UASRCC MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 14, 2013. Badlands Room, Memorial Union


ABSENT: C. Juntunen, G. Gordon, F. Matejcek, B. Huschle

T. Heitkamp called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

1. Demonstration. Demonstration was held prior to meeting. A. Frazier gave presentation of Qube airframe at the Memorial Stadium to the UASRCC members. System operators were also present from law enforcement to show how work together. A. Frazier passed out the notice to the FAA approval for the demonstrations so committee members could see what is required to fly the missions.

2. Approval of 9/9/2013 Meeting Minutes. G. Hoover motion to approve meeting minutes with M. Nelson seconding the motion. Motion passed with K. Porter abstaining.

3. Night UAS Operations. A. Frazier brought handout discussing night operations. He discussed how it is an important part of the mission sets due to current restrictions operations need to stop 30 minutes before sunset. There was a mission that was using IR to scan corn field while looking for suspect which was very useful but had to stop due to restrictions. Will be having night trainings in October and November. Hopes to have operational night missions in February. Stated that an emergency FAAS COA could be requested to allow emergency night operations if needed. Stated that there would of course be less visible during night but will have spotlights. G. Lloyd asked if would be flying at same levels as day missions. A. Frazier stated that due to not being able to see visible obstacles as during the day may need to fly higher. A. Frazier asked to approve night operations to already approved mission sets. P. O'Neill stated that he would have thought that the already approved missions would have included day or night operations. Motion to apply night operations to the five already approved mission sets, making separate motion for each mission. K. Porter second the motion. A. Frazier stated that he feels privacy isn’t as much of a concern as safety concerns regarding night missions. B. J. Maxson stated that safety is big concern since haven’t been trained yet in night operations if needed in an emergency. He is concerned about the skill set of the operators. A. Frazier stated would only request emergency COA if he felt comfortable flying. He stated that FAA says it takes four hours to receive COA after requested. Motion passed with A. Frazier abstaining. A. Frazier will send memo amending approved mission sets to include night missions.

4. UAS Community Perception Committee. T. Heikamp reported that there are four people working on the study of Community perception of best practices using UASs (Sociology, Counseling Psychology, and 2 from Social Work). Have met four times. Will be hiring a graduate research assistant thanks to funding from VPR office. Any thoughts that committee members have please let her know. The purpose of the study is to look over what is acceptable according to the community. B. Milavetz reported that a study had been done at another University in New Jersey but wasn’t as thorough. T. Heitkamp reported not only doing in Grand Forks but in the region. Would like to have done in the next six months. P. Haga suggested monitoring people entering a building or in a parking lot, some that know and others that don’t know to see what the perception of being monitored is. T. Heitkamp reported that Cordell Fontaine at the
research institute on campus will be helping with the study. Will be phone interviews on the front end and hopefully focus group on back end. A. Frazier stated may be different perception on manned vs. unmanned aircraft. He stated that manned aircraft don’t need FAA approval prior to being launched compared to all the items that need to be done prior to launching unmanned aircraft. K. Porter asked if there has been any other study done regarding other forms of surveillance cameras and usefulness. A. Frazier suggested bringing a draft of the survey to AUVSI and the ACLU for further suggestions. G. Lloyd asked if there would be a press release prior to the survey being done. P. O’Neill asked if the committee had voted on the study taking place. He felt it needed to be voted on since affiliated with this committee. P. O’Neill motion that UASRCC sponsor the study. G. Lloyd seconds the motion. Motion passed.

B. Milavetz stated didn’t think of inviting press or others outside of UASRCC to the demonstration today. A. Frazier stated the more press coverage the better to help with survey. A. Frazier stated at the second night training may be good time to invite the press and also discuss the survey that is being put together. K. Porter asked if there is video on website showing UAS use. B. Milavetz stated most useful video would be of pictures from different elevations to show what is actually visible. T. Heitkamp asked A. Frazier how he being notified by the press. He stated he gets calls and responds at that time. Stated that he gave 14 interviews last year and mentioned UASRCC in the interviews.

5. Other Issues. A. Frazier discussed ex-officios being able to vote. Stated would like to change the ex-officios to voting members in the charter. Currently the four ex-officios (B. Milavetz, E. Plummer, J. Jenkins, and M. Bowles) have been at every meeting and felt they have contributed to the meetings. B. Milavetz stated the reason for not having ex-officios non-voting was didn’t want too many university voting members. B. Milavetz stated that it would be the position not the person to change in the charter. A. Frazier motion to make ex-officios voting members. M. Nelson second the motion. G. Hoover stated that counsel shouldn’t be a voting member. A. Frazier amended motion to exclude general counsel representative. B. Milavetz asked if should address at next meeting. G. Hoover motion to table till next meeting. B. J. Maxson second the motion. Motion passed to discuss making ex-officios voting members. G. Hoover asked if there is a description of B. Milavetz, E. Plummer, and M. Bowles’ roles on the committee. Stated would be helpful when deciding to understand their position.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.