

Note from UAS meeting 1/6, Brush, CO.

77 people attended the meeting. The group consisted of a representative from Senator Gardner's office, FAA LEAP and Denver FSDO, FBI, DHS, 12 northeast Colorado county sheriff's from Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Kit Carson, Lincoln, Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington, Weld, and Yuma counties, six southwest Nebraska county sheriff's from Chase, Cheyenne, Deuel, Kimball, Perkins, and Lincoln counties, Nebraska State Patrol, F.E. Warren AFB OSI, Colorado National Guard, Colorado Information Analysis Center, and Colorado Fish and Wildlife.

After an introduction and brief statement of the drone activity by Morgan County Sheriff (b) (6), FAA LEAP SA was asked to brief FAA's role, what has been done to help identify a possible operator, and answer questions from the attendees. After a brief opening statement FAA LEAP explained the following:

- Action taken by the FAA. The explanation consisted of what was outlined in the Administrator's brief sent on 1/6.
- Advised the attendees, based on current information it is unclear what if any laws or regulations have been broken and/or violated.
- The only true way to address the issue is to identify the operator and stated at this point based on the amount of media attention the issue has received, reporting has become somewhat unreliable.

A person in Nebraska claimed responsibility shooting down a drone in connection with a shot fired report in McCook, NE last week. Individual posted a picture of a damaged drone. When interviewed by Nebraska State Police the individual stated he made the story up and the photo was taken from the internet. The photo was authenticated and confirmed to be from the internet and not connected.

Reports of finding a drone in the field, which turned out to be false reporting

Numerous pictures taken by cell phone claiming to be fixed wing drones. Upon further analysis it has been determined the pictures were of fixed wing aircraft.

- Concerns of vigilante justice. Yuma County advised reports of gun shot on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday night. The attendees were once again advised of the negative outcome of people shooting at aircraft and based on some photos and reports people are seeing fixed wing aircraft. Reminded the LE partners of title 18 and the ramifications of shooting at and/or disabling an aircraft under federal law.
- Questions were asked about detection and mitigation. LEAP SA advised the technology exists, however the FAA does not possess the equipment. A follow on question was asked about Aerial Armor and other private industry drone detection companies. LEAP SA advised the group, based on his experiences, drone detection companies are capable of detecting mostly (b) (6) products. At this point we must consider the description of the drone activity, size of the drone(s) being very large (up to six foot wing span), and multiple reports of drone flying in high winds 20 to 30 mph it does not appear (b) (6) products are being used.