

AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING  
Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.  
Merrill Municipal Airport

MINUTES

Members Present: Chairman Gary Schwartz, Gary Schulz, Lyle Banser, Joe Malsack, Airport Manager Rich McCullough, Alderman Ryan Schwartzman

Also Present: Steve Krueger, Larry Wenning, Rich and Marlene Lussow, Alderman Mary Ball, Joe Hayden, Don and Andrew Kremy

1. Meeting Called to Order - Chairman Schwartz called the meeting to order at 19:00 hours.
2. Approve minutes of March 15, 2017 Meeting. Motion by Schulz, second by Schwartzman. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Vouchers - Vouchers were reviewed and initialed by all. Motion by Malsack, second by Schwartzman to approve vouchers. All ayes. Motion carried.
4. Terminal Project Status – HVAC System no changes. McCullough had electrician RTL work on motion detector for Lobby area. It is working better and he ordered another detector and may add additional detectors if needed.
5. Brown Property Status – Property on Taylor Street approach area. Chairman Schwartz reported that during his last contact with the State, they said it was getting close to closing. The current owners, the Browns, requested they would like the wood that is to be cut on the property so a one-page document explaining the agreement for the wood was drafted and signed by involved parties.
6. Runway 16/34 Project – Nothing new. It is on hold awaiting FAA approval of the RPZ.
7. Lightning Suppression Project – McCullough spoke with contractor to get project moving so we might have lightning protection for the Spring/Summer storm season. Contractor is formulating a plan and also dealing with any short comings of the original system installed.
8. Airport Day – The date is set for September 9, 2017. Malsack reported he has commitments from most involved vendors. Working on parking issues. Everything is progressing well. Lions Club committed to serving lunches.

9. Flight Instruction Status – Schwartz reported airplane is now at the Merrill Airport for instruction of people interested in becoming private pilots and, also, it will be available to rent.

Rich Lussow, who is a CFII certified flight instructor, reported that 3 or 4 students are starting training, one of which is working on an instrument rating.

10. Airport Signage – McCullough reported he talked to Andy Grund and he has committed to designing and submitting a plan for the new signs.
11. Manager's Report – Airport Condition/Post Winter – McCullough reported that some previously graded and graveled areas need weed control spraying or the weeds will take over. Is getting estimates for spraying. He also reported that the perimeter fence needs weed spraying to avoid being heaved or overgrown. He asked Steve Krueger to check spray pricing for larger volume of spray. All present approved the purchase of 55 gallon drum of Berhen Weed Spray at \$1,395.00 to be covered under airport maintenance. McCullough reported some heaving of fence posts. Farhner, the crack sealing contractor, is coming to clean old seal material and will repair/replace all within two weeks, as weather allows. McCullough reported a fire inspection was done by the Merrill Fire Department and it went well with one item that needs attention; the NE door in the shop hanger area needs to be replaced because of deterioration. McCullough will check prices on a new door.

12. Airport General Maintenance – Replace Airlines in FBO Hanger – McCullough reported airlines are being worked on

McCullough asked about the coffee table in the Lobby. Tony at Courtside offered us a very good price on the coffee table to replace the old worn out table in the old FBO. All present agreed it should be purchased.

Schulz also reported the Airport wintered very well, with only a couple of lighting problems.

13. Chairman's Report Airventure Air Cup Race – Steve Krueger reported that the Airventure Air Cup Race will use Merrill Airport as the finish line. Local supporters of the Airport will organize an efficient fueling routine and provide any other requirements and hospitality for the Air Cup racers. This is a really big deal for the Merrill Airport.

Schwartz suggested we start thinking about moving the F-84 Jet Static display to the new Terminal location; possibly being worked into the 16/34 Project.

Schulz asked that a new flag pole be installed this year at the new Terminal.

Chairman Schwartz talked to the BOA (Board of Aeronautics) about paying back Antigo's entitlement for 2017 so we don't have to use 2018's entitlement.

Suggestion was made to start thinking about a new FBO hanger.

Schwartz reported we need to remove trees and cement slab at Bennis property. Peterson Excavating will load and haul away the slab.

14. Aviation Happenings – Schulz reported the FAA doesn't have information out yet on the Basic Medical Program; looking for it very soon, possibly by May 1, 2017. Schulz reported on some of the ads that he put online to promote Merrill as a fueling stop to and from Oshkosh. Also reported some airports are installing photo voltaic units to utilize airport property.
15. Public Comment – Joe Hayden asked about the possibility of getting some sky diving/parachuting training classes as well as tandem jumping to promote more aeronautic activity at the Airport. We would have to work out all the details and procedures of air traffic and jumpers co-existing in the same general area. Hayden will keep us informed of progress toward the goal of parachuting.

Krueger asked to consider a fueling truck for fueling a large amount of planes more efficiently, possibly to be ahead of other area airports.

Schulz reported first Piano recital of the year is Sunday, April 23 with Merrill and Wausau Piano Teachers renting the FBO for a recital with many of their principle students performing.

Larry Wenning asked about anyone's experience with Swift 94 octane fuel. Sounds like a 100 octane replacement will eventually end up being the replacement.

16. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – None.
17. Adjournment – Motion by Malsack, second by Schwartzman. All ayes. Motion Carried.

Minutes prepared by Lyle Banser