UASRCC MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 19 2015. Tech Accelerator-Training Room


Others Present: Chris Theisen (Northern Plains UAS Test Site)
Brandi Jewett (GF Herald)
Heather Wages (UND General Counsel)

ABSENT: H. Wamstad, A. Frazier, B.J. Maxson, B. Huschle, B. Gengler

T. Heitkamp called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. J. Jenkins brought H. Wages who is a new assistant attorney general within General Counsel Office. Introductions were made.


2. Review of UASRCC Application Form. T. Heitkamp discussed how there has been issues with the application’s design. M. Bowles has been talking with C. Theisen about concerns he has had regarding the application. She had put together a list of the items that were discussed. C. Theisen stated currently the application has an executive summary and project description which seem to be the same. He suggested to just have a project summary to replace both. M. Bowles stated could add check boxes for project type. C. Theisen stated check boxes may be difficult since there is a variety of missions. M. Bowles may need to change entire form and make it similar to a grant proposal. B. Milavetz suggested making it electronic. C. Juntunen said could use Qualtrics for the application. Discussed the application content. Committee agreed in regards to UAS type they are more concerned with knowing the size, capabilities, type of camera used, and how long can stay in air. B. Milavetz stated if no camera is being used it wouldn’t need to come to this committee. Safety is being looked at by Aerospace, not a concern that the committee needs to look at. Regarding signage there will be times that signage is not possible but the committee agreed notifications still need to be made. Discussed if only flying over a specific field for a farmer, notification wouldn’t be needed but if flying over other fields with camera off notifications should be made. P. Haga said notification needs to be accessible to the public. C. Thiesen asked about if need to come back to the committee each time an airframe is added to existing COA. Committee agreed that that wouldn’t be necessary.

P. O’Neill discussed how industry is changing and is ahead of this committee. M. Nelson asked what is the committee’s expectations as it has been growing. A. Palmer stated has been growing rapidly but feels this committee brings an awareness to the community of what is going on. B. Milavetz stated that in the proposal to the FAA for the test site it was stated that this committee would deal with privacy. M. Nelson asked what the committee will evolve into. It is changing from where it began. K. Porter said that what the committee first was concerned about was privacy but now there is more of a concern about safety nation-wide. J. Jenkins stated that those on campus still need to go through the process and what experiencing now is growing pains and just need to work through it. P. O’Neill stated concerns that used to come up when reviewing applications are now unrealistic when looking at the current missions. C. Juntunen stated that the committee now has a lot of knowledge which new individuals coming to campus may not know in regards to use of UASs. B. Milavetz stated was at a meeting recently at the National Academy of Science and they were discussing the same issues. They discussed news
gathering and the best practices. B. Milavetz said where the confusion comes in is what is the role of the committee when dealing with UAS and commercialization.

3. Update on Test Site. C. Theisen reported the test site is flying the precision ag project across the state at different locations. Is also working with Jeremiah Neubert project with PCL at the Med School. Trainings are also taking place to increase flight crew staff. He said that the test site has ability to fly entire state in COAs under 1200ft and will add aircraft as needed. They are also able to fly nation-wide under 200ft. There is also a small COA that is up to 3000ft. And have a COA for night operations and trainings. He also reported that NDSU have more airframes to test with precision ag. The test site is putting in for a 5 year NASA grant. UAS Summit will be taking place at the Alerus 9/12-9/23.

4. Scheduling Future Meetings. Committee agreed to continue meetings on Wednesdays. Members prefer meetings to be held at the Tech Accelerator over UND due to parking. K. Porter said would have to leave early if meeting continues to be 9-11. Committee agreed to change meeting time 8:30-10:30 am.

Meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

Next Meeting-September 23, 2015 at 8:30-10:30 a.m.-Tech Accelerator -Training Room