



*Reno Tahoe Aviation Group
Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2022*

I. Call to Order

RTAG President Dr. Bob Larkin called to order the Board of Directors meeting of the Reno-Tahoe Aviation Group at 5:30pm on April 6, 2022, at Atlantic Aviation, 655 S. Rock Blvd, Reno, NV 89502.

II. Roll Call

A roll call was not conducted. The following officers and directors were present:

Dr. Bob Larkin – President
Francisco Magana – Vice-President
Richard Polivy – Treasurer
Karen Inda – Secretary
Michael Cleveland – Director
Tom Dyer – Director
Trygve Inda – Director
Emma Justis – Director (via Zoom)
Mark Stiving – Director

III. Old Business

Work Plans

Work plans hold the BOD accountable to the members. Each committee chair presented his or her work plan for 2022 – 2023.

As Chair of the **Educational Programs Committee**, Francisco proposed these topics for upcoming meetings: “Fundamentals of Taildragger Airplanes,” which could also include the fundamentals of amphibious, aerobatic, and STOL planes, “The Rules of Working on Your Own Aircraft,” which would be taught by an A&P, and “Long Cross-Country Planning,” which would be taught by directors who have flown to Oshkosh, the East Coast, and even Guatemala. The largest growth segment in GA is backcountry flying and our educational programs should help members broaden their horizons.

There was a discussion about the merits of Wings credit vs. a logbook entry. If our



presenters have an AGI or CFI, attendees can bring their logbooks to RTAG general meetings and get a sign-off for ground school instruction.

As Chair of the **Aviation Banquet Committee**, Karen proposed changing the name of the committee to the Special Events Committee, since she plans a lot more than just the banquet. This was approved and the change will be made on the website.

The Poker Run is being planned for May 14th. RTAG sponsor Stellar Aviation is planning to host a BBQ at GA West after the Poker Run. With the passing of Bob Meurer, we need a new judge. Emma will try to find one. CAP will let us borrow their tables and chairs for inside. We are also looking for picnic tables that we can use outside GA West for the event.

RTAG sponsor AARI will once again host the Pancake Breakfast this summer. Karen will work with Dave Dragoli on choosing a date. It will most likely be a Saturday in August.

The next Celebration of Aviation Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, March 4, 2023. We are looking for a guest speaker, as well as items for the silent auction and raffle.

As Chair of the **Liaison to Outside Groups Committee**, Michael gave an update on finding a permanent home for GA at KRNO. Ideally, Stellar Aviation will build a facility on the northeast corner of the field that all GA groups can use, including CAP, EAA, RTAG, and Pathways to Aviation. There should be meeting rooms and plenty of space for BBQs, movie night, game night, etc. There was a discussion about whether Operation Santa Claus is going to happen this year and, if so, what RTAG's role will be.

As Chair of the **Scholarship Committee**, Emma had several ideas on how to not only get more applications, but better applications. Too many applications submitted this year were incomplete and the candidates were automatically disqualified. Emma suggested that we hold a ground school class on how to fill out a scholarship application, create incentives for CFIs to foster relationships with scholarship applicants, and create an Instagram page to promote RTAG's scholarships, fly-outs, and events to a younger audience. Instagram will also allow local aviation businesses to link with RTAG. Karen suggested creating a mentorship program that would encourage aircraft owners to mentor student pilots or pilots seeking an advanced rating. The directors agreed that RTAG should create a formal mentorship program. Emma will design it and present it at the next BOD meeting.

As Chair of the **Membership Committee**, Mark is researching the compelling reasons that people join RTAG. Recently retired from the world of marketing and pricing, Mark will be



interviewing members, creating marketing materials, and working with Richard on membership levels and pricing strategies.

As Chair of the **Standing Finance Committee**, Richard wants to find an alternative to PayPal, which takes too many fees and doesn't communicate well. Emma suggested using QuickBooks. Karen will notify Richard of the various payment options allowed through Wix.com, where the RTAG website is hosted.

As Chair of the **Fly-Out Committee**, Tom would like RTAG to have a fly-out on the third Saturday of every month. The exception will be May, when we participate in the Georgetown Fly-In instead. He would like to establish annual excursions to fly-ins, airshows, pancake breakfasts, etc.

Dr. Bob asked for a motion to accept these work plans. Tom motioned. Trygve seconded. All in favor, none opposed.

IV. New Business

Honoring Bob Meurer

The BOD had previously been asked to submit ideas at the April meeting. Karen brought two ideas: Adopt-a-Spot along the east side of the airport on Rock Blvd. through Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB) or host an annual donation drive for the Children's Cabinet. The BOD decided to Adopt-a-Spot. After the second clean-up, KTMB will post a sign along that stretch of road with RTAG's name on it, along with text honoring members who have gone west. Karen will work with KTMB to choose the right stretch of Rock Blvd. and organize our first clean-up.

GA West

There are six tie-downs at GA West, south of the hangar rows, that are currently unusable because the ramp and anchor points are degraded. Karen suggested that RTAG might talk with Brad from Stellar Aviation about renovating those tie-downs and renting them. Emma said the entire GA West ramp needs TLC, including FOD removal and snow removal. NV Flight's airplanes are getting major nicks in the propellers because of FOD on the west ramp. Tom would like Stellar to build a shade hangar or covered tie-downs for frost. Dr. Bob said that he anticipates a hangar rent increase at GA West and that the Hangar Rate Study that RTAG worked on several years ago provides guidance but is not binding. The directors argued that prices should not increase without better maintenance. We need doors that open, a clean ramp, and working electricity. Dr. Bob asked the BOD whether we should start a discussion with Brad on hangar maintenance and the answer was yes. Dr.



Bob then stated his work plan involves value vs. our cost for the hangars and ramp at GA West.

Dave Ruth's passing

The Celebration of Life for Dave Ruth will be held on Monday, April 18th, at the Reno Elks Lodge. We have the room from 5pm to 9pm, but attendees can come and go as fits their schedule. Karen submitted the catering company's proposed menu and asked the BOD to pare it down to something reasonable. Emma suggested finger foods instead of a sit-down meal. Dr. Bob suggested that the catering should cost no more than \$300 and that we will take donations to help cover that expense.

VI. Adjournment

Dr. Bob Larkin adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm.
Minutes submitted by Karen Inda.