

TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Topic:	4-Blade Hoffman Propeller Utilization on Glider Tow Planes		
Purpose	Information: <b>X</b>	Guidance:	Decision:
Recommendation	Review the information and provide any necessary direction or guidance to staff.		
Last Action	<p>In March 2006 the Board moved to negotiate an agreement with Soar Truckee to provide rent credit to defray the cost of a new “quiet” Hoffman propeller for one tow plane. It was noted that Soar Truckee initiated this idea. The minutes state, “the Board was cautious about committing to anything beyond this evaluation program.” Data supporting this initiative was provided by Mile High Gliding in Boulder, CO indicating positive outcomes related to quantifiable noise reduction.</p> <p>In May 2006 the District entered into an agreement with Soar Truckee to outfit a Piper Pawnee Tow Plane with a propeller.</p> <p>In June 2006, ACAT Co-Chairman Rob Lober reported to the Board that the new propeller for the Pickle (towplane) had been successful.</p>		
Discussion	<p>The agreement stated that the propeller must be used for the term of the agreement (May 1, 2006- October 15, 2006) after which the agreement was silent on any disposition of the propeller. This obligation was monitored by Staff and fulfilled in its entirety by Soar Truckee. While the agreement was in effect, Soar Truckee was operating three tow planes, all Piper Pawnees.</p> <p>Soar Truckee states they quit using the propeller because of negative performance impacts. This is outlined in detail in the attached letter from Soar Truckee. It should be noted that at least one Soar Truckee tow plane was equipped with a Hoffman Propeller from 2006-2010.</p> <p>During the years that followed, the District considered retrofits on other aircraft of propeller and exhaust systems. A similar effort was undertaken with Sierra Aero for an exhaust system to increase climb performance.</p>		
Fiscal Impact	Total cost of the project was approximately \$8,000.		
Communication Strategy	A press release was issued in May 2006 highlighting the propeller project.		
Attachments	<p>Letter from Soar Truckee 1/16/12</p> <p>Letter from District Counsel 11/16/11</p> <p>Agreement Between Soar Truckee and TTAD 5/8/06</p> <p>Mile High Gliding Club Test Report 4/25/03</p>		