

AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
Merrill Municipal Airport Terminal

MINUTES

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

Members Absent: Alderman Ryan Schwartzman

Also Present: Rich Lussow, Marlene Lussow, Camera Man Anthony Kromire, Steve Krueger

1. Meeting Called to Order – Gary Schulz called the meeting to order at 19:00 hours.
2. Approve minutes of August 16, 2017 Meeting. Motion by Malsack, second by Banser. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Vouchers - Vouchers were reviewed and initialed by all. Motion by Banser, second by Malsack to approve vouchers. All ayes. Motion carried.
4. Discussion/Decision Purchase of Mower Deck for Light Tractor – Mower should help cut down on having to rent brush cutter. After discussion, motion by Schulz, second by Banser. All ayes. Motion carried.
5. Runway 16/34 Project Status Phase I – Chairman Schwartz reported FAA is slowing project by not approving the 3400 length. Becher - Hoppe are assuring us that all the proper paperwork is done. After discussion, we are going to ask a representative from Becher – Hoppe to attend next meeting to plan action going forward.
6. Lightning Suppression Project – Pieper Electric is scheduled to come to the Airport this next week to plan for grounding project. Manager McCullough reported the North and South gates and the old FBO were grounded, with dedicated grounds which were installed the last time the gates were repaired. The Airport has wiring problem due to lightning strikes with lights, gates, AWOS and monitoring equipment which we are planning to correct with proper grounding and isolating plan.
7. Airport Day – Malsack reported things went well and six people volunteered from NTC to help with traffic/parking. Malsack said Flea Market went very well. Dream Flight display operator was pleased with amount of people visiting. Participants, clean-up went very well on Sunday. Were some questions about skydivers but a jump plane was not available this year.

8. Flight Instruction Status – Lussow reported that he had several new students interested and took first flights. Five pilots are checked out to rent the plane.
9. Airport Signage – McCullough contacted new vendors because of no quotes from local sign makers. Quotes are expected from at least two of the vendors contacted.
10. Rents and Leases – McCullough reported rents from surrounding airports. Schwartz asked for a spreadsheet for next meeting with rents and leases from around our area for comparison purposes.
11. Review of Airport Equipment/Snow Removal Operations – Reported the Zero Turn has almost 500 hours, so it will need maintenance. McCullough will have the dealer go over it. Big tractor is being maintained by McCullough; and everything on it is working well. Snow plow trucks are working and ready. Pickup will need tires for winter.
12. Manager’s Report – Airlines are complete.
13. Airport General Maintenance –
 - We are expecting a quote for lighting system and replacing some lights with new LED from RTL Electric.
 - Lighting System repaired and waiting for quote from RTL.
 - Fuel sales are going well and still priced competitively.
14. Chairman’s Report – Chairman Schwartz had nothing additional to report.
15. Aviation Happenings –Schulz reported that privatization is on the move; but contries that have privatized systems find it less appealing than current U.S. System.
16. Public Comment – None.
17. Agenda Items for Next Meeting –
 - Representatives from Becher Hoppe Engineering will be asked to next month’s meeting to explain/discuss Runway 16/34 Projects and formulate a plan to move approval along.
18. Adjournment – Motion by Malsack, second by Banser. All ayes. Motion Carried.