



PALMER *Alaska*

WARREN “BUD” WOODS PALMER MUNICIPAL AIRPORT *Newsletter*

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Airport Advisory Commission Calendar

All meetings are at 7 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month on a quarterly basis in the Palmer City Hall Council Chambers, 231 W. Evergreen Avenue. Special meetings will be held on an “As Needed” basis on the fourth Thursday of the month following the regularly scheduled quarterly meeting.

- ❖ January 23, 2020
- ❖ January 28, 2020 *
Joint w/ City Council
- ❖ April 23, 2020
- ❖ July 23, 2020
- ❖ October 22, 2020

Contact: Chair Ken More at 907-240-3286 or flyartic@articsairacademy.com for more information.

Your source for news at the Warren “Bud” Woods Palmer Municipal Airport
“The aeronautical gateway to Palmer and the Matanuska Valley”

What’s Happening?

Construction Project Update: 2019 “Airfield Safety Improvements” Project

The ASI project has made good progress to date with substantial completion obtained on the fence line and gate repairs with a nominal punch list for spring time completion. The tree clearing off of the transitional surface south of Runway 10/28 is nearing an end and all of the underground utility work was completed for the future Apron light poles, slated to be installed upon arrival this spring with the new airfield directional signs.



(Photo: Completion of new fencing installed along S. Airport Rd in route to the Flight Service Center building)



(Photo: Cleared area south of Runway 10/28’s transitional surface)

Additional PAQ News Updates

City of Palmer Public Works is Hard at Work:

The Public Works Department continues to remove snow timely and finally got the opportunity to put the new Cat 950M Wheeled Loader and Wausau MP318 Snow Blower to use after the first snow fall of the year. The powerful combination proved useful in moving the thick, wet, heavy snow.



(Photos: The Public Works Superintendent is cleaning up snow berms for easier removal)



(Photo: Cleaning up the windrowed snow berms on the back side of Apron A)



(Photo: A Public Works Equipment Operator blows snow off of the North Parking Apron)

Airport Designates New Engine Run-Up Areas and Ensures Emergency Aircraft Get Priority Status

By Jeff Helmericks, Vice Chair, Airport Advisory Commission

2019 was a busy summer at the Palmer Municipal Airport and the Airport Advisory Commission has recommended the adoption of a few changes to help the flow of airplane traffic at our airport. While there were no significant problems, there were unnecessary delays for the emergency response fire-fighting aircraft caused by other aircraft doing run-ups at the hold line, basically closing that runway to departures for several minutes. Coupled with multiple aircraft in closed traffic patterns practicing landings, led to delays for the fire-fighting aircraft returning to base for another load of retardant. To help alleviate future delays, pre-departure run-up areas on the Aprons will be designated outside of the normal taxi lanes with new signage north and south. Having these designated areas will eliminate the need for aircraft to sit unnecessarily at the runway hold lines doing checks that can be done elsewhere that doesn't block access to the runway for other aircraft. Not only will this reduce the departure time for aircraft engaged in emergency response, it will also make our airport more efficient and user friendly for all traffic.

The conflicts in the air will be a little more challenging to resolve. As a start, there will be information published in the airport facility guide (supplement) informing pilots of the possibility of intense fire-fighting activity operating in and out of our airport and a reminder to them to give way to any aircraft engaged in emergency response activity. As our airport gains capability, coupled with the growth in the Mat-Su Valley, having an airport that has facilities to accommodate these larger aircraft is an enormous benefit to all the residents; not only during fire season, but also for air ambulance flights serving Mat-Su Regional Hospital. It is exciting to see our airport grow, not only are we providing a facility to accommodate emergency aircraft when things go wrong, we also provide a perfect location to train the next generation of pilots. It doesn't get much better than that. Thank you in advance for observing these minor, but important adjustments at PAQ.



Apron D Area Sign Before The Forestry Ramp



Taxiway A to Taxiway F Sign to Large Aircraft Apron Area

(Photo: Site work is underway in late Sept)



(Photo: Foundation excavation begins)



(Photo: The first red iron goes up!)



(Photo: By mid November the buildings outline takes shape)



Private Hangar Project Spotlight:

Aurora Sky, LLC (720 E. Yukon St. PMA)

The owner of Aurora Sky, LLC is making a substantial investment at the Palmer Municipal Airport with the new 100' X 120' foot hangar building currently under construction on Yukon Street. The new 12,000 foot hangar under contract with Steppers Construction will feature radiant in floor heat, a maximum height ceiling and an impressive 80' hangar door. Progress has been steady since breaking ground this fall as Steppers Construction continues work on this project. It is anticipated that Aurora Sky, LLC will receive their Certificate of Occupancy during the middle of the year in 2020 and rental space should be available. Please contact Terry Cosgrove at (907) 982-2809 for additional details about space availability.



(Photo: Steppers Construction crew progresses with the roof structure)



(Photo: Steppers Construction is nearing completion of the roof structure)



(Photo: The building is almost ready for its outside wall skin and roof panels)

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT:

GLENN AIR, INC.

Glenn Air, Inc was established in 1988, and is a leading provider of premier application services of seed, fertilizer, timber seeding, and live fish stocking in Alaska. In addition, we provide local and remote fuel hauling services throughout the state. Glenn Air is proof an Ag operation can carve out a niche business just about anywhere. Seeing a turbine M-18 Dromader parked on an Alaskan airport ramp does often raise one's curiosity. Based in Palmer, Glenn Air serves a corridor of the state that runs from Kodiak Island to about 500 miles north to Prudhoe Bay, Alaska.



President & Chief Pilot, Doug Glenn

Aerial Applications



Spraying Potatoes



Dust Control



Dust Control

Fish Stocking



Fish Stocking at Pillar Creek



Fish Stocking at Paxon Lake



(Photo: Dromader M-18A w/ a Capacity of 12,000 lbs., 680 Gallons & Capable of 140 Knots Cruising Speed)

The company has distinguished itself as an innovator of aerial application services, with more than 15,000 hours of safely-flown trips in Alaska. We have been providing reclamation services for years through various local contractors. Usibelli Coal Mine in Healy is the only operational coal mine in Alaska. Aerial application services of dry seed and fertilizer have been flown by Glenn Air for over 30 years on their projects. Fairbanks Gold Mining Inc, in Fairbanks has also used Glenn Air services to spread fertilizer and a variety of seed products around their open-pit mining operations. Red Dog Mine in rural Alaska has also used Glenn Air, Inc for dust control using pine-bind product. Pine-bind is a natural dust control and stabilizer that is applied onto soil.



(Photo: Dust Control Application at an Alaskan Mining Site)

As we move into 2020 we are excited to see what reclamation services we can provide in the last frontier.