



Aviation Maintenance Technology / Avionics/Electronics Advisory Committee
10/28/2015 | 10:00 – 11:00am | Central Campus, Building A, Conference Room

Meeting Called to Order at 10:05 a.m. by AMT instructor Terry Menees and Central Campus Administrator Troy Gabaldon.

Introductions of Attendees:

- Walter Fix – Contract Employee City of Glendale / Retired Director of Glendale Airport
- Kenneth Potts – City of Glendale / Glendale Airport Director
- Fred Hovater – Aviation Education Consultant
- Ron Cohoe – UTAS / Aerospace
- Katie Mehin – West-MEC / Career Liaison
- Rahsaan Bartet – West-MEC / Career Services Coordinator
- Katie Kostreva – West-MEC / Intervention Counselor
- Wayne Bingham – West-MEC / Avionics/Electronics Instructor
- Troy Gabaldon – West-MEC / Central Campus Administrator
- Terry Menees --- West-MEC /Aviation Maintenance Technician Instructor
- Cliff Migal – West-MEC / Assistant Superintendent

Enrollment Update:

- Secondary Education –
 - AMT- 1st Year Students – 47 Enrolled
 - AMT – 2nd Year Students – 43 Enrolled
 - 2nd years completed Airframe on Oct. 9th Receiving Airframe certificates for testing today (10/28/15)
 - Avionics/Electronics – 1st Year Students – 22
 - Avionics/Electronics – 2nd Year Students – 17
 - Small amount of attrition for 2nd year from start of cohort in August 2014 due to students pursuing post-secondary education after receiving high school diploma after first year of the two year program. Original cohort of 2nd year students was 23.
- Adult Education –
 - AMT 13-15 Cohort will be completing their program mid-December
 - AMT 14-16 Cohort will be completing their program in July
 - AMT 15-17 Cohort began in late August with a full class of 25 students
 - **DISCUSSION:**
 - Discussion occurred regarding starting another cohort of AMT for Adults in March
 - Committee discussed that a cohort of 18-20 adult students would be preferred as it will help with teachers ability to be able to monitor and assist the adult students when in their lab activities
 - Discussion occurred regarding promotion/ recruitment for Avionics/Electronics program. West-MEC has offered many recruiting opportunities and publicity but has only had one perspective student inquire regarding starting the program. Request from industry partners for ideas on how to promote. Industry partners shared that making sure perspective students know that they will be taken from basic knowledge level to in depth is important so that they do not scare themselves away because they have not had training in electronics prior to starting program. Troy Gabaldon also shared that he and Terry Menees will be



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meeting with someone from Pima Community Colleges aviation division to discuss their program and recruitment on 10/29/15.

- Oral & Practical Prep Program
 - Specific for individuals who are exiting from the military and need preparation assistance to be able to take the civilian FAA test for Airframe and PowerPlant
 - 6 cohorts have completed the course which covers the written test and oral and practical test preparation.
 - Individuals completing the program are usually referred through Luke Air Force Base, and their course fees / testing fees are paid by WIA funds.

DME Status:

- Terry Menees as of October is able to offer Oral and Practical Testing to West-MEC Students and the Public. Testing cost is:
 - West-MEC Students --- \$200 per section
 - Oral and Practical Prep Program Completers --- \$250 per section
 - Public Users -- \$300 per section
- There are 2 new PMI's over West-MEC and they have interest in having another West-MEC person becoming a DME

Testing Center:

- West-MEC is an approved CATS Testing Center since Fall 2014. Able to offer FAA Test including General, Airframe, PowerPlant and Pilots licensure testing. Newly able to offer all FCC testing as well.
- 189 test have been proctored as of week ending 10/30/15
- Profit of \$7520 year-to-date

Avionic Program Updates:

- Students in the Secondary Avionics/Electronics program, 2014-16 cohort had the opportunity to test for their Amateur Radio License at the end of the 14-15 academic year. 6 students tested, 5 successfully passed.
- This opportunity will be presented to future cohorts of Avionics/Electronic students in the first year of the program as well. Cost for license is \$15 and there is no age restriction.
- Students are also starting a Ham Radio Club open to all – a student's father is a HAM radio operator and is helping to provide equipment and training
 - Discussion from an advisory member asking if a HAM Radio Adult course might be warranted. Avionics instructor Wayne Bingham shared that there are many free online resources so an in person class that charged a fee may not be desirable.

Student Placement Updates:

- 2013 Cohort of Secondary AMT – 15 with A&P Licenses, 15 Working in Field, 5 were just recently hired into new roles with American Airlines after completing about 2 years work experience with Mesa Airlines.
- 2014 Cohort of Secondary AMT – 8 with A&P Licenses, 5 of 8 are Working in Field, 3 of 8 are attending Post-Secondary Institutions
- 2015 Cohort of Secondary AMT – 7 with A&P Licenses, 7 Working in Field
- 2016 Cohort of Secondary AMT – 2 Recently hired on contract through Aerotek for CAE at Falcon Field, 4 additional in front of Managers at CAE for same position. Apprentice Role – students will complete their education with West-MEC while working Full-Time at CAE.



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- 13-15 Cohort of Adult Education AMT – 6 Adults have begun certification process, 2 hold their full Airframe Certificate at this time
- West-MEC is the only West Coast Part 147 School with a 100% rate for licensure, meaning if a student has tested they have passed or if they did not pass the first time they returned and passed on the second attempt.

Equipment Needs:

- West-MEC purchased a Cessna 210 at auction (2/3rds of the cost were donated from a supporter) Plane has fuel injection engine, retractable hydraulic gears
- Additional training aids have been purchased to support additional cohort of Adult Education AMT program.
- Request from AMT staff for a King Air Super 90 -- Fred Hovater may have contact in Florida with an available King Air.
- Avionics needs Testing Equipment, doesn't need to be state of the art looking to do calibrations / alignments.

Future Plans:

- FAA posted a document to let Part 147 schools know that curriculum will be updated and seeking input at this time the changes look to be that hours will be adjusted and some courses will be pulled out and new courses will be put in, such as human factors. Troy Gabaldon and the AMT instructors are working with the industry organization to draft a response and also begin to work on what those curriculum changes would look like at West-MEC
- Discussion on AMT program change to textbook, school considering FAA 80-83 Handbooks instead of current text. Adoption of textbooks would require changes to project guides and ops manual.
- Staffing for secondary program is currently 4 full-time instructors, 3 part-time. Both first and second year are now divided into two tracks.
- Addition of new AMT Part-Time instructor Tama Mohelnitzky, over 25 years in field, experience mainly in General, Airframe and Turbines
- West-MEC will be offering Law and Public Safety as a secondary program at the Central Campus in 2016-17. Helps students on pathway to become security, detention, or correction officer.
- Walter Fix shared that Cox Communications will be putting in Coax and Fiber from NW Corner of Glen Harbor to Airport, this may affect traffic coming in and out of West-MEC Central Campus
- Open houses for Central Campus to public will be on Nov. 3 and Dec. 3
- Plans for the Airport Layout east of the runway are being considered at the City of Glendale. Walter Fix shared that there is about 20 acres of land that does not have deed restrictions, Cliff Migal, West-MEC Asst. Superintendent asked if we could get more information on the planning process.
- Walter Fix shared that the Glendale Airport Restaurant will celebrate one year ownership on Nov. 2nd. Troy and Terry asked about the ability for the Restaurant to possibly serve as a place for students to get lunch during closed campus 8 hour days in May/June. Walter shared that contacts are Michelle and Jeremy Robins, and they do offer catering.
- Next meeting will be planned for March / April timeframe