UASRCC MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 14 2015. Tech Accelerator-Training Room


Others Present: Chris Theisen, Jakee Stoltz (Northern Plains UAS Test Site)

ABSENT: A. Frazier, B. Gengler, M. Bowles, D. Harsell, P. O’Neill,

T. Heitkamp called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1. Approval of 8/19/2015 Minutes. M. Nelson motion to approve. K. Porter seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

2. Election of Chair & Vice Chair. T. Heitkamp stated that nominations are open. She stated it is a 1-year term. A. Palmer nominated T. Heitkamp to serve as chair. G. Lloyd seconded the motion. No further nominations. T. Heitkamp will remain as chair. K. Porter was serving as vice chair last year. M. Nelson motion for K. Porter to serve as vice chair. B.J. Maxson seconded the motion. K. Porter will remain as vice chair.

3. Applications from Test Site.
   a. Evaluating UAS Use in the Insurance Industries- J. Stoltz presented. Wants to conduct test flights to evaluate the usefulness of UAS for insurance evaluations. The mission will be in Illinois. M. Bowles had sent email to T. Heitkamp with questions that she read to the committee. C. Theisen and J. Stoltz excused themselves. K. Porter motion to approve. A. Palmer seconded. Protocol approved.
   b. Evaluating UAS Flight in the Energy Sector- C. Theisen presented. Will be starting next week. Stated will be flying in Colorado and North Dakota. Will be looking at powerlines in North Dakota and pipelines in Colorado. B. Milavetz asked if the camera will be on when traveling to the pipeline. C. Theisen discussed he understood that they will be getting permission for the entire route. He said N. Flom will be the mission commander for both missions. Will be looking for faults and will using a mobile ground control. F. Matecek discussed how has been previously done with helicopters and using UAS will be safer and cost effective. C. Theisen & J. Stoltz excused themselves. G. Lloyd motion to approve. F. Matecek seconded the motion. Protocol approved.
   c. Evaluating UAS Flights for Bridge Inspection- C. Theisen presented. The mission is in Duluth in November end of December. The MNDOT will be inspecting with individuals and the test site will working alongside with the inspections. He stated that the DOT will have signage since it is similar to a construction project. DOT will be using state data management guidelines. B. Huschle asked about shipping traffic under the bridges. C. Theisen stated similar missions have been done but with using a 333 exception, not done before with the test site. C. Theisen & J. Stoltz excused themselves. B. Huschle motion to approve. H. Wamstad seconded the motion. Protocol approved.
d. Adding Aircraft to NDSU Precision Ag Study- J. Stoltz reported that there will be three additional airframe added to the NDSU precision ag protocol. Will be working in the same area. Will be trying a less expensive airframe. C. Theisen & J. Stoltz excused themselves. M. Nelson motion to approve. B.J. Maxson seconded the motion. Protocol approved.

4. Update on Test Site. T. Heitkamp stated that John Nowatzki is now flying in Trail County and would like a land owner representing them on the committee. The individual would be an ad hoc member. J. Nowatzki already has an individual in mind. T. Heitkamp said she will go meet with her. C. Theisen stated the work that is being done is part of a Research ND award. The test site would be the flight oversight. B. Milavetz stated it is in the charter that adding an ad hoc member is allowed. C. Theisen stated will be flying up to 8k ft. He discussed the imagery will be limited. K. Porter asked how the individual was chosen. T. Heitkamp stated she is a farmer that is known by J. Nowatzki. She would only be ad hoc member for that specific project.

C. Thiesen discussed projects that will be coming up. He also discussed NASA contract and what is required for the test site for it in regards to flights. He reported that he was in Bismarck on Monday and met with 80 individuals from state agencies. Gave presentation of the dos and don't when working with UASs. A. Palmer stated that there was a 10yr lease agreement with General Atomics for a training academy in Grand Forks at Grand Sky. This will be the first training academy of its kind. The award will be given on November 1. Also stated the Northrup Grumman ground breaking is tomorrow.

J. Jenkins asked C. Theisen when he is explaining the committee to clients, is it getting easier. C. Theisen said it isn’t especially when working on a 333 instead wouldn’t require it.

5. Susan Ellis-Felege Request. T. Heitkamp discussed she had received a request from Susan Ellis-Felege which is asking for citizens to review images on her project. T. Heitkamp has discussed with M. Bowles and she found no issues with IRB. B.J. Maxson motion to approve. A. Palmer seconded the motion. Request approved.

6. Application. T. Heitkamp asked to table the discussion regarding the application until M. Bowles is present. B. Huschle asked if need name of type of aircraft. C. Theisen said that it was previously discussed that the make and model of aircraft not as important as type.

7. Other. M. Nelson stated used UAS last week at a crash scene and discussed how it was helpful. B.J. Maxson stated someone from Mesa County Colorado visited a few weeks ago. They were demonstrating their software that makes 3D digital images.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Next Meeting-November 25, 2015 at 8:30-10:30 a.m.-Tech Accelerator -Training Room