Hillsboro Airport Roundtable Exchange Noise Working Group December 19, 2012: Hillsboro Airport Conference Room, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Summary

MEMBERS PRESENT

Clint Bidwell, Federal Aviation Administration Hillsboro Airport Control Tower Joe Fiala, Federal Aviation Administration Hillsboro Airport Control Tower Brian Lockhart, Global Aviation (alternate for Ken Dyar)
Bob Flansberg, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (Oregon Chapter)
Kimberly Culberston, CPO 9
Henry Oberhelman, CPO 8
Fred Hochstetler, Chair of HARE
Jack Lettieri, Community-at-large representative

PORT STAFF

Jason Schwartz, Noise Management Manager Brooke Berglund, Community Affairs Outreach Manager Chris Blair, Noise Analyst Steve Nagy, General Aviation Manager

AUDIENCE

Dick Linn Marcia Linn

SUMMARY

Presentation by Chris Blair about the HIO Noise Management Program

Chris Blair gave a presentation about the current noise management program at Hillsboro to give the group a basis for the work they would like to explore doing. Questions came up in relationship to specific areas of the programs as noted below.

Fly Friendly Brochures

Brian asked if the fly friendly brochures were available on the website. Jason answered not yet. Clint expressed interest in having posters of the brochures for the control tower as well.

Noise Hotline

Jack asked if the voicemail system for the noise complaint system specifically tells folks what they need in order for the Port to be able to accurately explore the complaint. Jason responded that it does give the detail that will help the analysts be able to adequately answer a person's question or respond to a complaint.

Operational Noise Abatement Procedures

Henry asked what a helicopter reporting point was and wondered how that was implemented. Clint and Joe answered that it is used for bringing helicopters in and out of the airport by using mainly the stadium and then heading along to highway 26. It is partially used as a noise abatement procedure.

Fly Friendly Outreach and Presentations

Henry asked what reaction the noise office gets from Hillsboro Aviation for the Fly Friendly program presentations. Chris said that they are attentive and knowledgeable and try to do what they can to practice the recommendations that the Port has in place.

Jack suggested that there may be an opportunity for the Port to create a brochure to give to students as a welcome packet for knowing the flight abatement procedures at Hillsboro Airport and other airports that have flight training operations. Jason responded that right now the Noise Management department does quarterly presentations to students at PCC and Hillsboro Aviation.

Kimberly asked if the Port knows how the noise abatement procedures knowledge is used and part of the Hillsboro Aviation curriculum. Jason said that the noise office has worked significantly with them to provide them posters, briefings for both CFIs and students, etc. The Port doesn't know how much that is a part of their curriculum, but it is being included.

Fred said that he would take the task of working with Hillsboro Aviation to see on how much noise abatement procedures is engrained as part of their curriculum. Steve clarified that the focus should also include the entire group of people that use the airport, not just Hillsboro Aviation. There are a lot of pilots that are coming from other airports or only use Hillsboro on the weekend, etc. so it would be beneficial to have a more holistic approach.

Jack asked for quarterly noise complaint reports with event specific data to then be able to follow up with the specific tenant/operators that created the issue for the complaint. This could then help with the operators knowing that their operations were generating noise complaints so that they could modify their behavior. Jack offered to help with matching the noise event up with the operational data.

Legal Considerations

Steve provided some information on the legal constraints that the Port is under due to having funding from the FAA. The Port receives funds from the FAA for various maintenance and capital improvement projects at Hillsboro Airport. As part of the agreement with the FAA in receiving the funds, the Port must keep the airport open to all aircraft and operational. If the Port were to discriminate against certain types of aircraft or shut the airport down, we would be required to pay back all the money that we have received from the FAA. Henry suggested that the committee start talking about where they wanted to go with their work rather than having the group start by focusing on the legal constraints.

Subcommittee Goals

Steve provided the workplan from the HIO Airport Land Use Compatibility Study subcommittee to help at least start the discussion on what the group's mission statement and goals will be. The group brainstormed some goals that they would like for the workgroup to accomplish:

- Workable recommendations for outreach
- Reduce the noise impacts to the community from aviation operations
- Regular reports to the HARE on subcommittee meetings/progress
- Regular reports of noise events matched with specific operations to allow for operator education on community impacts (workplan efforts)
- Create a detailed workplan to accomplish goals
- Collaborative process

Workable Mission Statement

Engage in a collaborative and comprehensive analysis of aviation noise issue to provide workable recommendations to reduce impacts to the Hillsboro community, and offer recommendations to the HARE committee for implementation.

Subcommittee members will think about this and discuss at the next subcommittee meeting to ensure that it matches up with the goals the subcommittee hopes to accomplish.

Work Plan Discussions

Discussions about how the group will identify areas for focus on. Some ideas of area for focus included:

- Aircraft operations
- Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) procedures
- Visual Flight Rules (VFR) procedures
- Pilot outreach/fly friendly
- Data collection and reporting
- Flight training (flight instructors, operations, etc) for both helicopters and fixed wing operations

ACTION ITEMS

The Port will put together a summary of the types of data that are available in relationship to noise at Hillsboro Airport.