

**2021 LWX Aviation Users Group Forum Summary  
November 15, 2021**

**Roll call/Attendees!**

Jack Allen, **A4A**  
Dennis Glover, **Atlas Air**  
Kelvin Ampofo, **DCA Ops**  
Kory Gemplar, **Fedex**  
Sandra Parks, **Mesa Airlines**  
Mark Johnson, George Delanjian, **SW Airlines**  
Nathan Polderman, **United**  
John Kosak, **NBAA**  
Richard Allabaugh, **HEF**  
Mark Yerges, **Delta**  
Melissa, **ERH**  
Michael F **American Airlines**  
Rick W, **ZDC**  
Michael Mathews, **ZDC**  
Stephen Bateman, **AOPA**  
Bob Flynn, **United**

***NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) LWX - Sterling, VA -Staff:***

Jim Lee, MIC  
Brendon Rubin-Oster, Lead Forecaster  
Brian Lasorsa , Lead Forecaster  
Chris Stong, Warning Coordination Meteorologist  
Cody Ledbetter, Forecaster  
Connor Belak, Forecaster  
Jeremy Geiger, Forecaster  
Kyle Pallozzi, Forecaster  
Luis Rosa, Lead Forecaster  
Steven Zubrick, Science and Operations Officer (SOO), LWX Aviation Program  
Coordinator  
Andrew Snyder, Lead Forecaster and backup leader - LWX Aviation Program  
Michael Souza, Forecaster and LWX Aviation Program Leader  
Daniel Hofmann, Forecaster

***NWS Center Weather Service Unit (CWSU) ZDC - Leesburg, VA -Staff:***

Rick Winther, MIC  
Michael Matthews, CWSU Forecaster

## ***AGENDA LWX Aviation Users Group Forum (virtual)***

### ***15 November 2021***

- Review of group's purpose and NWS mission
- Providing IDSS for the FAA
- Aviation News Briefs
- Review of LWX TAF Performance
- Open Forum/Review of Action Items
- Review new action items and close

***1:00p: Michael Souza welcomed the participants***

***1:02p:*** Jim Lee, MIC at WFO/LWX welcomed participants and reviewed the agenda; noting how important this meeting is to helping us provide improved aviation services to our customers.

***1:03p:*** Michael Souza conducted a roll-call of meeting attendees

***1:09p:*** Michael Matthews, ***IDSS to the FAA (see slides)***

#### ***Summary:***

- Tower briefing pages: tailor information to tower that can't be included in the pre duty briefing (specific video briefings not feasible) (feedback from 2019 meeting)
- Video at top; tabs for TAF/AFD, vertical wind profile, hourly weather, turbulence, visibility, icing, radar
- Contact Michael if you want the "default runway" changed on VWP page
- Interactive page to select PDWB pages: FAA towers and some TRACONS
- Customizable for different regions

#### ***Comments:***

- Melissa: Great work. This has come up in other reviews as well and all seem appreciative
- Nathan: is there a common landing site, or do you have to go to particular CWSU pages?
- MM: National map will be linked to [weather.gov/aviation](https://www.weather.gov/aviation), click on any location

1:25pm: Andrew Snyder, **News Briefs (see slides)**

**Comments:**

- Richard/HEF: We appreciate you addressing our request. We look forward to the continued partnership on the TAF (Regarding outreach to the GA community)
- John Kosak, NBAA: [jkosak@nbaa.org](mailto:jkosak@nbaa.org); can copy Richard/HEF
- AOPA flying clubs happy to help: [steve.bateman@aopa.org](mailto:steve.bateman@aopa.org) [note: I think he is attending the meeting because of my email]

1:38 pm: Michael Souza, **TAF verification review (see slides)**

1:49 pm: **Open forum:**

- George (Southwest): winter ptypes; don't use 3 ptypes. Locks them down.
- Putting IP (moderate), when it's mainly snow, can lock them down too.
- Suggest TEMPO -IP. Visibility in the fractions. They can launch on a TEMPO group on twice the visibility. Can't launch when visibility is in the main body.
- Jim Lee: BWI is in transition zone of coastal plain. Mixed ptypes are common. Probably a lot this winter given [ENSO] pattern. Models are getting better with time.
- Kory: Is CAC still stressed at WFO for ptypes?
- Michael Souza: Yes, included in this year's drills.
- Nathan: Is TAF vs. GLAMP available on a national level?
- Andrew Snyder: In theory if you run the database.
- Rick Winther: Still working on compression forecast
- Melissa: Can reach out to Judy Ghiaradelli for national TAF vs. LAMP statistics (stats on demand page down)
- Michael Souza: Only 2 action items from last year: HEF TAF request and CWSU compression forecast: those were addressed previously in the meeting. Air traffic volume remains low due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, compression forecast product remains on hold (per Rick, ZDC)

**2:01PM Closing remarks, adjourn**

- *No new action items; contents of these minutes will be shared with the operations staff at both NWS WFO/LWX (Sterling, VA) and CWSU/ZDC (Leesburg, VA)*

## APPENDIX:

### Google Chat log:

**Melissa DiSpigna** 1:13 PM

Thank you from those of us with poor vision lol

**Melissa DiSpigna** 1:21 PM

Great work. This has come up in other reviews as well and all seem appreciative

**HEF Operations** 1:28 PM

We appreciate you addressing our request. We look forward to the continued partnership on the TAF.

**Michael Souza** 1:28 PM

Thank you HEF!

**John Kosak** 1:37 PM

Andrew, you can reach me at [jkosak@nbaa.org](mailto:jkosak@nbaa.org)

**HEF Operations** 1:37 PM

Manassas can help with this also. Feel free to copy me.

**Andrew Snyder** 1:38 PM

Thanks John and Richard. That will be a useful resource.

**Stephen Bateman** 1:38 PM

AOPA flying clubs group would be pleased to help with the outreach: [steve.bateman@aopa.org](mailto:steve.bateman@aopa.org)

**Andrew** 1:39 PM

Thanks Stephen.

**Nathan Polderman** 1:49 PM

Does NWS have any nationwide stats on accuracy of local TAFs vs LAMP?

**KG Gemps** 1:54 PM

Along those lines of precip types, is critical amend criteria (CACR) still stressed at wfo's?

**Andrew Snyder** 1:55 PM

Nathan: In theory, yes. The statistics presented were pulled from a database that could be run on a national level.

**Nathan Polderman** 1:56 PM

Thanks!

**Stephen Bateman** 1:57 PM

Great info - thanks!

**Melissa DiSpigna** 1:57 PM

Andrew, you could also try reaching out to Judy Ghiaradelli. She may have more information on national stats as well

**Michael F** 1:57 PM

Have to jump off for another meeting. Thanks you.

**Melissa DiSpigna** 1:58 PM

Unfortunately the website Andrew referenced is temporarily down so either way we'd have to get back to you, Nathan :-)

**Andrew Snyder**1:59 PM

<https://www.weather.gov/lwx/lwxaviationforum> -- this is the link with info from our prior meetings

**John Kosak**1:59 PM

Thanks for taking the time to do this.

**Andrew Snyder**2:00 PM

Thanks for the information Melissa.

**Steven Zubrick**2:00 PM

We'll include these presentation on the web page Andrew just put in chat

**Dennis G**2:01 PM

The presentations were great, thank you!

**Richard Winther**2:01 PM

Thanks!