



# Gillespie Pilots Association Meeting Minutes

P.O. Box 711591  
Santee, CA 92072-1591  
4 December 2021  
Membership Meeting

**GPA President Captain Denis Breslin** welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 0900 hours. The meeting is open to all GPA members and those who are signing up at the present meeting. (There were approximately 40 in attendance)

- I. **President Breslin** - Presented the meeting agenda and welcomed potential new members and our special guest speaker, Susan Guerra COO of Chesnut Properties. Due to COVID restrictions, the use of the Airport Administration Building is conditional on all attendees wearing a facial covering, except for when they are eating or drinking, regardless of the person's vaccination status. All attending complied and were provided masks upon entry if they did not already have one.
- II. **Gillespie Pilots Association Website**
  - <https://www.gillespiepilotsassociation.org>;
  - **GPA membership dues** – still only \$10 for the whole year!
  - Check out the GPA on **Facebook**. Be sure to check out the GPA Facebook page.
  - **Socialflight.com** – What's happening in Aviation – GPA meetings are listed under 'Events'
  - List of **2021 GPA Board** members, all of whom were re-elected for **2022**.
  - The **KSEE camera** is still not working due to firewall issues between the camera and the computer system. GPA is looking into possibly replacing the computer system being used.
  - **Classic Aircraft Display** has resumed from 0900-1000 on the Admin and East transient ramps.
- III. **Toy for Tots:** The USMC collects new, unwrapped, toys each year and distributes them to less fortunate children. The GPA is collecting toys for the program and will deliver them to Ramona Airport on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. Jim Sweetwood is also working to collect toys and offered to match all gifts up to \$100 and help transport them.
- IV. **No January GPA Meeting (Fly-In/Classic Aircraft Sign-Off):** There will not be a January GPA meeting as it falls on New Year's Day. There has been however a long-standing tradition of a fly-in to Chiriaco Summit (L77) every January 1<sup>st</sup>. The airport is roughly 40km east of Palm Springs on I-10 and is part of an old WWII training base. Those wishing to have their Classic Aircraft Display sign-off may do so at 0900 hours on Jan 1<sup>st</sup> at the KSEE Administration Building or at L77 as part of the fly-in.
- V. **Gillespie Field Development Council** – The next scheduled meeting is set for Wednesday January 19, 2022 at 1800 located in the El Cajon Council Chambers at 200 Civic Center Way, El Cajon. Two of the five-member Board are GPA members, and all GPA members are **highly encouraged** to attend the GFDC meetings and be involved in both group's work. The GFDC is the body to take issues affecting Gillespie Field before the County Board of Supervisors and their work has a direct impact on the airport's operations.
- VI. **SD County "Working Families" Ordinance and Chesnut Properties COO, Susan Guerra:** Since the inception of the "Working Families" Ordinance, multiple entities have been working to get information out about the devastating impacts this ordinance will have on the businesses on and around KSEE. The lead group has been Chesnut Properties, who have already been financially impacted from just the talk of the ordinance. COO Susan Guerra is taking the lead on the issue and spoke to the GPA about some of the efforts underway as well as how everyone can get involved to help defeat this proposal.



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The Board of Supervisor's proposed ordinance, authored by Supervisor Lawson-Remer and Supervisor Fletcher, claim it will provide for the working families who are in need. The ordinance will, in reality, mandate unionized labor on all building projects and require all current lessees to pay their workers the highest of Minimum Wage, "Living Wage", or "Prevailing Wage." There are multiple issues, but the overall impact is multiple business on and around KSEE will not be able to absorb the increased costs, thereby reducing their workforce and/or moving their business off county property, if not closing altogether.

All of the business on the affected property pay into the **Airport Enterprise Fund**, which provides for safety and maintenance of all of the county's airports. Funding for county airports is currently at no expense to the tax payer - drawing no funds from the General Fund. With the passage of the WFO, and loss of business and revenue, the Airport Enterprise Fund will be decimated, violating the County's Charter which requires the airports to be self-sufficient as well as violate the FAA's Grant Assurances.

The FAA is aware of the issue, but to ensure they understand the potential impact, Chesnut Properties recommends all pilots file 14 CFR Part 13 Complaints with the FAA. Part 13 is an informal complaint letting the FAA know the County of San Diego is in violation of multiple Grant Assurances. Ms. Guerra is encouraging any person or group to also file a complaint to ensure the FAA investigates and understands the issues at stake. All GPA members are specifically asked to get involved, write letters, file a complaint, or speak at the next Board of Supervisors Meeting.

A Zoom meeting is scheduled for Monday Dec.6<sup>th</sup> at 1300 hours to discuss plans going forward, including the process for filing a complaint.

(The specific Zoom information is on the GPA website and for examples of 14 CFR Part 13 and Part 16 Complaints, refer to the attached PowerPoint presentation)

**VII. Statistics:** In a recent poll 53.6% of all pilots fly by themselves. 14.67% are with friends, and 13.95% are with a significant other. (Hopefully your significant other is also a friend) Some additional statistics looked at the cause of accidents. 65% were the pilot, followed by 18% listed as mechanical. President Breslin presented a recent YouTube video of a pilot who had an engine failure on takeoff in a T210. The pilot was on the upwind, but able to turn and safely land back at the airport, thought it was on a different runway. There was some open discussion on the pilot's decision and other considerations. Ultimately, the focus was on safety and being prepared.

**VIII. \*Aging Pilot Insurance Survey:** Insurance premiums have continued to rise, and older pilots have found it more challenging to get or maintain a policy.

\*Because of time constraints, this topic was not discussed, but the attached meeting PowerPoint has valuable information on the issue.

**IX. Gillespie Field Driver Training Program:** Over the last few years, KSEE has seen an increase in Vehicle/Pedestrian Deviations (VPD) even when total operations had declined. These were caused primarily by allowing those unfamiliar with the airport environment to enter the gated areas. As a result, the FAA required KSEE to implement a program to address the VPDs and standardize its procedures. Anyone accessing the Movement Areas, Non-Movement Areas, or Vehicle Service Roads will need to



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have an appropriately identified vehicle, a legitimate business reason, and prior training in operating in these areas.

This new process has raised some concerns by the users and there have been several meetings to address the issues. One such issue was requiring the applicant to provide personal information many thought was not necessary. As a result, a new form has been developed that eliminates the areas of concern. There are still some additional details of the program needing to be worked out, but it is still on track to be fully implemented on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 when all of the gate cods will be changed.

KSEE has published a 5-step process, to include recurrent training, for anyone to access. For additional information on the program, please see the attached PowerPoint presentation, or for more specific information, to include the required forms, visit the KSEE Airport Driver Training website at:

<https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dpw/airports/gillespie/drivertraining.html>

- X. **Raffle winners:** Golden State 10 gal of gas: Bill Allen  
Red Bird simulator: Jim Gombold

Meeting adjourned at 1014 by GPA President Breslin.

**Reminder:** No January GPA meeting. The next GPA meeting is tentatively scheduled for 9:00 AM Saturday, February 5, 2022 at the Airport Administration Building.

Respectfully submitted,  
J. Wes Morris, GPA Secretary