

From: [BDW Truckee](#)
To: [Comments](#)
Subject: EAA and Misc Comments
Date: Sunday, May 15, 2022 1:11:27 AM

Board Members:

Like many in the North Lake Tahoe/Truckee community I understand the significance of having a good airport instead of a not so good airport.

Obviously for catastrophic wildfire suppression, the community needs a very good airport if wildfire managers are hoping to use aircraft as part of any firefighting effort.

For such reasons and many others the ideas of making the local airport difficult to use are foolish.

While I am occasionally annoyed by noise of private and commercial jets using the Truckee Airport, my understanding is that the FAA says airplanes are airplanes.

Apparently a plane using the airport on behalf of the public for a wildfire emergency has equal status with the smallest glider or a propeller driven plane or even a commercial/private jet.

Because of the FAA rules, which say that almost all aircraft are considered equal, if we want wildfire protection from aircraft, I think the Airport Board Members should take more time to celebrate the airport rather than create a situation where the airport is made difficult for people to use.

I'm writing because I am saddened that some of the Airport Board Members are making efforts to dismantle or weaken the EAA and the Young Eagles programs.

Those programs require some funding from the Airport and my understanding is that some Airport Board Members made efforts to significantly defund those programs.

If I were involved with the Airport Board, I would here again celebrate the EAA and the efforts of their many volunteers.

Recently I saw very excited children and teenagers being taken up in beautiful propeller planes piloted by highly skilled seasoned pilots.

I'm 51 and have lived in North Lake Tahoe/Truckee for about 51 years.

The first time I rode in an airplane was 43 years ago and that plane took off from the Truckee Airport. We flew to Reno following the Truckee River canyon.
I'm not a pilot.

I have never piloted a plane. I've always liked building things and what interests me about EAA is that I can learn from experts how to build my own plane.

I have taken a different career path and I now am working with sheet metal daily for about 8 years.

While six months ago I thought I would never have a shop, I now have a large shop, with lots of space; it's big enough that I could construct a good sized single engine plane.

For all I know the plane I build might have an electric motor instead of a piston engine.

Few people know I exist and if I build a plane I'm not likely to draw attention to myself flying it in places where I would be bothering anyone. Probably I'd fly from here out into the deserts of the Great Basin.

In summary, I think the Airport Board is foolish to consider cutting funding to the EAA and Young Eagles programs.

I think the Airport Board's idea of demolishing the building EAA currently uses is sad and disappointing.

If that's really the case, that the Airport Board wants the EAA to dissolve or otherwise give up, at least carefully dismantle their building and have it reassembled on my industrial property near the Beckwourth Airport.

I'm happy to offer a space on the land to EAA so they can keep their building and continue their work of studying aircraft design.

I know some of the EAA members might not like going over to Beckwourth yet it avoids all the conflict and politics that seem to be involved with the Truckee Airport Board's attempts to stop working class people and their kids from using the Truckee Airport.

Yours truly,

Brian Wertheim, Property Owner 25 years

Prosser Lakeview Estates, Truckee

From: [Chris Henderson](#)
To: [Comments](#)
Subject: Public comment for May 25th Airport District Meeting
Date: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 2:49:53 PM

Dear Truckee Tahoe Airport District Board:

I have been following the Airport Board meetings with interest and have noted a previous suggestion that some of the Airport's land holdings could be used to develop a tiny home village or other housing solution for our local workforce. As we are in a housing crisis, and local worker housing, most specifically, is severely lacking, it seems to me that this concept presents a unique opportunity for the Airport to do something that directly benefits our broader community.

I understand that the section of land originally under consideration for a housing project might also be where a potential new runway would be placed. There are, of course, concerns about the noise impacts of the airport and there is the potential that a new runway might reduce those negative externalities. However, it is also my understanding that the process for considering a new runway is years long, and that there are many open questions concerning cost, feasibility, usability, and efficacy of the proposed new runway.

With that in mind, there is no reason to not consider, in parallel, other uses for airport property that could more immediately benefit our community at large. The possibility of using the originally suggested parcel, or any another suitable section of airport property, to develop local workforce housing deserves, in the least, a feasibility study to determine barriers, opportunities, and costs associated with this concept. As a minor aside, ideally any housing built on airport property would have qualifications for its' residents such that they would always be local workers, and not remote workers or tourists. There may, of course, be certain legal issues that must be addressed to facilitate such a restricted structure. However, I suspect that a creative solution can be found.

Given that roughly 45% (approximately \$7.2mm) of the Airport's revenue comes in the form of our community's taxpayer dollars, it seems that the District has an obligation to help the community when the opportunity presents itself. I would strongly encourage the Board to consider directing staff to investigate this idea, and have some additional thoughts about how something might be done more quickly to promptly address some part of our housing crisis.

Very truly yours,

Chris

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Christopher K. Henderson

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From: [Jessica Fay](#)
To: [Comments](#)
Subject: Today's meeting
Date: Wednesday, May 25, 2022 9:01:40 AM

Hi there!

Will there be a live broadcast today for the meeting this morning?

Thanks!

JESSICA M. FAY
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To: Robb Entyre, General Manager – TTAD
From: John B Jones Jr – Truckee Resident & TTAD Board Member 2010 to 2018
Cc: TTAD Board President
Subject: Good Board Governance.
Date: May 25, 2022

As a long-time resident, former TTAD Board member and aviator, there are several important concerns I would like to bring to your attention for further review and action.

Many of the pilots in this community along with aviation operators who interact with airport staff are concerned that too many of your staff are looking for opportunities to leave airport employment because of inappropriate Board practices and their lacking of commitment to the aviation community (anti aviation behavior) by a few of your Board Members.

There are 2,109 Special Districts in California and there is a significant amount of information available from Consultants and the Internet regarding Best Board Governance Practices. I am suggesting that you and the Board should spend time: 1) Evaluating Board Best practices that are and are not being followed by the TTAD Board and 2) Include the topic on the agenda at a near future Board meeting for discussion.

A Fundamental and critical board best practice matter I would like to suggest the Board discuss is that you the General Manager work for the Board and the Staff of TTAD works for the GM, not the Board.

TTAD Staff should be working on Board Member projects or requests only if:

1. The GM assigns a staff member to work with a Board Committee, or
2. The Board makes a request to GM for some type of work or report that a majority of the Board agree upon by majority vote as something important enough to take staff time.

Another best practice I would like to suggest is that the Board room is the domain (used by) of the Board Members, and the Airport Staffs Offices are the domain (used by) of the Staff. Board member Use of Airport Staff offices and/or facilities should be arranged/scheduled through you, the GM.

I appreciate your time and consideration in reviewing these concerns described above. Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or would like additional information on this topic.

JJ

Following are some additional information on Best Board Governance Practices that I would like to share with you and the TTAD Board.

On Oversight Rolls

Board: General Roll - Health and success of the organization

- Drafts and/or approves broad policies to guide and protect the organization, board, and staff
- Monitors that all legal requirements get proper attention
- Hires the chief executive and delegates daily operations to him or her
- Expects regular and objective reports from staff

General Manager: General Roll – Programs and administration

- Oversees daily operations and ensures appropriate staff and operations policies are in place
- Hires staff and delegates operational responsibilities to them
- Shares good and bad news with the board

On Planning and Evaluation Rolls

Board: General Roll – Strategic framework for the organization

- Adopts an overall strategic mindset by focusing on the big issues that matter most
- Actively participates in strategic sessions and retreats
- Annually evaluates the performance of the chief executive and determines appropriate compensation
- Evaluates its own performance regularly — at least every two to three years
- Assesses the organization's achievement of its goals via staff reports

General Manager: General Roll – Strategic and operational plans

- Ensures that strategic planning happens with the board's appropriate involvement
- Leads operational planning and approves the plans for the staff
- Ensures a process for staff performance exists, approves staff compensation, and evaluates his or her own performance

On Finance Rolls

Board: General Roll – Fiduciary duty over the organization

- Makes sure adequate financial expertise is present on the board
- Sets overall fiscal policies and ensures appropriate internal controls
- Approves the annual budget and monitors carefully the financial reports
- Hires an auditor and reviews the audit in an executive session with the auditor

General Manager: General Roll – Financial management

- With the help of the financial staff, prepares the annual budget and provides the board with regular financial statements
- With staff, handles the daily financial operations and monitors cash flow
- Defines financial policies and procedures for all daily money transactions

- **Board members should not make more work for staff**

It follows that board members should not ask staff for assistance in doing the board's job, including requests for information. Such requests should go through the GM. Committees can also contribute to making work for staff, work that is sometimes fails to fall on any board member shoulders.