



Louisiana Advanced Aviation and Drone Advisory Committee

Louisiana Advanced Aviation and Drone Advisory Committee (LAADAC) Meeting Minutes

Date: September 25, 2024

Time: 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Location: Louisiana House of Representatives, House Committee Room 1

Mr. Brandt called the meeting to order at 1:08pm. Mr. Rey led the committee in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Committee Roll Call:

Committee Members Present: Senator Gary Carter, Mr. Parnell Robinson Jr., Mr. Thomas Mule, Mr. DaCoda Bartels, Mr. Andy Brown, Mr. Robert (Bobby) Moore, Mr. Michael (Mike) Boykin, Mr. George Rey, Ms. Nancy Clement, Dr. Balaji Ramachandran, Mr. Scott Gammel, Mrs. Andrea Dupre' and Mr. Bradley (Brad) Brandt.

Quorum met due to 13 out of 15 committee members being present. (8 out of 15 members must be present to make a quorum).

Approval of Updated Agenda:

Mr. Brandt advised that agenda for today's meeting was recently updated to include additional items and called for a motion to approve and adopt the updated agenda. Motion made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Rey to adopt updated agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from July 2024 were reviewed. Motion made by Mrs. Dupre' and seconded by Mr. Moore to approve the July 2024 minutes. Motion carried.

Senator Carter briefly addressed the committee on the importance of the LAADAC committee and the work that they are doing. Mr. Brandt addressed the audience members on procedure to request to speak later during the public comment portion of the meeting.

FAA Engineering Brief 105A:

Public comment period for this engineering brief closes on October 18, 2024. Mr. Brandt stated that the Office of Multimodal Commerce-Aviation Division will review and add comments, and if any committee members have any comments that they would like to add to please email to him by the deadline, and if there is no objection by the committee members Mr. Brandt will compile comments and Mr. Rey will share comments with committee members. There was no objection by committee members.

By-Law Revisions: New Sub-Committee Establishment

Sunset existing seven sub-committee task groups, and in accordance with bylaws-article 6, will consolidate Sunset for existing sub-committee task groups, and in accordance with by-laws will consolidate down to three sub-committee task groups, and will have to call a vote today or next LAADAC committee meeting to adopt. Will email current bylaws to all members, but copy of bylaws



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are also posted on the DOTD Office of Multimodal Commerce Aviation Division website, which is www.dotd.la.gov/aviation.

Proposed new sub-committee task groups and chairs are below:

- Public Safety—Chair: Mr. Robert (Bobby) Moore
- Counterdrone Technology—Chair: Mr. George Rey
- Vertiports and AAM—Chair: Mrs. Andrea Dupre’

Motion made by Mr. Rey and seconded by Mr. Mule for LAADAC to adopt the proposed new sub-committees as stated. Discussion was held on the motion by committee members and an amended motion to include Economic Development with the Vertiports and AAM subcommittee task group was made by Mr. Rey and seconded by Dr. Ramanchandan. Motion carried, and approved new sub-committee task groups and chairs are as follows:

- Public Safety—Chair: Mr. Robert (Bobby) Moore
- Counterdrone Technology—Chair: Mr. George Rey
- Vertiports, AAM and Economic Development—Chair: Mrs. Andrea Dupre’

Subject Matter Expert Briefings:

a. Gulf of Mexico Center of Excellence: Presenter: Mr. George Rey

Mr. Rey presented on former subcommittee task group five: Counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems (C-UAS) and former subcommittee task group seven: Baseline of Electrification of Aviation Development in Louisiana.

Legislative Recommendations Discussion:

- i. Report Deadlines: January 17, 2025, which will coincide next scheduled committee meeting—can take official vote on report to meet 30 day deadline to have report submitted to Secretary before the start of the legislative session.
- ii. Recommended state law change for revised statute 14: paragraph 327 “obstructing a fireman” offered by stakeholder Mr. Jim Polk from St. Charles government GOSEPH: Committee can add or delete any potential language to statute and can present to DOTD secretary. Language about police officer needs to be added to this statute change as well. This upcoming session is a fiscal year session and legislators are limited to how many non-fiscal bills they can present. Comment from public- Joshua Duplantis from DOTD Office of Multimodal Commerce-Aviation Division spoke on hazards to specific language regarding the Federal Preemption and Aircraft Operation. Recommendation to committee by Mr. Brandt to have new LAADAC subcommittee task group for public safety to take statute language, refine down to subcommittee, add what language is felt necessary and then during next LAADAC meeting bring before committee and take before a vote on what LAADAC committee wants to recommend in report.
- iii. Vertiport Fund: Mr. Rey covered this during his presentation and mentioned that three million dollars is needed for this year to place into the vertiport fund for studies. Mr. Brandt stated that if this funding will be done through DOTD, in order to procure a consultant that it will be the better part of 8 months to a year to get a consultant under contract to start on this study.

Public Comment:

- Steven Barry provided a briefing on how forestry works—during fires they’ve had issues with sight-seers using drones, and presented a timeline report of drone issues. Mr. Moore suggested using Drone ID, which is a ground-based app that as law enforcement will show the make and owner of



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the drone. Mr. Rey advised to go the FAA website to complete information as a law enforcement officer to register and download because by law anyone who owns a drone must register it with the FAA, and by using this app the person responsible can be held accountable.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Mr. Rey and seconded by Mr. Bartels to adjourn meeting. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 3:07 pm.