos – Town of Superior
Robert Mirvisr – Town of Superior
Daleth McCoy – City of Lafayette
Josh Cooperman – City of Louisville
Blair Barnhardt – Boulder County
Joel Sayres – Town of Superior
Austin Todd – Town of Superior
Rachel Stanton – Town of Superior
Wayne Grider – City of Lafayette

5. Airport Director Update

There was no Airport Director's Update.

6. RMMACNR Financial Update

- a. Report on revenue & expenditures to date
Ben Miller, RMMA Planner, reviewed the financial update that was attached to the agenda.

7. Roundtable Agenda Items

- a. Status of discussion regarding Visual Flight Routes (VFR)
Deven Shaff noted that HMMH was still working on scheduling and holding meetings with the RMMA-based flight schools and Air Traffic Control to discuss the visual flight routes. He hopes that HMMH is able to report back in October.
- b. Airport's voluntary noise abatement procedures regarding nighttime pattern operations
Jason Serbu discussed that the Town of Superior has been working on draft flight procedures that will help alleviate aircraft noise over the town. To that end, Jason Serbu recently met with RMMA staff, flight school staff and FAA representatives to discuss some potential modifications to the typical traffic pattern. While the FAA and pilots could not support all of the ideas presented, all stakeholders could support the suggestion to use 30R/12L for nighttime pattern work.

The objective of this procedure change is to reduce nighttime traffic pattern operations over the Rock Creek neighborhood of Superior, Walnut Grove/Countryside neighborhoods of Westminster, and Skystone neighborhood of Broomfield. Flight school representatives believed that with reduced aircraft activity at nighttime, pilots operating at night should often be able to use the north parallel runway for traffic pattern operations, assuming all other safety of flight factors allow. The traffic pattern on 30R/12L generally overflies the US36 corridor, as well as commercial and retail areas in Broomfield.

Paul Anslow detailed how the airport would communicate this proposed addition to the airport's voluntary noise abatement procedures, which would include direct communication to the flight schools, a change in noise abatement signs and literature, and a mention in the RMMA newsletter.

RMMACNR discussed the proposed addition to the procedures, and whether the airport needs the roundtable's permission to implement the procedure. The general consensus was that the roundtable was formed to provide feedback on procedural suggestions like the one being considered.

Jason Serbu made a motion to accept the proposed addition to RMMA's voluntary noise abatement procedures of using Runway 30R/12L for nighttime pattern operations. The motion was seconded by Tracy Kraft-Tharp. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Committee or Board Member Reports

David Demott inquired as to the recent letter from two US Representatives urging the airport and the FAA to undertake a Part 150, and whether it is worth seeking out funding opportunities. John Bauer replied that there are other FAA sources of funding besides

taking funds from the airport's entitlement dollars. He did note that a Part 150 study may allow funding for mitigation measures, but not restrictions. A Part 161 study would then be required in order to consider restriction measures, and that to date, the FAA has not approved a Part 161 study. Tracy Kraft-Tharp encouraged members to view the noise report from the Centennial Airport Community Noise Roundtable, which shows relatively low levels of noise exposure. The noise monitors at Centennial were funded as a result of a Part 150 study. Tracy Kraft-Tharp also noted that Jeffco was working to arrange a discussion and tour with Representative Pettersen's office to continue the conversation.

Deven Shaff mentioned that HMMH has also offered the ability to perform noise modeling that would help the roundtable understand whether a Part 150 would even be of benefit. This initial noise modeling would be at a greatly reduced cost from a full Part 150 study. Ashley Stolzmann also expressed support for considering a Part 150 study. John Bauer noted that the initial noise modeling, separate from a Part 150 study, would not be eligible for Federal FAA funding.

There was also discussion over the applicability and regulatory ability of an airport to charge landing fees.

Deven Shaff summarized that there may be interest to explore a noise contour study, and that he would request further detail from HMMH. Additionally, there was a desire to better understand how operations are counted (i.e. does a touch-and-go count) to inform any future discussion on landing fees.

Tracy Kraft-Tharp also noted that she recently went back to review a previous RMMACNR meeting recording, and was reminded of the valuable content that has been discussed since the roundtable's formation in 2021. She mentioned previous discussions with the FAA and flight schools as particularly insightful.

John Marriott made a motion to reopen the public comment period to accommodate previously registered public commenters, seconded by Ashley Stolzmann. The following members of the public offered comment:

- Ken Atwell – City and County of Broomfield
- Warren Schwartz – Town of Superior

9. Future Agenda Items

- a. FAR Part 150 Noise Study (does CNR wish to make any formal recommendations to Jefferson County/RMMA to pursue an FAR Part 150)
- b. Panel Discussion with Flight Schools, Pilots, and ATC on practical noise mitigation strategies
- c. Aircraft Landing Fees (what general aviation airports use them and why)

- d. Discussion re: Remaining Recommendations from ABCx2 Report & RMMA Response (does CNR wish to make further recommendations to RMMA as proposed by ABCx2)
- e. Review of requested additional data/visualizations related to the RMMA aircraft activity “heat map”
- f. Guest Speakers:
 - i. National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), re: energy storage; electric aircraft
 - ii. Bye Aerospace - re: development and marketing of electric aircraft for flight training
- g. Development of App for noise complaints

10. Adjourn

Deven Shaff adjourned at 7:45 p.m.