

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

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TRB Committee – Environmental Impacts of Aviation – AV030
Meeting Minutes
Mid-Year Meeting
May 18, 2005

Meeting Location: San Diego Airport Authority Conference Room

1. Attendance

See Attached.

2. Adoption of Agenda and Meeting Minutes

The agenda for today's meeting and the minutes from the January 11, 2005, meeting at the TRB Annual Meeting were approved.

3. Welcome and Preliminary Remarks

The chair thanked the hosts, Dan Frazee and the San Diego Regional Airport Authority, as well as Ian Redhead, Sara Massey and John Pehrson for organizing the mid-year meeting. Roger Johnson was also thanked for taking minutes from the last meeting.

4. Summary of Subcommittee Reports

Membership – Darcy Zarubiak provided the report of the Membership Subcommittee. Mr. Zarubiak noted that the terms of the original committee Members would be expiring in 2006 at the end of their three year terms. At least six positions would be open due to non-renewal of some members. Mr. Zarubiak reminded the Committee that it could have a maximum of 25 Members, to be selected by the Committee itself. He indicated that the Committee was looking for a diversity of interests and representation in its Members, as well as active participation in the activities of the Committee. Members below the age of

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30 are of special interest, because they do not count against the 25-member limit and promote mentoring of younger persons in the field. In discussion, Members indicated that it would be helpful to seek additional representation from academia, regulatory agencies, environmental NGOs and DOD. The Committee will need to act on its membership at the 2006 annual meeting.

Publications -- Richard Burke provided an update regarding publications. The Committee will publish its second edition of *Critical Issues in Aviation and the Environment* in CD form later in the year. July 15, 2005, is the target date for completing new sections of the publication, which will include a section on water quality, modeling tools and a vision for the year 2025. Mr. Burke stressed that each of the sections should keep a preferred 2025 end state in mind for each topical issue. In addition, the Committee agreed that issues regarding tradeoffs among environmental issues should be considered throughout the document, rather than placed in one section. The Committee agreed to reassess this issue at the Annual Meeting. There was general agreement that it was critical to keep the *Critical Issues* document up-to-date. There was also some discussion later in the meeting regarding whether to add a section regarding climate change. The Committee did not make a firm decision on this point and deferred the issue for further discussion. The Committee also discussed how to address the draft document regarding technology deployment. There was a general sense that the document needed to be recast as research needs and to avoid overtly policy recommendations. It was also agreed that Richard Altman, Katherine Andrus, Lourdes Maurice and Kristi McKenney would follow up by telephone on this issue. Finally, the Committee also considered, but did not resolve, questions regarding whether a section should be added regarding natural resources and expanding the focus to address more international issues. [Note that these issues regarding the *Critical Issues* document were addressed both in the publications subcommittee report and a stand-alone agenda item regarding the *Critical Issues* document.]

Strategic Planning – Stephen Davis-Mendelow provided a brief update regarding the status of the Committee's strategic plan. The statement remains in place and Mr. Davis-Mendelow has heard no concerns or feedback about it. He expects that the Committee will need to review the plan as part of the Committee's triennial review by TRB next year.

Annual Meeting – Burr Stewart provided an update regarding the 2005 Annual Meeting. The Committee sponsored four successful sessions and had very good attendance at its business meeting. The Committee will continue to look for options to co-sponsor sessions with other committees. The Committee will need to submit session placeholders by June 3, 2005, for the 2006 Annual Meeting. In addition to co-sponsorships, we will look at obtain better counts of attendance at the Committee's sessions. The Committee also discussed the value to sitting in on other committees' business meetings at the Annual Meeting in order to build stronger relationships. It was recommended that we send a list of the other committee meetings so that Members can cover them.

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Mid-Year Meeting – It was agreed to hold next year’s mid-year meeting in Seattle, with Burr Stewart leading the planning effort. The meeting may include a visit to Boeing facilities and may include a speaker or discussion regarding energy issues.

Website – Mary Ellen Eagan provided a quick update regarding the status of the Committee website. She has taken the time to collect presentations from the Committee’s sessions at the Annual Meeting and post them on the site, along with the *Critical Issues* paper. There was a general sense that the website is looking good.

5. New Officers

The Committee provided special thanks for the heroic efforts of outgoing Chair Dan Wormhoudt and outgoing Secretary Peter Gray-Mullen in getting the Committee started and making its first three years successful. The Committee elected Katherine Andrus as the new Chairperson, Burr Stewart as Vice Chairperson and John Putnam as Secretary.

6. 2006 Annual Meeting Sessions Planning

The Committee engaged in extensive discussion regarding possible topics for sessions at the next Annual Meeting. On the basis of this discussion, the Committee narrowed options to the following, which were chosen for further development and evaluation: (1) potential disconnects between research results and standards; (2) addressing uncertainty in environmental regulation and review; (3) alternative aircraft fuels; (4) unique climate change issues associated with aviation; (5) cabin air quality; and (6) winter operations issues. Final decisions will be made based on the availability of slots and the extent to which the session topics are developed. John Pehrson agreed to take the lead on Annual Meeting session coordination.