# DelDOT Aeronautics
# Delaware Aviation Advisory Council (DAAC)
# Meeting Minutes
# July 24, 2024

**Members Present**
Robert Bryant, Sussex County, At-Large
Captain CJ Charlton, Aviation Education
Jeff Chorman, Fixed-Based Operator
Ben Clendaniel, DRBA
Jeremiah Hardy, Corporate Aviation
Richard Horstmann, At-Large
Matt Jordan- Kent County- At Large
Nick Ryan, New Castle County- At-Large
Kimberley Shropshire, At-Large
Steve Williams, DRBA

**DelDOT Support Staff**
Mike DuRoss, Assistant Director, Planning
Steve Bayer, Planning Supervisor
Austin Gray, Aeronautics Program Manager
Bryce Kent, DelDOT/ADCI Support Intern

**Others Present**
Randal Wiedemann, R.A. Wiedemann & Assoc.
Paul Wiedemann, R.A. Wiedemann & Assoc.

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## I. Welcome and Introductions

- **Introductions:** The meeting started with a roll call of the DAAC members present. Quorum was confirmed.

- **Administrative Updates:**
  - **Staff Updates:** Austin provided updates on the Aeronautics Intern Program. Austin introduced Bryce Kent as one of our new interns, he joined the team on 5/21/24 and is currently a DSU Student. Austin also announced that two other interns just completed the Aeronautics Internship program with DelDOT, Jeremiah Skeete and Omar Anderson.
  - **Aircraft Counting Program:** Austin informed the Council members that new aircraft traffic counting devices and equipment has been purchased to replace the existing older devices and will be deployed in the coming weeks. A question was asked if the data collected is sent to the airports. Austin stated that an annual report is created from the data collected and is distributed to the airports.

- **5010 Facility Inspections:** Austin stated airport inspections were completed at Jenkins Airport, Chandelle Airport, and the DelDOT Helipad. These inspections are done on a 3-year rotating basis.
- **System Planning:** Austin announced that DelDOT received an FAA grant for the State Aviation System Plan and work will begin in the fall.

## II. Old Business

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Copies of the meeting minutes from the April 17, 2024, meeting was distributed and reviewed by the DAAC Council members prior to the meeting. Austin asked the members for approval of the minutes. All members agreed on the minutes, and they were approved. Austin mentioned that the meeting recording are now being published on the DelDOT YouTube Channel as well as the DelDOT Aeronautics webpage.

## III. New Business

- **DAAC Overview:** Austin provided a brief overview of the Delaware Aviation Advisory Council (DAAC) Del. Code Title 2 103. Austin stated that the code provides the roles and responsibilities of the DAAC Council members.

- **Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Study Updates:** Randal provided information on the Advanced Air Mobility Study which involves government and private industry as well as stakeholders. Randal provided an overview and goals of the study and how it can identify potential impacts of AAM to Delaware Transportation. Randal stated that they are looking into locating Vertiports on existing airports in Delaware. Randal explained this type of program could provide assistance in maintaining preservation in privately-owned public-use airports as well as produce economic growth.

- **State Funding Program:** Austin stated that the State Funding Program is primarily for publicly owned, privately used airport facilities within Delaware. The funding application qualifications consist of Airport Maintenance Projects, New Capital Development and Revenue Producing Projects. Austin further explained that once the application is submitted it goes through the review process which includes priority ranking and funding availability. Once the application is approved, DelDOT will contact the applicant to discuss the next steps, which includes the agreement and funding allocation process.

## IV. Member Updates

- **Jeff Chorman updates:**
  - **Greenwood and Chorman Airports:** T-hanger building is complete. All hangers are rented except for one.
  - **Laurel Airport:** Three T-hangers are open. Runway lights are installed, but overgrown trees are obstructing the lights at night. Jeff will be working on getting this issue resolved.

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- **Captain CJ Charlton:**
  - **Aviation Education:** The Inaugural State Aviation Program Address will take place on September 24th at DSU in the Bank of America Building.

- **Robert Bryant updates:**
  - **Delaware Coastal Airport**- Submitted a 3.5 million AIP grant application to the FAA, for Phase I construction for the new parallel new taxiway, supporting our primary runway. This is a four-phased construction project.
  - Robert also explained they are currently waiting for direction from the FAA on how to utilize the $1 million congressional direct spending grant which was awarded through Tom Carper's office for their runway extension.
  - October 5th, Wings and Wheels event will take place.

- **Steve Williams updates**: **DRBA/Wilmington ILG airport**-
  - Steve announced that he will be leaving the DAAC as he has taken on another role as the Deputy General Manager at JFK International Airport. Ben Clendaniel is Steve's alternate on the DAAC and will be taking over the responsibilities until the position is filled.

- **Wilmington Airport**:
  - Ben Clendaniel stated that they received funding for the expansion of the Airport terminal gate area.
  - Ben also stated that the Airport Parking Expansion project should be completed in October adding an additional 500 parking spaces.
  - Ben also shared that American Airlines will be offering a landline bush connections service from Wilmington to Philadelphia.

- **Avelo Airlines**:
  - Ben stated additional destinations are being added: Lakeland Airport and Charlotte, NC Airport. Ben also shared that American Airlines will be offering coach bus service from Wilmington to Philadelphia.

- **Civil Air Terminal:**
  - Ben Clendaniel announced the Joint Use Agreement (JUA) has been signed.

- **Delaware Airpark:**
  - Ben stated they will begin the Phase II apron expansion next Spring. There is also a delay in the box hangers project, still waiting for supplies.

## V. Public Comments

- No public comments.

## VI. Next Meeting

- October 23, 2024

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