

Fluvanna County Radio Control Flying Club

Board Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2025

- **Call to order**

Shawn Wilcox called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM on Thursday November 13th, 2025 at Cuppa Joe in Palmyra.

- **Those in attendance (alphabetically)**

Dave Beazley, Mac Derry, Dave Eames, Scott Lounsbury, Joe Treccariche, Shawn Wilcox. Cliff Lewis resigned from the BoD at the January 2025 BoD meeting so did not attend.

- **Approval of the minutes of the January BoD meeting**

The minutes of the January meeting were not available during the meeting. However Dave Eames, as the former club secretary, found a copy which will be circulated to the BoD by email along with these draft minutes.

- **Financial Report – Dave Beazley**

Dave Beazley stated that we currently have 34 members and provided the following financial report:

Atlantic Union Bank Checking Account	\$4450.41
Petty Cash	\$3.35
Total	\$4453.76

- **Discussion topics**

- **Field upgrade proposals**

Shawn described an opportunity to improve our field by replacing the GeoTex runway with asphalt. He and Scott have been obtaining estimates to lay down a 330 ft x 30ft asphalt runway that would be 2-inches thick over compacted gravel provided by Scott's company. The new proposed runway would be 100 ft longer than our existing GeoTex runway. The total estimated cost would be \$22,000 for the contractor and \$3,000 for Scott to provide the gravel for an estimated total of \$25,000. This was considerably more affordable than an initial quote of \$41,000.

It was recognized that there is a lot we would need to accomplish before we can start any potential project of this magnitude, so we should target installation for 2027. Shawn also discussed the initial contacts he had with the Fluvanna County Public Works Department about installing an Asphalt runway. There do not appear to be any obvious hurdles, but if we are to proceed, we would need a commitment from the county that would allow us to

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remain at the field for (probably) ten years. The county would not be involved if Binky wanted to remove the trees at the far end of the runway. There was a brief discussion about whether organizations could support us with a tax deductible donation. This would not be possible as we are a *not-for profit* organization. They could make donations to AMA as they are a *nonprofit* organization, but we would not see any benefit from that.

Following Shawn's description, there was a discussion that raised these points:

- Dave Eames had received input from some members saying that they did not think a new runway was necessary and the club cannot afford the cost.
- Dave Eames noted that an asphalt runway would enhance the field and make it more attractive to prospective members.
- We agreed that we need to present this "opportunity" to our members at the next club meeting which we hope to schedule in mid-December. It was also recommended to raise funds for this by suggesting that we solicit initial private pledges from members who support this proposal. If these private pledges do not reach \$25,000, then we would have to conduct fund raising activities to bridge the gap.
- It was noted that the Hanover Club has lost its field but we are not likely to gain many members as most of their members have moved to another club close to Richmond.
- Shawn will prepare a presentation to deliver at the December club meeting and to open up a discussion to obtain member views.
- **AMA Field Upgrade Grants**
- Dave Eames described the AMA grant process which we used seven years ago to offset the cost of installing the GeoTex runway.
- AMA will, if our project(s) are approved, provide up to 25% funding reimbursement up to a limit of \$3,000 for many types of field improvement. The application process started on 1st October 2025. There is an optional draft deadline of 6th January 2026 and a final application deadline of 1st February 2026.
- We are not ready to apply for a grant for a new asphalt runway, but we (the club, Shawn and Scott) have incurred valid costs for the pilot corrals, the new gate access, and the electrification of the shelter. We should therefore apply for a grant to get a 25% reimbursement for these expenses. If we could complete the grading of the area by the control line circle to make room for a fund raising car show, we could add that into our application.
- **Elections**

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- The positions held by both Daves and Mac will be up for election as their one-year terms will be complete at the end of this year. We also need to replace Cliff Lewis who resigned. Shawn, Scott and Joe still have one more year to run until their terms expire.
- We therefore need to hold elections at the next club meeting and to follow the bylaws regarding the election process as closely as possible.
- We initially need to email all members and request nominations for these four soon to be vacant positions. We need to appoint a member who is not seeking election to oversee the election process.
- This process will need to be defined soon after we have consulted our bylaws.
- **Issues and Concerns (All - around the table)**
- Without getting into the weeds, there were a few concerns raised:
- Parking of trailers in front of the shelter is less than optimal and an alternative location should be explored. Scott said he could grade the area close to the control line circle that could be used for trailer parking and also used for future car show parking
- We need to get control of the website back from Wayne Nye. Dave Eames will contact Wayne.
- We need to improve our email communications with our members as not everyone uses Facebook or text messaging.
- **ACTION ITEMS**
- Prepare a draft agenda for our December meeting – **Dave Eames**
- Define the election process that closely follows the bylaws – **Dave Eames**
- Contact Jeff Spinello and request access to the Maple Room – **Dave Eames**
- Contact Wayne Nye to transfer the website leadership – **Dave Eames**
- Prepare a presentation about the runway opportunity - **Shawn**

- **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 AM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dave Eames – 13th November 2025