

Merrill Airport Commission Meeting, Sept. 16, 2015

Members present: Gary Schwartz, Joe Malsack, Gary Schulz, Chris Malm.

Also present: Rich M., Larry Wenning , Steve Krueger.

1. Gary Schwartz called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Gary passed pictures of the Blackhawks that landed at Merrill for the missing man formation for Igman's funeral in Tomahawk. They also purchased 1100 gallons of Jet A fuel.
2. The commission reviewed the minutes from August's meeting and a motion was made by Chris M. to approve the minutes as printed. Gary Schulz seconded, motion passed.
3. The commission reviewed the vouchers for August 2015. A motion was made by Gary Schulz to approve the vouchers. Chris M. seconded, motion passed.
4. Terminal Project Status: 4 components of dissatisfaction for repairs. We agreed on \$2200 settlement with Decker lumber. We spent \$500 on getting locks replaced and rekeyed for the building. Counters in both bathrooms need to be replaced. Counter in conference room needs repairs/possible replacement. Consensus by commission agreed to move ahead with repairs as long as we stay under budgeted price of \$500-1,600.00. Doors are too short and HVAC and doors still need to be addressed. A 3rd party professional is being called in to inspect for code. Doors for bathrooms cut to 2 1/2 inches instead of 1 1/2 inch per specs on plans. Referring this to city attorney for guidance if necessary. Furniture has been ordered and money from the State of Wisconsin where we have surplus funds, will be used to furnish the new terminal building. Rich is having someone come in to give an estimate on installing a new mantel. Budget not to exceed \$1,000.00. Gary Schulz wants to know how we are going to clean the terminal. Having spiders and need to exterminate.
5. Property Purchase Status: Currently at the state level. Becher Hoppe selected to work on. Still is available for sale states the family.

6. Runway 16/34 Project Status and Components. Emailing with the state. EA will need to be updated. Gary suggested the wetlands be delineated out of the Entitlement Grant. This will help keep the costs to a minimum. State working on a selection for the delineation. Gary Schwartz recommended the lady who did it the last time. They will see if she is available. DNR and Army Corps. of Engineers happy we are working with them up front on the project. 3600 foot runway was suggested to Ryan at the State of Wisconsin BOA. We may not have enough room. A parallel taxiway would be nice to have with this addition. We may have to compromise some of the project to get any project. Length of the runway top priority for safety. Power lines on north side of property could be buried to give extra safety. Any tree issues in the approach slopes will stall the project. We will have someone fly the approaches to see if any are in the airspace. They are getting close and will need to be addressed soon. New lighting would also be added to the project. Both retention ponds have more water in then supposed to. Will need to rework to get the water to drain out. We will have to work that into the project also.

7. Discussion/Decision Skid steer Rental. Peterson Sand and Gravel purchased a skid steer and brush hog for various projects they have. Gary Schwartz asked on a bid and they quoted \$90.00 per hour for the machine, fuel and man. DNR recommended not to break thru the sod and make ruts. Joe M made a motion to spend up to the \$5,000.00 in our budget to cut brush, seconded by Chris M. Motion passed.

8. Discussion/Decision Sale of Old Beacon. Gary Schulz will list on Barnstormers.com for sale. Joe M. made a motion to allow Gary to list the old beacon for sale and negotiate the sale. Chris M. seconded. Motion passed.

9. Discussion/Decision Use of Crop Lands Owned by the Airport. Rich's father in law and brother in law are farming the west side of the land. They are also interested in the land by the south side property outside of the fence. No rent on the 1st year, due to clearing and startup costs. Hay crops recommended due to not wanting to draw wildlife onto the airport. Grass can be possibly harvested for

horse hay? They also have a processor for trees. They may trade for tree work for land usage. This will leave a 6-10 inch stump. Discussion will follow.

10. Discussion/Decision on Replacement of Kubota Lawn Tractor. Rich received 3 quotes on new lawn mower. Hussler worked out to be the best. Kubota currently using 1 gallon coolant every 4 hours. Gary Schwartz talked with Kathy Unertl at city hall, we have about \$5,000.00 left over from the house project and can use some of this money. 2 year warranty and 1000 hours. Approx pay out with trade about \$10,085.00. Gary Schulz made a motion to approve purchasing the mower. Joe M. seconded. Motion passed.

11. Discussion on 2015 entitlement Grant and use: Some of the money will be used for the delineation project and approach clearing. Rich found the broom for the tractors are \$1,627.00 per broom, the new units are \$57,000.00. We need bids from 2 other supplies for the state to approve. The state has no contracts this year on brooms.

12. Discussion on Business Model Going Forward: Rich working on getting business model and effects/draw backs for dust from powder coating. Insurance- Rich is getting quotes on blanket coverage. One company \$5,000.00 per year, still waiting on other companies. \$2 million liability on light maintenance and powder coating. Rich has all the equipment and some needs repairs before starting. Back 20 feet by 20 feet needed for powder coating.

13. Debrief Airport Day, and Suggestions for Next Year. 43 airplanes flew in, ran out of car parking. Safe and smooth running day. Flea market did not fill up. Joe paid some expenses and getting reimbursed for expenses. Jody sent out a message on face book and received comments on sky divers, WWII aircraft and live entertainment. Jody made up a thank you letter was sent out to people who participated and donated. City Bus will have to keep off the ramp due to lack of airplane parking. Can we have the bus park on the road and not come into the parking lot. Horseshoe road turn around to prevent backing up or in parking lot and have Lions Park somewhere else.

14. T Hangar Lease Approval to Terry Keyzer. Gary Schulz made a motion to approval rental to rent a T hangar. Seconded by Chris M., motion approved. Starting October 1st, 2015. He still does not have an airplane yet, but currently looking.

15 & 16. Managers Report: Jet A fuel sales down, 100L L sales ok. Landon did not contact the city, so we did not rent a hangar to him. We have another T hangar available now. Rich will contact the people on the waiting list. Crack filling job did not turn out the best. Some of the cracks have big holes in. Gary Schwartz showed Ryan from the BOA. Women's bathroom tile in old terminal building needs replacement. Recommended to check with Central Carpet for small lots to redo. Clean up day and build loft in SRE maintenance building to get stuff off the floor. Grass on north side of 25 needs work. Disc in fall and reseed and roll in spring. Clean SRE building and build loft for storage off the floor. Airport clean up day- there will be a dumpster available to clean hangars, if needed.

17. Chairman's Report: 5-6 years ago we identified 42 acres that are tillable. Rich's relation is working up the ground and planting for this year. No rent for 1st year. Will try to work up area south of the airport also. May not happen this year. Filing cabinet needed for Commission information and projects to store in furnace room. Rich looking into.

18. Aviation Happenings: FAA running out of funding by the end of Sept. Medical reform still working on in house and senate.

19. Public Comment: none.

20. Agenda Items for next meeting: follow up on all the projects.

21. Adjournment: Chris M. made a motion to adjourn, Joe M. seconded. Motion Passed.

Minutes submitted by Joe Malsack.