



*Reno-Tahoe Aviation Group
Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2023*

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 January 4, 2023, via Zoom.

II. Roll Call

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

Dr. Bob Larkin – President
Richard Polivy - Treasurer
Karen Inda – Secretary
Michael Cleveland – Director
Tom Dyer – Director
Trygve Inda – Director
Emma Justis – Director
Mark Stiving – Director
Michael “Hutch” Hutchinson – Prospective Director
Dawn Magowan – Prospective Director
Sue Moon-West – Prospective Director
Karla Werninghaus – Prospective Director
Jordan West – Prospective Director

III. Old Business

Adopt-a-Spot

Karen will get an update from KTMB about the sign that’s going up on Rock Blvd.

IV. New Business

RTAG Elections

Dr. Bob is stepping down as RTAG President, but will continue to liaise with the RTAA, if the new board desires it. The RTAG Bylaws require a minimum of three and a maximum of nine directors. Elections for the Board of Directors will be held at the February 1st RTAG general meeting. Each prospective director will have a chance to speak for one minute and then the general membership will vote for the candidates either in writing or by voice vote. Dr. Bob will run the election.



The newly elected directors will determine who among them will fill the roles of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Each of the nine directors will chair one committee. Directorship terms are for two years. Officers can step down after one year and still be directors.

Dr. Bob hopes that the new BOD will take RTAG to the next level and that, rather than being reactionary, RTAG will grow as a pilot community.

All members are welcome to serve on an RTAG committee. The new BOD takes over at the March 4th Celebration of Aviation Banquet.

RTAG Photo Shoot

Mark gave an update on the RTAG Action Photography Fly-In & Food Truck event, scheduled for Saturday, January 21st, with January 28th as an alternate in case of weather. The Photo Shoot Team has been meeting regularly and the plan is coming along well.

So far, six pilots have registered – three for the Golden Hour and three for full daylight – which is enough to award one scholarship next year. We are hoping a few more pilots will register, so that we can give out more scholarships. This is also a food truck social event, so everyone is welcome, whether they participate in the photo shoot or not.

One photographer will be stationed on the grandstand and two will be stationed along the south side of Runway 8. We would like a few more photographers to volunteer, so that nobody will have to be outside in the cold for the entire event.

We are using Runway 8 because the sun needs to be behind the photographers. Trygve reported that the sunrise on the 21st will be at 115 degrees on the compass, which is 35 degrees to the right of Runway 8. The sun will not be directly in the eyes of pilots on short final.

Emma created a flight safety plan and Dr. Bob approved it. The safety briefing will be emailed to all participating pilots at least one day before the event.

There may be a spotter orbiting at 8000 feet. There will be a NOTAM. Emma will work with Larry Cheek of the local FSDO to make sure the NOTAM is filed correctly.

Mark will send the draft disclaimers to an RTAG member who is an aviation lawyer for approval.

The next meeting for the Photo Shoot Team is January 11th. On January 14th, several members of the Photo Shoot Team are going to KRTS to determine the placement of the photographers.

RTAG Merchandise

Jordan West and Sue Moon-West, prospective directors, are coordinating the creation and sale of RTAG merchandise through Printful.com, which prints and ships items as customers order them. There is no inventory to keep track of. Jordan and Sue submitted designs for RTAG-branded t-shirts, hoodies, coffee mugs, water bottles, iPhone cases, and the like. When the shop is open for business,



Karen will send the link to all members. The directors agreed that the shop should be opened ASAP and that additional products and designs can be added later. We are still seeking drawings of airplanes to be included in some of the designs.

There was a discussion about whether to use Wix.com Stores on the RTAG website, or to integrate Printful.com with Square, which takes the customer off the RTAG website.

Alternative to PayPal

Jordan created a Square.com account for RTAG and donated a Square.com reader so we can take online payments at events. There are new black and white Square.com buttons on the RTAG website. Members can now choose whether to use PayPal or Square.

Airport Landing Fees

Hutch expressed concern over the landing fee debacle at Torrance Airport. He wondered whether that could happen at KRNO. Dr. Bob explained the RTAA doesn't want to assess fees on GA at KRNO. The FBOs handle GA fees here.

RTAG has worked very hard at establishing and maintaining good relationships with the RTAA and both FBOs. Dr. Bob is the KRNO Airport Support Volunteer for AOPA. He assured us that AOPA is working on resolving landing fee issues, up to and including a Section 13 Review.

Hutch is also concerned about the Reid-Hillview Airport being closed to airplanes that use leaded fuel. Dr. Bob said that Reid-Hillview accepted federal funding and therefore cannot be closed to GA. The FAA is involved in the litigation.

Reimbursement of RTAG Expenses

Karen has paid \$492.85 for one year of Direct Mail, two years of webhosting, and three years for the domain name. She noted that the webhosting cost is more than double what it was two years ago and asked Jordan to look at other options. He discovered that this is a grandfathered-in price and that new accounts are paying even more. Karen submitted an invoice and receipts and asked to be reimbursed for these expenses. Dr. Bob asked for a motion to reimburse Karen. Tom made the motion and Emma seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Richard will send a check to Karen.

V. Committee Reports

Special Events Committee

Celebration of Aviation Banquet

There was a discussion about logistics for the banquet on March 4th. At this year's banquet, we are planning to have a charitable bingo game instead of a raffle. Karen will contact the Nevada Gaming Control Board for permission to run a charitable bingo game, in accordance with NV State Law.

The Resort at Red Hawk needs a \$300 deposit this month. Tom motioned that Dr. Bob get a check from Richard and deliver it. Trygve seconded. All in favor. None opposed.



Tom asked about bringing student pilots to the banquet. Karen replied that anyone who pays for a student pilot under the age of 30 to come to the banquet will receive a free drink coupon.

Educational Programs Committee

There are several educational programs planned for the coming year:

1. **Tower Tours** - Dr. Bob is working with Larry Cheek to arrange tours of the Reno ATC Tower. It is hoped that NorCal TRACON will be open for tours again soon.
2. **AQP Training** - RTAG has a fantastic opportunity to be the test market for Joe Rajacic's AQP Program. The February 1st RTAG general meeting's AQP Program is on "Unintentional and Intentional IMC / Spatial Disorientation". There will be more APQ Programs at future RTAG general meetings.
3. **TBM Adventure** - RTAG member Shawn Linch just returned from an adventure to South America is his TBM. He will do a presentation about his trip at an RTAG general meeting.

Fly-Outs Committee

The next fly-out is scheduled for Saturday, February 18th, for brunch at El Capitan in Hawthorne. We will meet on the KHTH ramp at 10am. This will be a joint event with other aviation groups in the area. Karen will be the contact person for this event.

Tom will come up with a list of other fly-outs for the coming year, including a possible overnight fly-out to Nampa, Idaho, with members of Stead EAA Chapter 1361.

Liaison Committee

Michael Cleveland has been working with Brad Kost of Stellar Aviation with regards to GA facility development on the NE corner of the airfield.

Membership Committee

RTAG membership dues are due every January. Karen will send a reminder to the members.

Scholarship Committee

RTAG is awarding two \$2500 Tom Pagnano Memorial Scholarships this year - one for a PPL and one for an advanced rating. CFIs are encouraged to check their students' applications for completeness. Emma plans to hold a ground session on making sure one's scholarship application is complete.

The scholarship selection committee may only consist of people who do not have a financial interest in a flight school. Anyone interested in serving should contact Tom Dyer.

VI. Adjournment

Dr. Bob Larkin adjourned the meeting at 7:42pm.
Minutes submitted by Karen Inda.