

**Airport Advisory  
Committee:**

Chairman:

Bill Henderson

Vice-Chair:

Blayne Osborn

Board:

Mike Cowan

Bill Driscoll

Laurie Ricardi

Rodney Aiglstorfer

AJ Frels

**NEXT AAC MEETING:**

June 20th

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**Airport Staff:**

Airport Manager:

Bobbi Thompson

Operations Supervisor:

Chris "Tank"  
Johnson

Office Manager:

Cathie Kite

Maintenance Staff:

"Mountain" Mike  
Harbison

Mike Bashaw

Dan Kiernan

***Summer is coming!***

The weather is warming up and we are flying full-throttle into spring and summer.

We've got some good events coming up for the airport, and some big projects.

With the approach of the warm weather and the busy season for flying, we'd like to remind everyone that our airport has at least two runways open at all times that intersect. The risk can be significantly reduced by remembering a few things.

1. Communicate, communicate, communicate. By simply communicating with other pilots in the airspace, risks and accidents can be avoided.
2. As all of us veterans have heard before, keep your head on a swivel. Maintain an awareness of the surroundings, even when you're taxiing! It's easy to get caught up with activating a flight plan, checking weather, getting a route setup, etc. Equal attention should be dedicated to outside of the cockpit to be aware of other aircraft.
3. Communicate! Okay...so, I've said this before, but it's important! Communicate your intentions clearly! Remember that transient aircraft may not know where the ski ponds are, or what glider staging is. Communicate clearly!
4. Density Altitude is not your friend. The DA is stated at the end of the AWOS message (when it exists). Your 172 is probably going to need a little more runway for takeoff, so be aware, be prepared, and give it that little extra time it needs. Don't make it demand it.
5. Did I mention communicate?!?! It is important!! Talk to other pilots and let's avoid situations where two aircraft are trying to occupy the same spot at the same time.
6. The airport has published patterns. If you're not familiar with them, please check in with us at the Airport Admin office.
7. Fly safe and have fun!!

- "Tank", Airport Ops 2

## ***News and upcoming events***

### **Wings of Freedom Tour**

We have officially “graduated” up to a weekend stop for the Collings Foundation Wings of Freedom tour! This is exciting news. The Wings of Freedom tour with the B-17 Flying Fortress, the B-24 Liberator, the B-25 Mitchell, and the P-51C Mustang will be stopping in Minden again for their third consecutive year. The last two years have been successful stops, but have been on a Monday and Tuesday, which is not easy for people to get out of work to see the aircraft. This year, the Wings of Freedom tour will be here from Thursday, June 16th, through Sunday, June 19th. This will make it possible for more people to be able to come out and see the aircraft. More information can be found on the Minden-Tahoe Airport’s webpage ([www.mindentahoeairport.com](http://www.mindentahoeairport.com)).



Please remember that during those days, the ramp between the Taildragger and Taxiway B will be closed.

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### **Construction**

With the summer comes construction season also. This year’s projects include the airport security fencing. The project will install 8’ tall security fencing around the entire perimeter of the airport. This will eliminate the occasional deer & coyote crossings, and will also make the airport more secure. All of the gates will be replaced with card reader gates. All tenants will be issued access cards that will give them access to their gates.

Runway 16 / 34 will also get some new lights. The lighting system will be upgraded to High-Intensity (HIRL) LED lighting providing a more reliable and visible runway lighting system.

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### **Aviation Roundup**

We have had a number of inquiries about this year’s Aviation Roundup. We have decided that the Aviation Roundup Air Show will be biennial, so the next Aviation Roundup Air Show will be on October 7th & 8th, 2017.

We do have some exciting news for the 2017 Aviation Roundup Air Show. The USAF Thunderbirds are returning to the Minden-Tahoe Airport! Because the airshow is in October, the density altitude will be lower and the Thunderbirds should be able to park here instead of doing a deployed show out of Reno.



## **Airport Safety Meetings**

We would like to get our Safety Meetings scheduled and active again. The Safety Meeting is an opportunity for an open discussion on airport matters and safety issues. It is also an opportunity to meet with airport management team for a few minutes and catch up on events, news, and schedules for the airport. The Safety Meetings are held in the Civil Air Patrol building, next door to the Airport Administrative Offices. If you would like to be added to the email list, please email Chris at [cjohnson@douglasnv.us](mailto:cjohnson@douglasnv.us)

This year's Safety Meetings:

**June 1st, 10 am**

**September 7th, 10 am**

**December 7th, 10 am.**

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## **The Nevada Department of Transportation, Office of Aviation Planning**

Kurt Haukohl has taken over the NDOT Office of Aviation Planning, and has just gone crazy with new plans and projects for the department. He has become very active and involved with airports, and is working very hard to improve our Nevada airports.

One of the things that NDOT has done for the Minden-Tahoe Airport is funding a Wildlife Hazard Assessment. We are now almost a year into the assessment, and it has shown planners at the state and federal level that we do have a need for better fencing to prevent deer, coyote, and mountain lions from encroaching onto the runways.

Kurt has also been working very hard to update and improve the Airport Diagrams for all of the Nevada airports. You can find them all on the NDOT webpage under the Aviation Planning section.

NDOT also did a very comprehensive Pavement Evaluation in 2013 on 21 Nevada airports. The results of those evaluations are available on the NDOT webpage. You can view the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of the Minden-Tahoe Airport, our weight bearing capacities, and other information on the surfaces at the Minden-Tahoe Airport.

The Office of Aviation Planning has also began distributing funds from the Aviation Trust Fund, and is working diligently to ensure that our legislators understand the importance of Nevada's airports.

Another interesting project that Kurt is working on is something to watch for in the future. The department is working on shooting video of the approaches into Nevada's airports so that visiting pilots will have a visual of what to expect when flying into one of our Nevada airports for the first time. Once these videos are done, the approach videos for MEV will be added to our webpage.

All of the NDOT programs that Kurt is working on can be found on the NDOT Office of Aviation Planning webpage at:

[http://www.nevadadot.com/About\\_NDOT/NDOT\\_Divisions/Planning/Aviation/Aviation.aspx](http://www.nevadadot.com/About_NDOT/NDOT_Divisions/Planning/Aviation/Aviation.aspx)

Or by clicking the airplane icon at [www.nevadadot.com](http://www.nevadadot.com).

Thank you Kurt for your hard work and the great things you are doing!

# Rise of the Drones....or more appropriately: rise of the acronyms!



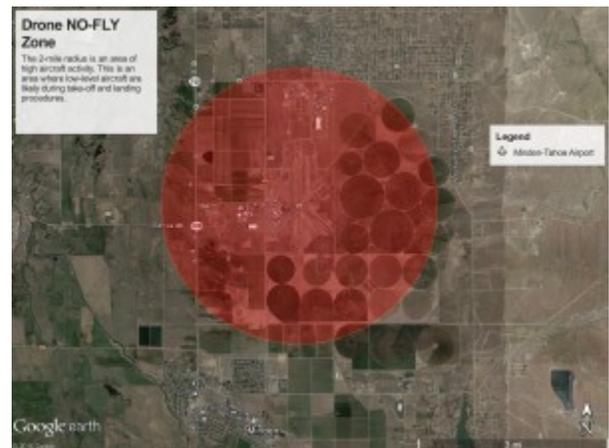
There has been a great deal of discussion and deliberation on the increasing popularity of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), or more commonly called “Drones.” Being an airport operator, a pilot, and a drone flyer, this subject has become a high priority for me.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has been working closely with the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems (AUVSI), the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), and other groups such as the UAS task force from the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE), to establish safe guidelines and regulations to address the growing number of drones in the National Airspace System (NAS).

To assist in establishing a safe environment for both drones and aircraft, the FAA, AMA, and AUVSI have issued some safety guidelines for drone flyers and started a safety campaign titled “Know Before You Fly.”

The primary authority for safe drone policies around an airport is the airport management. The safety guidelines ask for drone flyers to not fly their drones within five (5) statute miles of the airport, but this is not realistic as this would prevent people who live in Minden and the Johnson Lane area from flying their drones at their own home. The guidelines also recommend that drone flyers do not go above 400’ AGL. Based on these recommendations, airport management has established some drone policies for the Minden-Tahoe Airport.

- Follow community-based safety guidelines, as developed by organizations such as the AMA.
- **FLY NO HIGHER THAN 400’.**
- Keep your drone in eyesight at all times.
- Remain at least 25’ away from individuals and vulnerable property.
- **Remain well clear of and do not interfere with manned aircraft operations!!**
- **DO NOT fly within two (2) miles of the airport.**



We will continue to work hard to ensure that the airspace around the Minden-Tahoe Airport remains safe, while also working to not restrict those drone flyers that are also striving to do the right thing while enjoying their hobby.

More information on the Minden-Tahoe Airport UAS policy can be found on our webpage at [www.mindentahoeairport.com/drones-suas](http://www.mindentahoeairport.com/drones-suas)

FAA’s UAS Webpage: [www.faa.gov/uas/](http://www.faa.gov/uas/)

AUVSI & AMA Know Before You Fly Webpage: [www.knowbeforeyoufly.org](http://www.knowbeforeyoufly.org)

Safe skies!

-”Tank”, Ops 2