

**CITIZENS COMMITTEE ON AIRPORT NOISE
PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
MEETING MINUTES
August 10, 2023 - 9:30 AM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

CAROL ROBERTS, District # 1
JOYCE VAUGHN, District #2
AARON WORMUS, District # 4
VICTORIA CHOURIS, District # 6
MARTIN KLEIN, District # 7
NANCY PULLUM, Good Neighbor Council
LEWIS CRAMPTON, Town Council of Palm Beach

STAFF PRESENT:

GARY SYPEK, Senior Deputy Director, Airports
CRAIG DELEGATO, Noise Abatement Manager

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order at 9:30am and Department of Airports Noise Abatement Manager CRAIG DELEGATO called the roll. The following CCAN members were present: CAROL ROBERTS, AARON WORMUS, VICTORIA CHOURIS, MARTIN KLEIN, LEWIS CRAMPTON and NANCY PULLUM.

The following member(s) were not present during the roll call: JULIE VAUGHN, JULIE HERMES and THERESA JOHNSON.

** JOYCE VAUGHN arrived to the meeting shortly before 10am**

CRAIG DELEGATO informed the CCAN Chairperson, NANCY PULLUM, that a quorum was present.

II. CHAIR'S WELCOME:

NANCY PULLUM welcomed and thanked everyone in attendance. She asked that the Committee take a few minutes to review the May 2023 minutes before making a motion to approve them.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made to approve both the May 2023 minutes and the June 2023 Special Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and both meeting minutes were approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

NANCY PULLUM asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda; as there were none, a motion was made to approve the Agenda. The motion was seconded and the August 10th, 2023 Agenda was approved.

V. NOISE OFFICE UPDATE:

CRAIG DELEGATO began the Noise Office Update discussing Noise Monitoring Terminals (NMT's). He informed the Committee that replacement of existing NMT's began in the latter part of June 2023. He informed the Committee that four units have been replaced and that immediately before they were replaced only one NMT had been operational. He also advised the NMT at Petty Park in West Palm Beach was non-operational because of construction in the area. He advised that additional installation of NMTs was currently ongoing.

NANCY PULLUM advised him that if the NMT was damaged by the construction contractor at Petty Park the City of West Palm Beach should be notified.

CRAIG DELEGATO informed the Committee that he was hopeful within the next three weeks all NMTs in need or replacement will have been replaced. He also informed the Committee of project delays due to technical staffing and easement right-of-way concerns.

AARON WORMUS asked for the total number of NMTs in use. CRAIG DELEGATO answered that there are currently 13 NMTs; 10 that are dedicated for use at PBI with the remaining used at North County Airport (F45). He also informed the Committee that one NMT is located on Palm Beach Island on Island Drive.

NANCY PULLUM and LEWIS CRAMPTON discussed the past and current locations of NMTs on Palm Beach Island and which location(s) might be best for future installations.

CRAIG DELEGATO advised the Committee that there are still easement right-of-way concerns for NMTs being installed near F45. NANCY PULLUM reminded the Committee that their business pertains strictly to PBI and not to other Airports owned by Palm Beach County.

AARON WORMUS asked if the NMTs that were recently installed would be compatible with the new system for noise monitoring. CRAIG DELEGATO informed him they would be.

CRAIG DELEGATO continued the Noise Office Update by sharing a draft of the scope of work that will be part of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a new noise monitoring system. He informed the Committee he was hopeful the RFP would be issued in September and that by April 2024 a new noise monitoring system would be in place. He also advised the Committee that much of the content in the RFP was put together with the help of outside consultants and asked that any

Committee member provide their feedback regarding the RFP by the end of August.

NANCY PULLUM said her biggest concerns regarding any new noise monitoring system are what type of data is being collected, what data is available to the public and how useful will the data be.

CRAIG DELEGATO informed the Committee they will have the ability to create a dashboard with specific criterion addressing local needs/concerns. He also mentioned he is able to send the Committee images of screens showing how the noise monitoring systems appear to end-users.

LEWIS CRAMPTON asked for clarification regarding the RFP process and what can be expected once the process is complete. CRAIG DELEGATO explained that vendors are invited to bid on proposals and that ultimately those proposals are reviewed by a selection committee that would determine which vendor would be chosen to complete the work / systems chosen.

Various Committee members expressed their concerns over how quickly new technology changes and whether or not the new system will be able to adapt to future needs. They also expressed concern over choosing a system and then recognizing later that the type of and location of noise issues might change in the future. CRAIG DELEGATO informed the Committee that by being able to design a dashboard that is specific to PBI, many of those concerns can be addressed.

Senior Deputy Director GARY SYPEK interjected that once MR. DELEGATO shared screen shots and images of current noise monitoring systems used throughout the country, the Committee would have a much better idea of what information the systems are capable of providing. He informed the Committee that by his own review of different systems, he was confident that any new system would be an upgrade to the current system's capabilities.

CAROL ROBERTS asked if the new system would be something the general public would be able to understand well enough to use and MARTIN KLEIN asked if there is a specific airport noise monitoring system that he should review. GARY SYPEK replied that he believed the new systems are all more user-friendly than the current in-house system and he suggested MR. KLEIN review the noise monitoring system images used at Dulles Int'l and Dallas/Ft. Worth airports. He also reminded the Committee that he was hopeful a Committee Member would be part of the Selection Committee for the future noise monitoring system RFP.

NANCY PULLUM asked the Committee and members of the public if they were interested in meeting before the next scheduled CCAN meeting in November to specifically discuss the noise monitoring system RFP. It was determined that a “special meeting” would be scheduled for Thursday, September 7th at 5:30 p.m.

NANCY PULLUM asked the Committee to take responsibility for doing outreach in their local neighborhoods regarding CCAN meetings. She also asked the Committee to review the noise monitoring vendor websites and other airport websites to familiarize themselves with the type of data collection that could be useful at PBI. She mentioned that, for example, she would like to have a system that can differentiate between the numbers of general aviation vs. commercial flights.

MARTIN KLEIN asked for an update to the status of a letter from the Committee regarding the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) Noise Policy Review. GARY SYPEK informed him that consultants have suggested waiting until aviation industry groups like the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) and Airports Council International (ACI) submit their concerns to the FAA. He advised after their concerns are known, the CCAN, using its own letterhead can draft a letter piggy-backing off the concerns of those groups and the concerns of other airports.

CRAIG DELEGATO informed the Committee about recent conversations he has had with other airport professionals regarding the FAA Noise Policy Review. He informed them of a recent survey by AAAE indicating that the majority of respondents believed there should not be any change to the 65 DNL metric used by the FAA. He also informed the Committee that the FAA Noise Policy Review is limited in its scope to concerns solely about noise metrics and land-use compatibility. NANCY PULLUM suggested she was more concerned with the thoughts of citizen groups than the thoughts of airport executives and she mentioned how those different groups may not necessarily have the same goals in mind.

The Committee asked which airports in the United States was most similar to PBI in regards to surrounding communities and size. CRAIG DELEGATO suggested that Midway Airport in Chicago could be a decent comparison to PBI. He also mentioned Teterboro Airport in New Jersey as having a similar number of general aviation flights.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.