



Board Meeting Minutes December 6, 2017.

Members in attendance: Cliff Belleau, Chuck Hosack, Lars Gleitsmann, Bernie Willis, Larry Lagrone, Al Clayton, Ed White. Guest: Scott Christie

Meeting was called to order by President Willis at 7:05 PM.

Treasurer's report: No Change other than the dues for 2018 to EAA national were paid (\$300)

Minutes from the November board meeting were approved.

Government Affairs:

Birchwood airport: "giveaway" to Eklutna Native Association at no charge. The DOT is using "sponsorship" to get around the transfer without approval of the legislature. Birchwood pilots association is meeting with the Eklutna Native Association and the State DOT. Lars is concerned that Birchwood will be converted to a drone base by Eklutna. A question was asked: is there a precedent in Alaska regarding the transfer of an airport to a non-gov't entity? There was some discussion that the state did transfer the Quinhagak airport and that it did not go well. A suggestion was made that the state should transfer Birchwood to the City of Anchorage.

State of Alaska aircraft registration and fee: The state DOT has proposed requiring a state registration of all aircraft and an associated registration fee. A public meeting regarding the proposed fee will be held at the Coast International Inn Saturday the 9th. Immediately following the public meeting, the Lake Hood Pilots association will hold their winter membership meeting at the same location. Scott Christie of the pilots association asked the chapter board for assistance financially to defray the room cost. His group normally would have held their meeting at another location (donated). The board unanimously agreed to provide \$50 to defray some of the room rental. Discussion of the state proposal ensued: Chuck pointed out that there is no state statute approving a registration and that the FAA has successfully defended their authority to register aircraft. The state could enact a tax on aircraft, but the legislature would need to do so and not a state agency. Alternate proposals for state revenue generation would be charging a facilities use for rural airports. Most rural airports have no based aircraft and are utilized primarily by commercial operators.

Chuck offered to draft some comments that would be helpful to our members to in refuting the states proposal. The board accepted his offer with the caution that the board would not "approve" them and they would not represent the chapter until and unless they were reviewed.



Old business:

Chapter elections were held at the November meeting. Tom Lawhorn was elected to a board member at large position, all other officers were re-elected.

January meeting will be a presentation by Cliff and Chuck at Sara's hangar regarding condition inspections.

February meeting is at Airframes in Birchwood. Bernie will co-ordinate.

New Business:

Al Clayton relayed that Mark Ransom is interested in starting a build-a-plane project using the Aviation museum as a partner and a facility. A meeting regarding this will be held at the museum at 7 pm on Thursday the 7th. Al and Bernie discussed traveling to Talkeetna to talk with them about their build-a-plane program as it is quite successful.

Al and the RAF are planning a work party at the Wrangell St. Elias park in the spring, more details to follow.

Meeting adjourned about 8:53.