

MINUTES
REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION (RAC) MEETING
7150 REPUBLIC AIRPORT, ROOM 201
EAST FARMINGDALE, NEW YORK
DECEMBER 13, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Frank Nocerino at 7:01p.m. Also present were Vice-Chairman Vincent Bologna, Jr., Commission Members Stella Barbera, Robert Bodenmiller, and Richard Grant.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Nocerino began the meeting by stating there is no update on the 5-parcel Open House. He would like the Commission to be informed well in advance so that there is ample time to notify the public. The Commission is open to the civics having a table at the Open House and it will be discussed with NYSDOT and Stratosphere. NYSDOT and Stratosphere have had initial discussions about the Echo Ramp tie-down rate increases. The RAC will request a meeting with NYSDOT and Stratosphere to discuss the issue after the holidays. He added that Jessica Santangelo and Frank Garofalo were recommended to fill 2 RAC vacancies. Only 4 names have been submitted for the 5-Parcel Working Group. He asked for more participation from the civics.

II. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 2023

Mr. Grant motioned to adopt the minutes, seconded by Ms. Barbera. The motion carried unanimously.

III. CHANGES AND/OR ADOPTION OF AGENDA

No changes.

IV. REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS, & OTHER BUSINESS

A. REPORTS

1. OPERATIONS, AIRCRAFT COMPLAINTS, & FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2023

Airport Manager Mr. John Lauth discussed the following:

- Total Operations reported by FAA decreased by 21.2% in September but increased 13.1% in October when compared to the previous year. Landings reported by Airport Operations in September fell by 12.3% but increased 27.1% in October. The majority of operations were attributed to single-engine aircraft in both months. Touch & Go's decreased by 10.6% in September but increased 48.8% in October. Passenger volume fell by 11.3% in September and by 1.3% in October. Total Based Aircraft fell 11.3% in both September and October.
- September Aircraft Complaints totaled 38 from 18 households while October complaints totaled 26 from 13 households. Most were attributed to daytime operations. The majority of September and October complaints could not be identified by aircraft type or by runway and were reported as "Unknown". Residents living west and northwest of the Airport filed most of the complaints in both September and October. Touch & Go operations accounted for 1 complaint in September and none in October. "Unknown" aircraft that could not be identified as either Based or Transient accounted for the

majority of September and October complaints.

- September Revenue was favorable for Landing and License Fees, due to higher than forecasted landings and Customs fees. Unfavorable variances in Rental, Miscellaneous, and Fuel Flowage revenues were due to the pending FAA office lease renewal, the lack of film shoots, and lower than anticipated fuel deliveries at Modern and Atlantic FBOs. September Expenses were favorable in Labor due to an open Operations position; Data Processing due to software support not being needed; Insurance due to lower than budgeted premiums, Professional Services due to appraisal reports not being needed; Vehicle Maintenance and Airport Maintenance were both favorable due to having adequate vehicle supplies on hand and postponing some Airport Maintenance projects. Unfavorable variances were seen in Janitorial Expenses and Office Supplies Expense due to the purchase of custodial supplies and replenishment of the postage machine.

Commission Member Stella Barbera asked to know which Airport Maintenance project is pending. Airport Maintenance Manager, Victor Cerami, responded that joint sealing for the airfield has been postponed until Spring 2024.

- October Revenue was favorable for Landing Fees due to higher than anticipated landings, and for Utilities Fees due to higher than anticipated water usage fees. Fuel Flowage Fees and Rental Income saw unfavorable variances due to less than anticipated fuel delivery at Modern's FBO and the FAA lease renewal. In October, Employee Expense was favorable due lower than anticipated expenditures; Communications Expense was favorable due to radios being in good working condition; Vehicle Maintenance Expense was favorable due to vehicles having an adequate supply of tires and fuel and vehicles being in good operational condition. Unfavorable variances were seen in Labor Expense due to overtime; in Utilities Expense due to higher than anticipated consumption; in Data Processing Expense due to the purchase of a subscription for flight tracking software; and in Professional Services Expense due to appraisals not being needed.

2. RECENT / CURRENT EVENTS

Airport Manager John Lauth reported on the following:

- a. Blue Angels Winter Visit & Pre-Season Meeting, 11/20:** Blue Angels #7 arrived to meet with NYS Parks Department, Airport, and supporting agencies to review preparations for their appearance in the 2024 Bethpage Air Show at Jones Beach.
- b. Airport Awarded \$1 Million Under Aviation Capital Grant Program:** Funds will be used to purchase a snow broom, electric mowers, autonomous vehicles, and electrical vehicle charging stations at the Main Terminal.
- c. Annual Snow Operations Meeting, 11/16:** Airport staff underwent annual snow removal training for the upcoming winter season.

Mr Lauth added that the American Airpower Museum held its annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance and Dropping of the Roses ceremony on December 7th. The Museum also provided Honor Flights for military Veterans in November and held a kids Halloween event in October.

B. OTHER NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BUSINESS

Airport Director Anthony Ceglio reported on the following:

- 1. Alpha Taxiway Project:** Project was substantially complete by the end of October. Only minor punch list work is left to be done.
- 2. 5-Parcel Development Project:** A Tenant Alteration Application (TAA) was approved for tree clearing on Parcel A near Seversky Road. The TAA was approved to coincide with the northern long eared bat season which only allows clearing in the winter months. No other work is approved at this time.
- 3. Runway 1/19 Pavement Design Project:** Project is still in the design phase. Funding from FAA was delayed and the construction will not start until at least 2025.
- 4. Breslau Development/Hangar 85:** Modern Aviation held a groundbreaking event for Hangar 85 on November 15th, which was attended by Commission Member Stella Barbera, Airport management, and local officials.

Mr. Ceglio also discussed a safety issue regarding obstructions at airports. The FAA required all US airports including Republic to perform a survey over the past few years to identify obstructions to runway approaches. As a result, obstructions were verified and Notices to Air Missions (NOTAMS) were issued by FAA at the end of November to address the impacts to instrument approach procedures. Some obstructions have already been addressed including tree clearing near the Southern State Parkway and at Mount Ararat cemetery. A survey will be needed to verify that obstructions have been adequately mitigated. We hope to have the survey completed within a few months so that the NOTAMS affecting the instrument approaches can be cancelled.

Chairman Nocerino asked the Commission Members for a motion to accept the RAC meeting schedule dates for 2024. Mr. Grant made the motion and Mr. Bodenmiller seconded. The dates were accepted unanimously. The Chairman added that the dates are subject to change, should a special meeting about the Open House be needed. Meeting dates are posted on the Airport's website at:

http://republicairport.net/?page_id=1696

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Four (4) individuals commented.

Chairman Nocerino adjourned the meeting at 7:39pm.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by:

**Anthony C. Ceglio on behalf of Executive Secretary
Republic Airport Commission**

PUBLIC COMMENTS
REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION
December 13, 2023

Ms. Nancy Cypser of the Woodland Civic Association asked if the 2 seats are appointed by the Governor. Chairman Nocerino responded that 2 seats are appointed by the State Senate, 1 from the Assembly, and 1 by the Governor.

Ms. Cypser asked if the time of day is known for a noise complaint, then how can there be so many “Unknowns” reported on the Aircraft Complaint reports. If you do an investigation and know the time, and there would be reference from the Tower, wouldn’t the type of aircraft taking off also be known? Airport Manager John Lauth responded that the Operations department only monitors landings, not take-offs. We ask that a noise complaint provide all the correct information to help identify the aircraft which helps the Operations staff investigate the complaint. If all the specifics are not provided, then we cannot accurately assign an aircraft to it. Airport Director added that sometimes the complaint’s information does not match the time or activity on the airfield.

Mr. Ralph Diliello, a Farmingdale resident, asked to define a Touch and Go and if they usually occur early in the morning. Mr. Lauth answered that they are an exercise for flight students to practice landings and departures and they usually occur all day. Mr. Lauth said the Airport tries to help the community by communicating with pilots and flight schools about refraining from Touch and Go’s between 11pm and 7am. Mr. Diliello said he considers takeoffs occurring before 8am as “disturbing the peace”. He complained to the Town of Babylon who told him it is not a Town issue and that he should call the Airport’s complaint line. Mr. Diliello then went to Suffolk County Police 1st Precinct to file a Disturbing the Peace charge and was told that it was a Town issue, not a Police issue. Mr. Diliello said, “I smell a major grease job”. Mr. Lauth responded that the Airport is open 24/7 and does a good job communicating with pilots about limiting operations outside of the 7am-11pm window. Chairman Nocerino added that some late-night operations are necessary, such as the NHL Hockey teams who depart late after games, medical emergencies, donor organ transports, or activity related to weather delays. Due to recent construction, one runway was closed for several weeks which required all airport traffic to use the open runway. The Chairman said the Airport is trying to stay on top of noise issues.

Ms. Cypser stated that the link on the Airport’s website that is used to file an online noise complaint has disappeared and she had to use the Search bar to find the complaint form. Mr. Ceglie said recent changes were made to the website including the RAC webpage and that the issue will be looked into.

Mark Goldberg, an Echo tenant, thanked the Commission for their help to address tie-down the price increases.

Dr. Bob Corona, an Echo tenant, also thanked the Commission for their help.

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REPUBLIC AIRPORT - OPERATIONS REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2023 & SIX MONTHS YEAR-TO-DATE

	CURRENT MONTH				FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE			
	2023/24	2022/23	CHANGE	% Change	2023/24	2022/23	CHANGE	%Change
A. TOTAL OPERATIONS (FAA)	19,252	24,416	(5,164)	-21.2%	148,358	155,520	(7,162)	-4.6%
B. LANDINGS BY TYPE AIRCRAFT (Ops)	6,998	7,980	(982)	-12.3%	48,797	49,779	(982)	-2.0%
Single Engine Piston	3,357	3,899	(542)	-13.9%	22,486	23,028	(542)	-2.4%
Multi Engine Piston	141	202	(61)	-30.2%	938	999	(61)	-6.1%
SUB-TOTAL	3,498	4,101	(603)	-14.7%	23,424	24,027	(603)	-2.5%
Turboprop	83	95	(12)	-12.6%	545	557	(12)	-2.2%
Jet	657	666	(9)	-1.4%	4,151	4,160	(9)	-0.2%
Helicopter	137	184	(47)	-25.5%	857	904	(47)	-5.2%
TOTALS	4,375	5,046	(671)	-13.3%	28,977	29,648	(671)	-2.3%
C. TOUCH & GO'S (Ops)								
Single Engine Piston	2,596	2,879	(283)	-9.8%	19,687	19,970	(283)	-1.4%
Multi Engine Piston	24	29	(5)	-17.2%	107	112	(5)	-4.5%
Turboprop	0	2	(2)	-100%	1	3	(2)	-66.7%
Jet	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%
Helicopter	3	24	(21)	-87.5%	25	46	(21)	-45.7%
TOTALS	2,623	2,934	(311)	-10.6%	19,820	20,131	(311)	-1.5%
D. PASSENGERS								
Ultimate Jet Charters Inc.	784	884	(100)	-11.3%	5,526	5,626	(100)	-1.8%
TOTALS	784	884	(100)	-11.3%	5,526	5,626	(100)	-1.8%
E. BASED AIRCRAFT								
Single Engine Piston	263	306	(43)	-14.1%				
Multi Engine Piston	46	46	0	0.0%				
Turboprop	10	11	(1)	-9.1%				
Jet	103	112	(9)	-8.0%				
Helicopter	18	21	(3)	-14.3%				
TOTALS	440	496	(56)	-11.3%				

REPUBLIC AIRPORT - OPERATIONS REPORT

OCTOBER 2023 & SEVEN MONTHS YEAR-TO-DATE

	CURRENT MONTH				FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE			
	2023/24	2022/23	CHANGE	% Change	2023/24	2022/23	CHANGE	%Change
A. TOTAL OPERATIONS (FAA)	25,465	22,520	2,945	13.1%	173,823	178,040	(4,217)	-2.4%
B. LANDINGS BY TYPE AIRCRAFT (Ops)	8,986	7,070	1,916	27.1%	57,783	56,849	934	1.6%
Single Engine Piston	4,384	3,581	803	22.4%	26,870	26,609	261	1.0%
Multi Engine Piston	129	144	(15)	-10.4%	1,067	1,143	(76)	-6.6%
SUB-TOTAL	4,513	3,725	788	21.2%	27,937	27,752	185	0.7%
Turboprop	92	54	38	70.4%	637	611	26	4.3%
Jet	702	722	(20)	-2.8%	4,853	4,882	(29)	-0.6%
Helicopter	97	162	(65)	-40.1%	954	1,066	(112)	-10.5%
TOTALS	5,404	4,663	741	15.9%	34,381	34,311	70	0.2%
C. TOUCH & GO'S (Ops)								
Single Engine Piston	3,547	2,368	1,179	49.8%	23,234	22,338	896	4.0%
Multi Engine Piston	29	8	21	262.5%	136	120	16	13.3%
Turboprop	0	1	(1)	-100.0%	1	4	(3)	-75.0%
Jet	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%
Helicopter	6	30	(24)	-80.0%	31	76	(45)	-59.2%
TOTALS	3,582	2,407	1,175	48.8%	23,402	22,538	864	3.8%
D. PASSENGERS								
Ultimate Jet Charters Inc.	883	895	(12)	-1.3%	6,409	6,521	(112)	-1.7%
TOTALS	883	895	(12)	-1.3%	6,409	6,521	(112)	-1.7%
E. BASED AIRCRAFT								
Single Engine Piston	263	306	(43)	-14.1%				
Multi Engine Piston	46	46	0	0.0%				
Turboprop	10	11	(1)	-9.1%				
Jet	103	112	(9)	-8.0%				
Helicopter	18	21	(3)	-14.3%				
TOTALS	440	496	(56)	-11.3%				

**REPUBLIC AIRPORT - AIRCRAFT COMPLAINT REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2023 & SIX MONTHS YEAR-TO-DATE**

	CURRENT MONTH		FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE	
	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23
TOTAL AIRCRAFT COMPLAINTS	38	45	365	372
I. TIME OF DAY				
Day	23	37	201	215
Night	5	4	80	79
Unknown	10	4	84	78
TOTAL BY TIME	38	45	365	372
II. TYPE OF AIRCRAFT/ USE				
Jet	5	13	29	37
Turboprop	0	0	0	0
Multi/ Single	6	18	67	79
Helicopter	3	6	17	20
Unknown	24	8	252	236
TOTAL BY TYPE	38	45	365	372
III. COMPLAINTS BY AREA				
North	4	6	45	47
Northwest	14	17	84	87
Northeast	1	0	3	2
South	4	0	13	9
Southwest	1	1	15	15
Southeast	3	4	8	9
East	0	0	1	1
West	11	17	196	202
Unknown	0	0	0	0
TOTAL BY AREA	38	45	365	372
IV. HOUSEHOLD TOTAL				
	18	10		
V. COMPLAINT BY RUNWAY				
Arrival 32	1	2	11	12
Departure 14	2	4	3	5
Arrival 14	2	10	13	21
Departure 32	0	1	12	13
Arrival 19	5	7	24	26
Departure 01	0	0	1	1
Arrival 01	3	2	11	10
Departure 19	0	0	0	0
Other *	1	11	38	48
Unknowns	24	8	252	236
TOTAL BY RUNWAY	38	45	365	372
VI. AIRCRAFT LOCATION				
Based	2	9	32	39
Transient	12	32	81	101
Unknown	24	4	252	232
TOTAL BY LOCATION	38	45	365	372

*Touch and Gos	
RWY 1	0
RWY 14	0
RWY 19	0
RWY 32	1

**REPUBLIC AIRPORT - AIRCRAFT COMPLAINT REPORT
OCTOBER 2023 & SEVEN MONTHS YEAR-TO-DATE**

	CURRENT MONTH		FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE	
	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23
TOTAL AIRCRAFT COMPLAINTS	26	31	391	396
I. TIME OF DAY				
Day	17	16	218	217
Night	9	8	89	88
Unknown	0	7	84	91
TOTAL BY TIME	26	31	391	396
II. TYPE OF AIRCRAFT/ USE				
Jet	4	12	33	41
Turboprop	0	0	0	0
Multi/ Single	5	12	72	79
Helicopter	3	0	20	17
Unknown	14	7	266	259
TOTAL BY TYPE	26	31	391	396
III. COMPLAINTS BY AREA				
North	5	3	50	48
Northwest	6	17	90	101
Northeast	0	0	3	3
South	5	6	18	19
Southwest	0	0	15	15
Southeast	0	1	8	9
East	0	0	1	1
West	10	4	206	200
Unknown	0	0	0	0
TOTAL BY AREA	26	31	391	396
IV. HOUSEHOLD TOTAL	13	14		
V. COMPLAINT BY RUNWAY				
Arrival 32	0	6	11	17
Departure 14	0	6	3	9
Arrival 14	0	1	13	14
Departure 32	4	2	16	14
Arrival 19	4	1	28	25
Departure 01	0	0	1	1
Arrival 01	2	1	13	12
Departure 19	0	1	0	1
Other *	0	6	38	44
Unknowns	16	7	268	259
TOTAL BY RUNWAY	26	31	391	396
VI. AIRCRAFT LOCATION				
Based	1	7	33	39
Transient	9	18	90	99
Unknown	16	6	268	258
TOTAL BY LOCATION	26	31	391	396

*Touch and Gos	
RWY 1	0
RWY 14	0
RWY 19	0
RWY 32	0