AVIATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Notes

Airport Campus, Lecture Hall, 1:00-2:30pm, 11-4-2021

ATTENDEES:
☐ Harold Dramstad, Vetter Aviation
☐ Richard Gibbs, AvMax Group
☒ Jerry Gresens, Helena Aircraft
☒ Nic Lynn, Neptune Aviation
☐ Donald Orcutt, Aircraft Magneto
☐ Greg Reeves, Exec Air
☐ Dan Snyder, Neptune Aviation
☒ Brent Vetter, Vetter Aviation
☐ Brian Walker, AvMax
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Curriculum and Instruction

• Identify and expand the use of new technologies.
  o Avionics program: HC will be starting an Avionics Program; we have been given the ok from BOR to move ahead. This will be an additional accreditation for our students – CAS. Discussion is just starting about this program. We are looking at an additional year added for those students who are interested; it will not be required. The program will be open to our students and those already employed wanting more education. HC has applied for a $500,000 grant that would assist with new equipment that we would need, but we will not know if we are awarded it till December. Only 10 of the grants are being offered. HC will hire a third full-time instructor to teach the program.
    ▪ What skill set and areas are most important?
      o Troubleshooting problems
      o Interfacing
      o Installs and repairs
Testing: PSI controls all testing; they have testing centers in Great Falls, Butte, Billings, and Missoula. HC would like to have one also, but has had no luck with their requests.

- Tammy will contact Ryan Loomis, Director of CEC & SBDC at HC, and see if he can get one started.

- What type of jobs are most shops performing?
  - Riveting
  - Electricity and hydraulics are basically the same; if a person understands one then they should be able to understand the other.

Citation:

- What skills do students need to learn on this class of aircraft?
- What tools are needed for working on this aircraft?

• Assist with incorporating employability skills in the curriculum.
  - In what areas do our students show deficiencies?
    - New hires from HC are doing great; they are starting their employment with the basic knowledge needed. Most employers expect to teach their new hires and do not expect full competency.
    - Business partners believe HC students are getting a quality education.

Recruitment and Job Placement

• Notify instructors of entry-level job openings for students.

• Assist in identifying work-based learning experiences.