UASRCC MEETING MINUTES

Friday, May 15, 2015. Badlands Room, Memorial Union


Others Present: Chris Theisen, Jackee Stoltz (Northern Plains UAS Test Site) Brandi Jewett (GF Herald) Jeremiah Neubert (Mechanical Engineering) John Nowatzki (NDSU)

ABSENT: B. Gengler, H. Wamstad, P. Haga, D. Harsell, B. Milavetz

T. Heitkamp called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. J. Neubert asked if he could present first since he had to leave early. His protocol will be reviewed first.

1. Approval of 4/10/2015 Minutes. B. Maxson motion to approve. A. Palmer seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

2. Unmanned Aerial Systems for Building Assessment. J. Neubert stated there are two pieces of the project. He will be imaging the exterior of the new med school to reduce safety risks. The test site will be flying the UAS and it is in a controlled area. Any images outside of the exterior of the building will be deleted. C. Theisen stated there is a safety brief every morning where workers will be told that a UAS will be flying. M. Bowles stated that in the past when working with an outside agency needed a letter of support. Asked if there was an agreement with PCL. C. Theisen stated it is part of a Research North Dakota award and there is a letter of agreement. M. Bowles asked for a copy to put in the file. P. O’Neill motion to approve. K. Porter seconded. Motion passed.

3. UAS Test Site Flight Operation Development for Railway Environments. C. Theisen stated there is a client that came to the test site to look into using a UAS to test how a UAS could benefit inspections and operations within a rail environment. This person has many ideas regarding use of UAS but he is only bringing it to the committee today working with existing rail systems and look at developing operation procedures. No data would be stored. A. Frazier asked about the COA. C. Theisen discussed the amendments that are being made for this operation on the COA. M. Nelson motion to approve. B. Huschle seconded the motion. Motion approved.

4. Verify the Effectiveness of UAS-mounted Sensors in Field Crop & Livestock Production Management Issues. J. Nowatzki from NDSU discussed this is a continuation from earlier approved mission. He will be working at other extension location including Carrington. He will also be in Langdon, Minot, Williston, Dickinson, and two other locations. Images will be transferred to NDSU to a secure server. Objective is agricultural related. If any images are captured that are not part of the mission will be deleted. The test site will be flying the missions. C. Theisen stated as of now the COA isn’t for south of I94 but working on getting it included. C. Theisen asked if will need to come back to the committee if the funding source changes. Will be getting more airframes and will be bringing to committee at that time. B. Huschle motion to approve. K. Porter seconded the motion. A. Frazier asked about turning off camera when out of boundary. Motion passed.
5. **Acknowledgement**  T. Heitkamp wanted to recognize two high achievements by committee members. C. Juntunen was honored as becoming a Chester Fritz Distinguished professor. E. Plummer received the Gordon Henry Award for working with students.

6. **Other**  C. Theisen asked about renewal for missions for J. Nowatski. Asked how committee would like it presented. A. Frazier stated that there is no problem with funding sources but if mission or area of mission changes needs to come back to the committee. M. Bowles stated she could do as a change to existing protocol if only change is location but mission remains the same. It is on the application to check if it is a revision to approved protocol to highlight changes. F. Matejcek asked if would be affected by wind farm in Langdon. J. Nowatzki stated it shouldn’t affect the mission. J. Nowatski asked about if there are regulations about flying over small towns. A. Frazier stated that there isn’t an issue with the FAA since they are only about safety and security but this committee finds it an issue with privacy. P. O’Neill stated he has no problem with the missions since able to turn off the camera. C. Juntunen asked about having a subcommittee to review renewals. T. Heitkamp stated to look at renewals when reviewing the charter in July. A. Frazier stated at this time there are no expiration dates on the approved missions.

7. **Summer Meeting Dates**  T. Heitkamp stated need to schedule summer meetings. Last year was on Wednesdays at the same time. Agreed to have third Wednesday of the month at the same time. Julie will try to schedule meetings in the tech accelerator training room. Will send to calendars once scheduled.

8. **UAS Test Site Operations**  C. Theisen reported has received large area COA that covers 2/3 of the state which is bringing interest from industry. The budget is increasing and may allow for match with industry. Was at AUVSI conference last week and had conversations that may bring more projects. M. Bowles asked what is the relationship between the test site and UND. Asked if all UND projects went to test site and does UND own their own UASs. C. Theisen stated that UND is a team member of the Test Site. He said that the Center of Excellence performs their own flights but isn’t required to go through the test site but may eventually move all operations to them.

A. Palmer reported on May 8 UND won an FAA Center of Excellence award of $5M this year and $14.5M next year. He stated that $5M needs to be obligated by August. Can be a match with State or outside entity, not federal dollars. He also stated that the President and the Provost are creating an UAS Advisory Board with each college represented along with Northland, Lake Region, EERC, and REAC. Will try to meet the first week of June. Trying to increase research across the entire university system. T. Heitkamp asked if need a representative from UASRCC to serve on the UAS Advisory Board.

9. **Announcements**  J. Nowatzki stated that Ag Day in Carrington is scheduled for July 14th.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Next Meeting-June 17, 2015 at 9:00-11:00 a.m.-Tech Accelerator (REAC) Training Room